

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)  
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Page numbers follow Watola, G. 2009 (2nd Edition)  
Hudsonian godwit: p 137.

**Hudsonian Godwit** *Limosa haemastica* (Linnaeus 1758), Migrant  
4/3/1902 Lake Ellesmere, Canterbury  
5/11/1980 Norfolk Island

E.F. Stead (1923) shot the first specimen at Lake Ellesmere in March 1902. (Brooks (1936) stated the first specimen was taken in 1903). Oliver (1955) said Stead then had to wait 35 years for his next bird in 1937. However, Stead (1923) had recorded birds in 1917, 1918, 1919 and 1921 at Lake Ellesmere. Brooks (1936) also recorded an undated specimen in the Dominion Museum, Wellington.

Since then, it has been a regular migrant in very small numbers. Small numbers are caught up in the flights of Bar-tailed Godwit that migrate non-stop from Alaska to New Zealand across the Pacific.