

CONSERVATION PRACTICES IN ZIMBABWE

Issued 26th October, 2004

(Extracted from *Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 5 of 2004*)²

The two stamps of this issue are a result of the stamp design competition, which was run during 2003 under the theme "Conservation Practices in Zimbabwe".

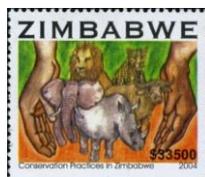
\$4,600

Design by Kingston Chigidhani, a 15-year-old student at Silveira High School, Masvingo, who won the first prize in the Junior Category in the theme "Conservation Practices in Zimbabwe". The rationale used is that small insects also have a right to live and thus people should desist from destroying them.



\$33 500

Designed by Kudzai Chikomo, an 18-year-old boy of Gweru, whose design came first in the open category of the competition "Conservation Practices in Zimbabwe". The rationale behind this design is that the onus is among people to protect wild life from extinction.



The Bulletin Cover and The First Day Cover

The illustration on both the bulletin cover and first day cover was done by Elisha Homera of Marondera. The design depicts how Zimbabweans should protect and preserve their natural environment and its surroundings.



Catalogue listings

SG	ZSC ¹	Value	Description
1144	569	\$4,600	Butterfly (Kingston Chigidhani)
1145	570	\$33,500	Hands protecting wildlife (Kudzai Chikomo)

Technical details

Stamp size:	Sheet stamps: 35 x 30 mm
Sheet Size:	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet
Artist:	As stated above
Paper:	ZSC paper type J: paper described by Zimpost as “Chancellor Litho PVA Gummed Postage Stamp Paper”. This paper is produced by Tullis Russell Coaters of Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland. Under UV there is no fluorescence either front or back, the stamp appears to be very dark
Print colours:	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black
Perforations:	SG 14 x 14½, ZSC 14 x 14¼ Left margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate
Printer:	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe
Printer’s Imprint:	Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Column 3. Imprint printed in black
Cylinder numbers:	Top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Colour register:	Type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black
Sheet Value:	Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black
Sheet Number:	Type SN 7 with printed ‘ZIMPOST’ prefix, right margin opposite R/5, reading down
Print numbers:	\$4,600 2,000,000 \$33,500 200,000
Issue date:	26 th October, 2004

Postal Rates

Unlike the previous two issues, these stamps reflected the correct postal rates for local mail and airmail to Europe

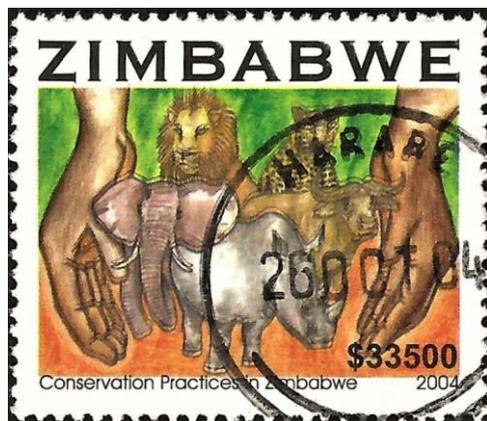
Fifth Printing Plate

The analysis below shows that there were clearly two black printing plates for these stamps.



\$4,600: The stamp on the left could be considered to be the intended design, with the country's name sitting just on top of the picture and the wording below just below. In the other two stamps the text to the top and bottom of the stamps has moved upward. There is no corresponding movement of the outline of the butterfly. This leads to the conclusion that the printing of this stamp included two black plates.

(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)



\$33,500: This stamp shows that the plate printing within the design of the stamp has been double. But there the printing of the text to the top and bottom of the stamp has not double. Thus, indicating that there were two black printing plates.

(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)

Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been noted.

