



NEW ZEALAND
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NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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Dinornis cf. D. hercules
Anomalopteryx cf. A. parvis
 ? Pachyornis mappini.

Even in this list the identity of the third species is in doubt, any of the four small genera may be present, though it is fairly certain that P. mappini, at least, is represented. Finally it must be stressed again that except for the immature moa discussed above, there is still no conclusive proof that these bones represent moas killed by moa-hunting maori.

MOA IDENTIFICATIONS FROM TAIRUA, COROMANDEL COAST. by J.C. Yaldwyn.

In view of the announcement in this issue of the Newsletter of the first undoubted Dinornis remains excavated from a North Island archaeological site (Dinornis of D. hercules from Makara Beach, Wellington) I have thought it only fair to Roger Green, who is at present doing field work in French Oceania, to include here a preliminary announcement on the moa material he excavated at Tairua Harbour (site N 44/2, See Newsletter, Vol. 2. No. 2. pp. 22 & 24.

At least one species of Dinornis is definitely present in Green's "moa-hunter layer" and this is probably D. novaezealandiae (the D. ingens of Archey and Oliver). Another, larger, Dinornis species is represented by immature bones, while the possibility of a smaller species of Dinornis as well cannot be entirely ruled out. The genus Pachyornis appears to be represented in both the "moa-hunter layer" and in sub-fossil material excavated at the site, while moa vertebrae of several sizes are also present in the occupation layer. All the faunal remains from this site are under study at the moment and a full discussion of the groups represented will appear with Roger Green's final report. The problem of whether the bones have been brought to the site in a sub-fossil state, or whether they represent birds killed by moa-hunting maori will also be dealt with in this final report.
