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Subantarctic snipe: pp 134-136.

Subantarctic (Auckland Island) Snipe *Coenocorypha aucklandica aucklandica* (G.R. Gray 1845), Endemic
March 1840 Enderby Island, Auckland Islands

The type specimens were collected on Enderby Island in 1840 (Gray 1845). The American and the British Exploring Expeditions which visited the Auckland Islands in March and November 1840 respectively, both collected snipe, but the British were the first to describe them. Peale (1848) said "but one specimen was saved: it was obtained at Lord Aucklands Islands, by Dr Holmes U.S.N., to whom the species was dedicated but lost by anticipation".

Subantarctic (Antipodes Island) Snipe *Coenocorypha aucklandica meinertzhagenae* Rothschild 1927, Endemic
1887 Antipodes Island

Captain Fairchild collected snipe in 1887, and Reischek also collected snipe in 1888.

"Sir James Hector quite recently writes to me:— 'From Antipodes Island, Captain Fairchild has brought a very interesting form of Snipe, which is larger, darker in plumage, and with a more curved bill than the Auckland-Island species'." (Buller 1888).

Quite why Buller did not describe it is unclear. Rothschild described *Gallinago tristrami* from what he thought was the Antipodes in 1893, but his specimen actually came from the Auckland Islands.

"*Gallinago tristrami*, Roths. (Antipodes-Island Snipe) I have much pleasure in exhibiting a specimen of this rare Snipe, obtained on the last visit of the "*Hinemoa*" to Antipodes Island, and kindly lent to me by Mr. Bethune, the second engineer.

In his communication relating to *Gallinago huegeli*, cited above, Canon Tristram made the following remarks: 'There would appear to be three species of *Gallinago* in the islands round New Zealand: *G. aucklandica* in the Aucklands, *G. pusilla* in the Chathams, and *G. huegeli* in the Snares, all being sedentary, or nearly so, in their several localities. To these further research will probably add a fourth from Antipodes Island, whence a single specimen has been received by Sir James Hector, who states it to be larger, darker in plumage, and with a more curved bill than the Auckland-Island species. Unfortunately he has not described it.' Shortly after this a specimen was obtained by the Hon. Walter Rothschild, who described it at a meeting of the B.O.C., and dedicated it to Canon Tristram" (Buller 1894a).

Rothschild then re-described the Antipodes Snipe in 1927, (after realising his error?). Holdaway et al. (2001) and Tennyson et al. (2002) considered it a good species, but Worthy et al. (2002) and Baker et al. (2009) maintained it as a subspecies of *C. aucklandica*.

Subantarctic (Campbell Island) Snipe *Coenocorypha aucklandica perseverance* Miskelly & Baker, 2010
Endemic
9/11/1997 Jacquemart Island, Campbell Island

A Department of Conservation (D.O.C.) team (Dave Barker, Jeremy Carroll and James Fraser) looking for Campbell Island Teal on Jacquemart Island unexpectedly discovered this unknown snipe (Judd 1998; Barker et al. 2005). Within minutes of landing by helicopter on the 19ha islet, their dogs had flushed a snipe. Miskelly (2000) reviewed past historical records of 'snipe' on Campbell Island and concluded that none referred to *Coenocorypha* snipe. More recently Miskelly (2006b; Miskelly & Norton 2008) reported two likely sightings made in 1952.

This is the first completely new bird to be discovered in New Zealand since the Westland Petrel in 1945.