Unlisted Varieties

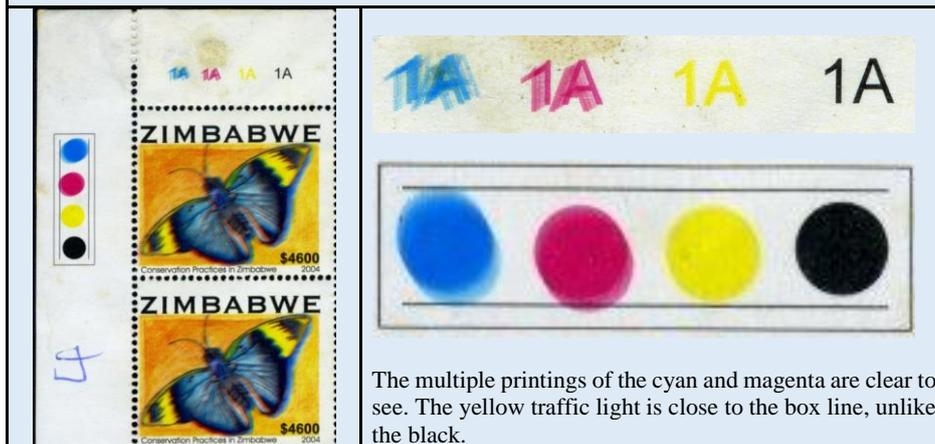
There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds.

The following three blocks of the \$4,600 stamp show a multiple additional printing of the cyan, magenta and yellow printing plates. Only the black plate appears to be stable. Whilst the yellow is difficult to see it does occur.

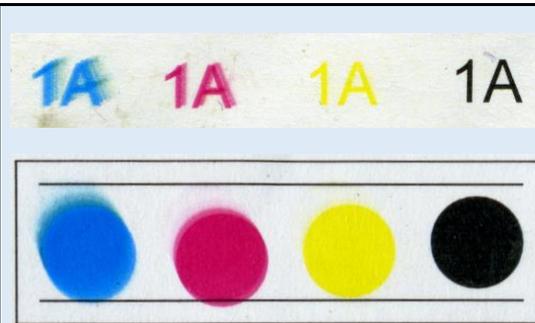
All examples come from the left top margin of the cylinder 1A sheet, it is not known if the 1B sheets were similarly affected.

As one of the examples is from a double top row, there is a sheet number, indicating that these sheets may not be printer's waste, despite their condition

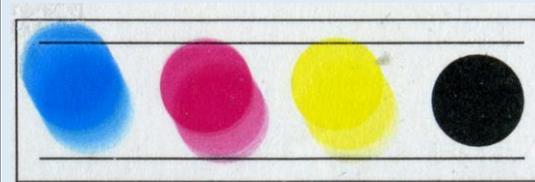
The three blocks have handwritten numbers in the left margin of 4, 5 & 7, indicating possibly a few more sheets with the same issue. The effect of the multiple printings is to give the design a fuzzy feeling. Most all sheets are dirty and water damaged in the top left corner.



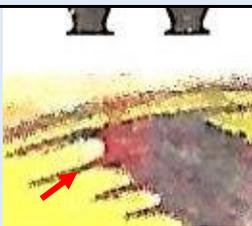
The multiple printings of the cyan and magenta are clear to see. The yellow traffic light is close to the box line, unlike the black.



Significant additional printings of the cyan, with magenta and yellow also with additions. Sheet No Zimpost 14105



Colour indicators too damaged to show. The traffic lights however show a significant number of printing of the cyan, magenta and yellow plates.



\$4,600: Reddish patch to tip of right wing of butterfly.
(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)



\$4,600. Reddish area to top of left wing of butterfly.
(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)



\$4,600: one of the black spots to the top of the left wing of butterfly now reddish.
(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)



\$4,600: Yellow spot between 'M' & 'B' of Zimbabwe
(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)



\$4,600: Yellow tick between 'M' & 'B' of Zimbabwe
(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)



\$4,600: Pre-printing paper crease to column 4 from top margin to the third row.
Sheet No Zimpost 16046, cylinder 1A
(Source: download from eBay)



\$4,600: Pre-printing paper fold to column 4 from top margin to second row.
(Courtesy Narendhra Morar)



