

Watola, G. 2011. The Discovery of New Zealand's Birds. (3rd Edition in prep.)  
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Page numbers follow Watola, G. 2009 (2nd Edition)  
Upland moa: p 250.

**Upland Moa** *Megalapteryx didinus* (Owen 1883), South Island  
H.L. Squire collected the remains of this moa in 1878 near Queenstown.  
Pleistocene birds are significantly larger than Holocene birds.

### **SUB-FOSSIL SPECIES**

These species are considered to have become extinct since human settlement in the 14th century.

Up to 64 species and 20 genera of Moa have been recognized over the last 160 years. Turbott (1990) recognized 11 species in two families, Emeidae and Dinornithidae. Baker et al. (2005) using ancient DNA analysis found that there were fourteen lineages of Moa, which they thought probably corresponded to 14 distinct species. Bunce et al. (2009) have now found that there were only nine species in six genera, but *Megalapteryx* is placed in its own (basal) family. The sequence differs from Checklist Committee (OSNZ) (2010). Moas may have been extinguished in a very short time, only 50-160 years after first contact by Polynesians (Holdaway & Jacomb 2000).

Ka ngaro i te ngaro a te moa - lost as the moa is lost.