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SPUR-WINGED PLOVER: BROADLANDS

On 25 March 1977 I sighted seven Spur-winged Plovers feeding in a temporary rainwater pond near the main Reporoa-Taupo highway just south of the Reporoa Lucerne Company's drying plant (map ref. NZMS 1: N94/551787).

While driving along the road I noticed these unusual birds and stopped my vehicle. When approached I could see their characteristic slightly humped posture, contrasting brown and white plumage and yellow wattles. When they finally flew, several called and all had the characteristic flight (round winged) of the Spur-winged Plover.

As far as I know, this is the first sighting of these birds in this half of the North Island and it would be interesting to have subsequent records for the vicinity.

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