

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)
Based on: Watola, G. 2009. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (2nd Edition)
Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.
Updated and amended text supplied by George Watola, October, 2011.
Page numbers follow Watola, G. 2009 (2nd Edition)
New Zealand Quail p. 19.

Quails Phasianidae

(E) **New Zealand Quail** (Koreke), *Coturnix novaezelandiae*, Quoy & Gaimard 1830, Endemic
1770 New Zealand

Quail were frequently recorded by early explorers: Cook in 1770 (Cook 1771), Crozet in 1772, and Forster in 1773. However, Quoy and Gaimard were the first to collect and describe this endemic quail, obtaining one near the River Thames on 25/2/1827 (Fleming 1983). The last record was in 1875. This quail was closely related to the Australian Stubble Quail *C. pectoralis*. It was recently suggested that the quail on Tiritiri Matangi might be the last survivors, but this was found to be erroneous.

In Lieutenant King's journal (Hunter 1793) reference is made to quails being plentiful on Norfolk Island, but what species these were is unknown.