

Fauna - Species List

sales@metalimage.co.nz | 09 415 3610

Use Ctrl+F to search the list. Searches using the scientific name are most effective. Please use Ref. No when placing your order.

Ref.	Te Reo	Scientific	Common	Content
1001	PTWAKAWAKA	Rhipidura fuliginosa	FANTAIL	An adaptable and abundant bird often seen doing aerial acrobatics as it captures small insects on the wing. Males have a high pitched chattering call and frequently fan their tails out in display. In summer compact nests are built from moss, bark and fibre.
1002	HIHI	Notiomystis cincta	STITCHBIRD	Males have a black head, white ear tufts and yellow banding on the chest and wings. Females are olive and pale brown with a small ear tuft. The whistling call made between pairs was thought (by some) to sound like 'stit-tch' –hence the European name.
1003	TOUTOUWAI	Petroica longipes	NORTH ISLAND ROBIN	No relation to the European or American robin but named because of its contrasting white chest. An inquisitive ground-feeder, it searches through leaf litter for worms, spiders and insects. Females do all the nest building but males supply her with food.
1004	TUI	Prosthemadera novaeseelandiae		The first to sing in the morning and the last to finish – its song varies from bell-like tones to throaty chuckles. Tūī are very territorial and will also actively protect a good food source. They eat nectar, fruit and insects. Its flight is noisy and often acrobatic.
1005	KĀKĀ	Nestor meridionalis		Often heard rather than seen, this parrot has a loud harsh call and a more tuneful ringing whistle. Mostly olive brown, they blend into the bush, but the feathers under their wings are a brilliant orange. They nest in hollow trees and are vulnerable to stoat predation.
1006	KERERŪ / KŪKUPA	Hemiphaga novaeseelandiae	NEW ZEALAND PIGEON	These large pigeons eat the fruit, leaves and flowers of forest and exotic trees. They are the only bird able to swallow and spread the seeds of large-fruited species like miro. Listen for their noisy wing-beats. In the past they were hunted for food and their feathers.
1007	KORIMAKO	Anthornis melanura	BELLBIRD	Known for its beautiful bell-like song, the korimako will also make a loud staccato call when alarmed. Local groups tend to have their own distinctive songs. They are important pollinators of many plants and also spread seeds.
1008	RIRORIRO	Greygone igata	GREY WARBLER	A small insectivorous bird, grey-brown with a white-tipped tail. Its rambling melodic call is often heard in forests and parks throughout the country. They are unique among New Zealand birds in building a pear-shaped nest with a side entrance near the top.
1009	KĀREAREA	Falco novaeseelandiae	NEW ZEALAND FALCON	A solitary bird, with a distinctive rapid wing beat and piercing kekeke call in flight. In the South Island found along the main ranges hunting small birds like yellowhammers as well as lizards, insects and even rabbits. Nests are just a scrape on a rocky outcrop or under a log.
1010	NGIRUNGIRU / MIRIMIRO	Petroica macrocephala	SOUTH ISLAND TOMTIT	This forest-dwelling, insectivorous bird is very territorial. Pairs mate for life and can raise two broods a year. The female builds the nest and incubates the eggs while the male supplies the food. They have a dark head and back (black in males, brown in females) with yellowy-white underparts.
1011	PTPTWHARAUROA	Chrysococcyx lucidus	SHINING CUCKOO	The world's smallest cuckoo. This insectivorous bird arrives from the western Pacific in September and stays here till March. Soon after arriving they abandon their eggs to the care of an unsuspecting host, usually a warbler. Their head and back are metallic green, the underside pale with green bars.

