

Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*

21 cm

INTRODUCED TO NEW ZEALAND AND CHATHAMS

Starlings have glossy black plumage, speckled with buff and white spots. They have a short tail and pointed wings. They were introduced to New Zealand in the late 1800s, and to Chatham Island by Walter Hood before 1900. Starlings are very numerous in the Chatham Islands, and breed on most islands in the group. Large flocks are seen at Kaingaroa, and flying between Pitt Island and Rangatira.



Adult male starling.

Photo: Dick Veitch (DOC).

