

to the *C. m. "mongolus group"*. Hayman *et al.* (1986) and Marchant & Higgins (1993) state that females have a brown or rufous facial mask instead of black but may have some black around the eye, and that males have the dark line separating the breast band and throat. As this bird had a dark line on the upper breast and a black facial mask I believe it was a male. Marchant & Higgins (1993) consider that sexual dimorphism is usually marked in *C. m. "atrifrons group"*, but it is apparently less marked in the *C. m. "mongolus group"*.

In Australia, where 20,000 Mongolian dotterel visit annually, Marchant & Higgins (1993) considered the subspecies visiting each area to be "poorly known" and "unresolved". They suggested that *C. m. mongolus* predominates in northwestern Australia and that *C. m. stegmanni* predominates on the east coast of Australia (and presumably New Zealand) and speculate that *C. m. schaeferi* (*C. m. atrifrons* group) may also occur there. Previous records of dotterels in the *C. m. atrifrons* group in breeding plumage in New South Wales (Izzard 1985; McBride 1986) were not accepted by Marchant & Higgins (1993). However, my observations show that birds of both the *C. m. atrifrons* group and the *C. m. mongolus* group visit New Zealand. Further work is required to resolve the taxonomy and the subspecies and groups present in New Zealand (Turbott 1990) and Australia (Marchant & Higgins 1993).

These sightings of different subspecies of Mongolian dotterel have been accepted by the Rare Birds Committee of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand (UBR 28/99).

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**Keywords** Mongolian dotterel; *Charadrius m. mongolus*; *Charadrius m. atrifrons*; *Charadrius m. mongolus*; New Zealand

## CORRIGENDA - March 2000 issue

### Rare Bird Committee - Combined report for 1992-1999

**Record 93/04:** Names *Anhinga melanogaster* omitted.

**Record 93/10:** Name should be *Pygoscelis adeliae*, not *P. papua*.

**Record 18/99:** Alternative common name for bridled tern (*Sterna anaethetus*) should be brown-winged tern.