THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE KIWI IN THE EAST COAST REGION

During the years 1955-1958, I have recorded, mainly by hearing, Kiwis (A. australis) in a number of localities in the East Coast region of the North Island.

4/4/55 Kapua range, Waiapu County, E.C.: alt. 2600 - 3000'. Single call heard.

Mokakoere Stream, tributary of Waioeka River, Waikohu 21/1/56 County: alt. 1650 - 1750'. Solitary bird heard (3 calls).

Mokakoere Stream, Opotiki County, alt. 2000'. Bird heard, 22/2/56 close to camp; 3 calls during 20 mins.

Same place and camp as last; 2 birds heard, one call and 23/2/56 another in reply repeated.

Upper creek of Pukakaho Stream, Waikohu County, tributary 24/2/56 of Ruakituri River; alt. 2900 - 3000'. Hen heard, and young bird in reply __ several times, close to camp.

Anini clearing, Anini Stream; tributary of Ruakituri River, 25/2/56 alt. 2543', Waikohu County: one or two birds heard, repeated two or three times.

Whakapunake Mt., Cook County; alt. 2900', time 9.30 p.m. 12/4/57 and 5.40 a.m. on 22nd. Solitary calls heard.

Mokamokanui Stream (Napier-Taupo M.H.), East Taupo 6/1/58County: Solitary bird heard, alt. 2200 - 2280'.

The localities are of beech forest, with the exception of that of

22/2/56, which is tawa-tawhero-rimu bush.

I can only suggest the survival of the Kiwi in the beech forest as being due, perhaps, to the absence of wild pigs there, owing to the absence of food and to the steepness of the hill-sides.

R. A. CRESWELL

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