1012 KOEKOEĀ	Eudynamys taitensis	LONG-TAILED CUCKOO	A predatory cuckoo that will take chicks or eggs from nests and hunt small birds and lizards. It arrives from the Pacific in October and returns in February or March. It lays its eggs in nests of much smaller birds, like brown creepers, who then raise the voracious chicks.
1013 RURU	Ninox novaeseelandiae	MOREPORK	Originally just a forest bird, the nocturnal morepork has now adapted to rural habitats, making simple nests in tree hollows, or sheltered banks. Pairs maintain a territory of several hectares. They prey on insects, lizards, small birds, rats and mice. M?ori and European names reflect their distinctive call.
1014 KEA	Nestor notabilis		Intelligent and inquisitive, kea are found sparsely along the main ranges of the South Island from Golden Bay to Fiordland. They nest in forest areas but feed above the tree line; enthusiastic omnivores they will investigate anything that could be food from insects to berries to boots.
1015 KOTARE	Halcyon sancta	KINGFISHER	A colourful bird found throughout the southwest Pacific. In New Zealand it lives in habitats from forest to surburban fringes. An efficient predator, it eats worms, insects, fish, mice and lizards. Kotare excavates nest holes in trees or banks with its adze-like bill.
1016	Acridotheres tristis	INDIAN MYNA	The myna, native to central Asia, was introduced to New Zealand in the 1870s. It failed to establish in the South Island but is now widespread in the north. Often seen scavenging along roadsides, mynas will eat almost anything. Except when incubating mynas tend to live communally.
1017	Passer domesticus	SPARROW	The sparrow is an enormously successful species now found worldwide. Brought to New Zealand in the 1860s to help control insects, they soon became a nuisance causing significant crop damage. A pair can raise three broods a year and the young leave the nest after just 15 days.
1018	Platycercus eximius	EASTERN ROSELLA	This Australian native is an aviary-escapee now established in northern parts of New Zealand, and around Wellington and Dunedin. Colourful with distinctive white cheeks and red head. They forage for seeds and fruit in forests, orchards and farmland. Usually seen in pairs or small groups.
1019 TAUHOU	Zosterops lateralis	WAXEYE/SILVEREYE	This small bird, which colonised New Zealand from Australia in the mid 1800s, has relatives with similar distinctive eye markings in Africa, Asia and the Pacific. They feed on insects, fruit and nectar and, in winter, flocks will feed together.
1020	Stumus vulgaris	STARLING	Introduced into New Zealand from the 1860s for sentimental reasons, the starling has been spectacularly successful. Now found throughout the country and on most off-shore islands. Prefers urban and rural areas rather than forest, eating insects, grain, eggs of ground breeding birds, nectar and fruit.
1021	Carduelis carduelis	GOLDFINCH	A tuneful finch with black and yellow, black, white and red head, and light brown body. Flocks in New Zealand can reach 500 to 2000 birds. They feed mainly on weed seeds and the occasional insect. Goldfinch were introduced to in the 1860s.
1022	Turdus philomelos	SONG THRUSH	Brought to New Zealand to remind early European settlers of home, the song thrush is now widespread. It has an attractive song with repeated phrases usually heard during winter and spring. It feeds on the ground, hunting out insects, earthworms and snails and, occasionally, fruit.
1023	Streptopelia chinensis	MALAY SPOTTED DOVE / LACENECK DOVE	A native of Asia, these doves escaped or were released from aviaries and have established around Auckland and in the Bay of Plenty. Commonly feeds on the ground for seeds, fruit, insects and refuse.
1024	Turdus merula	BLACKBIRD	The male, all black with a yellow eye-ring and orange bill, has a melodious song; the adult female and juveniles are dark brown. The female makes a solid mud-lined, cup-like nest and pairs become very territorial. They eat a wide range of insects, earthworms, berries, and fruits.
1025	Gallirallus australis	North Island weka	The endemic weka is a flightless member of the rail family. The North Island subspecies, once widespread, is now found only near Opotiki and a few northern locations where they have been reintroduced. Confident and curious, weka are often drawn to human activity and food.

