

CRC Biogeography Series

Biogeography and Evolution in New Zealand

"I believe this to be a significant, and comprehensive, account of the plants and animals of New Zealand. It is replete with distribution maps done in an original style. Heads's approach to biogeography is notable for its originality, and this manuscript is an especially good example. There is nothing like it."

Forty years ago I wrote (and am quoted by Heads):

'With regard to general problems of biogeography, the biota of New Zealand has been, perhaps, the most important of any in the world. ... all notable authorities have felt obliged to explain its history: explain New Zealand and the world falls into place around it.'

And so it is with Heads's manuscript!"

—Gareth Nelson, School of BioSciences, University of Melbourne, Australia

Biogeography and Evolution in New Zealand provides the first in-depth treatment of the biogeography of New Zealand, a region that has been a place of long-enduring interest to ecologists, evolutionary scientists, geographers, geologists, and scientists in related disciplines. It serves as a key addition to the contemporary discussion on regionalization—How is New Zealand different from the rest of the world? With what other areas does it share its geology, history, and biota? Do new molecular phylogenies show that New Zealand may be seen as a biological "parallel universe" within global evolution?

Features

- Presents the first comprehensive scientific overview of New Zealand biogeography
- Goes beyond a focus on a single taxon, area, or analyses of certain types of data to provide a thorough review of the systematics and distribution in major plant and animal groups of New Zealand
- Emphasizes recent ideas in the field derived from new geological work and the rise of molecular phylogenetics
- Includes an extensive reference section that provides entry points for more in-depth research on individual taxa and areas



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