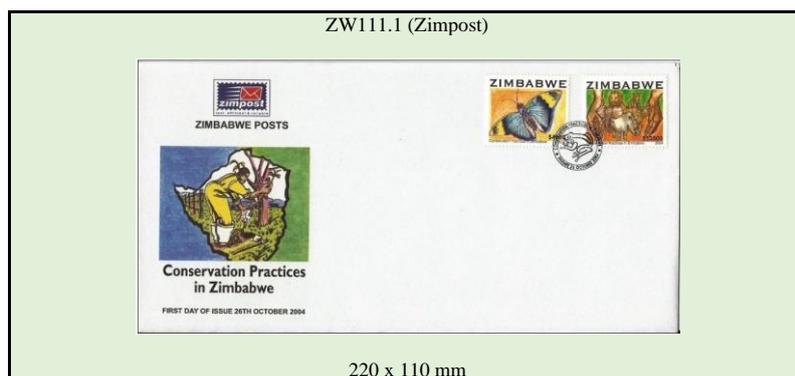
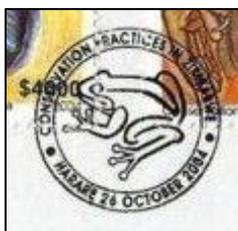
\$4,600: Vertical cyan streak down centre of stamp, probably caused by paper fold. R4/3

 <p>\$33,500: Double printing of one black plate (see above) (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>	 <p>\$33,500: Blue grey area around jaw of lion. R5/2 (Courtesy Narendhra Morar)</p>	 <p>\$33,500: yellow area above rhino's horn, should be orange. R2/3 (Courtesy Marendhra Morar)</p>
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First Day Cover

The cover numbering comes from the catalogue produced by Geoff Brakspear.

A pictorial first day of issue canceller was produced for this issued and was used by the Philatelic Bureau. Other first day cover cancellers continued to be used at main post offices.



Related Material

Natprint Proof Presentation Cards

Presentation cards produced by Natprint with imperforate proofs of the stamps to be issued. The presentation cards were forwarded to the PTC for approval of the final product. The proof stamps reflect the local and Europe rates with effect from 14th July 2004. The final stamps reflect the same postal rates as at 1st October 2004

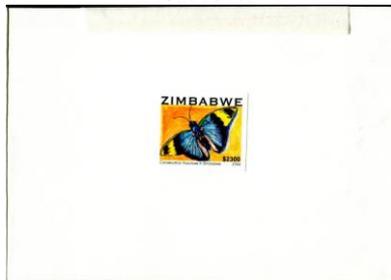
(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)



Front cover



Inside front cover



\$2,300 stamp (changed to \$4,600)



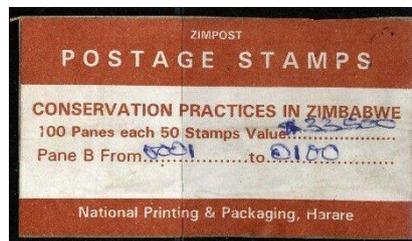
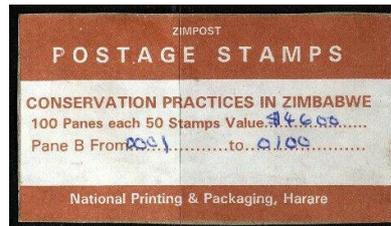
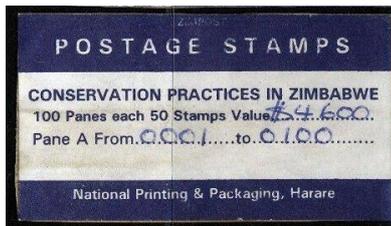
\$17,000 stamp (changed to \$33,500)

Delivery Labels

Delivery labels from packaging containing 100 sheets of the two values, for the cylinder 1A (blue labels) and 1B (brown labels). All labels showing sheet numbers 0001 to 0100 were contained in that package.

Commented [G1]:

(Source eBay)



Bibliography:

1. "The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue", published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear
2. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 5 of 2004