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Birds of New Zealand - Locality Guide. 3rd edn.

Arun Books, Orewa, New Zealand.

Little spotted kiwi: pp 11 - 12.



LITTLE SPOTTED KIWI

Family Apterygidae

Species *Apteryx owenii*

Common name Little Spotted Kiwi

Status Endemic

Abundance Uncommon

Size 400 mm (cf sparrow 145 mm, Brown Kiwi 500 mm)

Discussion This kiwi is smaller than the Brown Kiwi and has different colouration, being brownish grey, finely mottled and banded with white. Other features, such as bill and body proportions, are similar.

Range The largest population of about 1000 birds is on Kapiti Island. These birds were released there in the 1920s probably from the diminishing population found at that time in the Paparoa Ranges on the west coast of the South Island. In 1980 several pairs were liberated on Red Mercury Island off the Coromandel coast and in 1988 several pairs were liberated by the Department of Conservation on Hen Island off the Northland coast. Since then birds have been placed on Tiri Tiri Island and Motuara (Long) Island in Queen Charlotte Sound where they are breeding. It has also been released at the Karori Wildlife Sanctuary in Wellington.

Where to find – North Island

North Auckland – Tiri Tiri Matangi Island. P. 292.