1026	Gallirallus australis	Western weka	The endemic weka is a flightless member of the rail family There are four subspecies, with the western weka the most common. Their feathers vary from grey to red-brown streaked through with black. Confident and curious, weka are often drawn to human activity and food.
1027 Pūkeko	Porphyrio melanotus	Purple swamphen	This large, boldly-coloured swamphen is found throughout New Zealand in natural wetlands, farmland and even urban parks. They are often found in social groups with a shared territory. Eggs are laid in a single nest and the chicks are looked after by the whole group.
5001 KAUKA	Epiphryne verriculata	Cabbage tree moth	Holes in leaves of cabbage trees are caused by looper caterpillars of the cabbage tree moth. Young caterpillars feed on young leaves scraping long narrow 'windows'. Older caterpillars chew holes in older leaves at night. Moths rest on dead cabbage tree leaves, wings aligned with leaf veins making them difficult to see.
5002	Phyllocoptes coprosma	Coprosma white erineum mite	Yellow patches on top of Coprosma leaves and white erineum (hairs) on the underside of leaves are caused by the feeding on young leaves by Coprosma white erineum mites. The mites lay eggs and live amongst the hairs where they are protected from predators and the environment. The female mite lays tiny spherical eggs. The juvenile mites look like small adults.
5003	Aenetus virescens	Puriri moth	The hole in the diamond-shaped scar in tree trunks was made by puriri moth caterpillars. The caterpillar lives in a 7-shaped burrow and feeds on callous tissue under the webbing covered scar. After pupation in the burrow, the moth, usually green, emerges and hangs to let its wings dry. After mating, the female scatters eggs over the forest floor. The young caterpillars first feed on fungi.
5004	Neomycta rubida	Pohutukawa leafminer	Adult weevils make holes in young leaves, which become large as the leaf expands. The larva hatches from an egg laid ina young leaf. It tunnels through the leaf forming a mine. When fully grown it pupates in the soil. After hatching from the pupa the adult weevils fly up into the tree to feed on young leaves and to mate.
5005	Eriophyes hoheriae	Lacebark gall mite	The knobbly growths, galls, on lacebark trees (Hoheria species) are the tree's response to feeding by lacebark gall mites. Callous tissue grows around feeding sites creating cavities in which the mites live and breed. The galls provide protection from predators and the environment. The female mite lays tiny spherical eggs. The juvenile mites look like small adults. The galls can vary greatly in size.
5006	Liriomyza flavolateralis	Mahoe leafminer	The white, serpentine tracks in mahoe leaves (Melicytus ramiflorus) are made by the larvae of the mahoe leafminer fly. The female fly lays an egg in the leaf by the midrib. On hatching, the larva tunnels through the leaf. In the mine larvae are protected from predators, but vulnerable to parasites. Fully grown larvae drop to the forest floor and pupate. After hatching the adult flies mate.
5007	Trioza vitreoradiata	Pittosporum psyllid	Distortions and pale patches on leaves of pittosporum trees are caused by juvenile pittosporum psyllids feeding on the young and expanding leaves. The winged adult psyllid lays eggs in leafy buds. The scale-like nymphs feed by sucking plant leaf juices. They excrete excess water and sugar in white, wax-covered droplets called psyllid sugars. Some nymphs are hairy on top while others are hairless.

