

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)  
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Peafowl: p 222.

**Peafowl** *Pavo cristatus* Linnaeus 1758  
1862 Hawke Bay

The first birds were imported by Henry W. Petre in 1842, some of which “became established”. Hutton (1871) said they were not wild. Thomson (1922) recorded several colonies in Hawke Bay, and said they were present inland from Wanganui. Charles Fleming discovered Peafowl north of Longacre in the Wanganui district in the summer of 1945-46. He also mentioned others present in the Gisborne area, which are probably the ones Phillipps (1948) refers to from the Mahia Peninsula. These were introduced by the early whalers. Oliver (1930) later reported that a colony founded by Meinertzhagen in 1862 at Waimarama, Hawke Bay still existed. Peafowl were recorded in 299 (10%) squares in the Atlas (Robertson et al. 2007), especially in the northern North Island.