5008	Leucinodes cordalis	Poroporo fruit borer	Wilted shoots and holes in berries of poroporo (Solanum aviculare and S. laciniatum) are caused by the caterpillars of the poroporo fruit borer moth. Female moths lay eggs by the calyx of fruit or on leaves. Caterpillars tunnel into the fruit and eat the developing seeds. Caterpillars may also burrow into leaves and stems which wilt. Fully grown caterpillars spin cocoons nearby and pupate.
5009	Rhadinosomus acuminatus	Haloragis weevil	Adults of this distinctive beetle are often seen on shrubby haloragis (Haloragis erecta). They chew young leaves. Eggs are laid on the underside of young leaves. Newly hatched larvae tunnel through a leaf and into a stem. They then tunnel through the stem. When fully grown they pupate in a chamber in the stem. After emerging from the pupa, the adult stays in the chamber until their cuticle is hard.
5010	Cleora scriptaria	Kawakawa looper	Holes in leaves of kawakawa (Piper excelsum) are made by caterpillars of the Kawakawa moth. Young green looper caterpillars are seen on underside of leaves. The larger green or brown caterpillars hide during the day. At night they climb up to feed on young leaves. Fully grown caterpillars pupate in the litter. The caterpillars also feed on other trees and shrubs. The brown moths are variable and look similar several other species.
5011	Tmetolophota steropastis	Flax notcher caterpillar	This brownish-yellow caterpillar eats the leaves of harakeke/flax (Phormium tenax). They are active at night and eat the edges of the leaves, creating notches. During the day the caterpillar hides at the base of the leaves to avoid being eaten by birds. The adult moth is reddish-brown with variable dark stripes down its wings. It has a stout body, a wingspan of 4cm and is a strong flier. The flax notcher is widespread throughout New Zealand wherever harakeke/flax occurs.
5012	Orthoclydon praefectata	Flax looper caterpillar	This caterpillar is yellow with lateral red stripes, and is active at night. It feeds on the under surfaces of young harakeke/flax (Phormium tenax) leaves, removing all but the top colourless layer, which forms a window. During the day the caterpillar hides at the base of the leaves to avoid being eaten by birds. They generally pupate underground. The adult moth is snow-white with faint speckled brown lines along the wing margins. It has a wingspan of 3.5 – 4cm and is a fragile, slow flier seen only during spring and summer.
5013	Cormocephalus rubriceps	Giant centipede	The giant centipede, also known as hara or hura, is native to New Zealand where it is found in the North Island, and more commonly in the north. It also occurs in Australia. It may grow up to 16 cm in length and 1cm across. It shelters under or in logs and amongst leaves on the ground. It is carnivorous, crushing and piercing prey with its fearsome jaws (mandibles), and has a bite that is painful though not poisonous to humans.
5014	Odontria xanthosticta	Yellow-spotted chafer beetle	The yellow-spotted chafer is pale brown with yellow spots, ovate, and about a centimetre in length. The grubs feed in the soil on roots, and as adults they feed on leaves of many species. Fresh growth on pōhutukawa, coprosma, and karaka are particular favourites due to their moisture content. Beetles emerge from the leaf litter at night to fly up onto trees to feed. These beetles are attracted to light, so they often appear inside during the summer.
5015	Deinacrida heteracantha	Wētāpunga	The wētāpunga is New Zealand's largest insect. Adult females, which are larger than the males, can have a body length of 10cm and weigh up to 55 grams. They can be heavier than a mouse. During the day they hide in poorly protected shelters. At night they leave their shelters to move around trees or on the ground, feeding on large native leaves such as karaka, karamū, māhoe, and kohekohe. The wētāpunga takes nearly three years from egg-laying to maturity, and is the only giant wētā to go through eleven moults to reach adulthood. Other wētā have just ten.
5016	Hemideina thoracica	NZ tree wētā	Tree wêtā eat the leaves of many different plants but prefer the softer leaves of species such as māhoe or karamū. They are nocturnal, and spend the daylight hours hiding in dark cavities, such as holes in trees or specially provided wētā houses. They communicate by scraping their hind legs against the sides of their body, making a chirping sound. Other wētā hear the sound through ears on the sides of their front legs, just below the knees. Eggs laid in autumn and winter hatch in spring. Males can have large heads, up to twice the size of those of females.

5017	Arachnocampa luminosa	New Zealand glowworm	Glowworms are the larvae of a type of fungus gnat. Hundreds may live together in damp sheltered places like caves and overhanging banks. Kidney-like organs in the larvae's tail produce a glowing light. This attracts insects into sticky traps hanging below the glowworm's nest.
5018 Kēkerengū	Celatoblatta spp	NZ Native Bush Cockroach	Text content pending.

The information contained in this document is the Property of Metal Image Limited, and may not be shared or copied in any way without our permission.

Please respect the years of work that has gone into the compiling of this information.