

# EXOTIC DAIRY COWS

Issued 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2017

*(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 5 of 2017)<sup>2</sup>*

There are many different dairy breeds, each with their own characteristic colour and markings, average size, conformation and breed averages for milk yield and butterfat and protein content.

For many years there has been debate on the merits of cross breeding dairy cattle and this is ongoing. There are difficulties in maintaining the desired breed mix over the long term and maintaining the purity of the maternal stock in sufficient numbers. An alternative to cross breeding is the selection of cows from within the same breed that have been managed under similar conditions over many years and proven good, because adaptation to environment is an inherent trait.

Dairy farmers are often surprised at the rapid improvement in the quality of their cows when they use better quality bulls or semen through Artificial Insemination (AI). Add to this improvement in management, in particular the feeding regime that must accompany genetic improvement, and you begin to uncover the exciting potential of optimal milk production.

Dairy cows must always be handled in a quiet and orderly manner. It is therefore important to have good handling facilities so that examination and treatment of the animals can be carried out with care and minimal disruption and stress.



## **40c: Ayrshire**

These cows originated in Scotland. They are considered to be the most beautiful of all the dairy breeds with good udders, straight top-line and a level rump. Coat colour varies from pure white to deep cherry red, brown or mahogany in combination with white markings. They are good active grazers with much stamina. They are considered hardy animals that perform well under varying conditions.

## **75c: Holsten**

The Friesland, commonly referred to as the 'black and white' cow, originated in the northern provinces of Holland. Strict breeding policies have evolved a high producing cow -The Holstein - now the most common dairy breed in the world.

They are large well-proportioned animals, recognised by their distinct black and white colour patterns though a few may be either, pure white or black or even brown and white.

These are cows with a high genetic potential and must be given the very best conditions. Holsteins achieve their potential under high levels of management and animal husbandry.



### **85c: Jersey**



This breed originated on the island of Jersey, off the French coast. Jerseys are the smallest of all dairy breeds. Heifers mature relatively quickly. Their colour varies from light fawn to different shades of brown and some may be black. The muzzle and hooves are normally black and they have large captivating eyes set in a head that has a double dish. Their conformation is renowned for sharpness and strength indicating productive efficiency. Another feature is their excellent udders both in shape and fore and rear attachments. However, they are more prone to milk fever than other breeds. Jersey bulls have a reputation of being very vicious.

They are easy to maintain as they are so small. This enables them to thrive on medium to poor quality pastures, and they tend to handle heat stress much better than the other breeds.

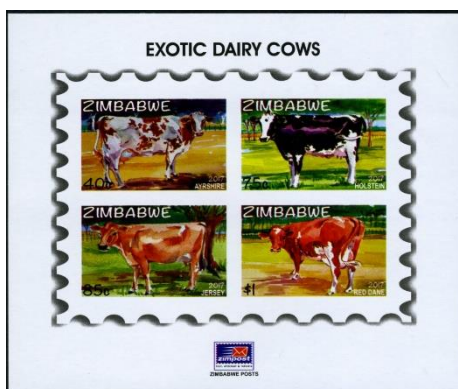
### **\$1: Red Dane**

The Red Dane breed originated in Denmark and may be classified as a dual-purpose animal. The desirable cow is medium sized, with a smooth coat ranging from brown to dark brown in colour and with a dark brown to black muzzle and black hooves.

In Zimbabwe in the late 1970's, a long-term crossbreeding program was started with the objective of breeding a robust, fertile cow adapted to sub-tropical conditions. The original Red Dane parent stock has been crossed with Norwegian Red and White, Brown Swiss and Ayrshires. The outcome of this program has been the development of the Zimbabwe Red Dane Breed. These cows have been successfully crossed with a local indigenous beef breed, the TULI, to give a hardy cow that is able to perform well under arid conditions, and whose milk yield is acceptable.



## The Stamps



## Catalogue Listings

SG	ZSC <sup>1</sup>	Value	Description
1434	831	40c	Ayrshire Cow
1435	832	75c	Holstein cow
1436	833	85c	Jersey cow
1437	834	\$1	Red Dane Cow
MS1438	MS38		Imperforate miniature sheet set in se-tenant block of 4

## Technical details

<b>Stamp size:</b>	Sheet stamps:	42 x 28 mm
	Miniature sheet	120 x 110 mm
<b>Sheet Size:</b>	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet	
<b>Artist:</b>	Leslie Johnson	

**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:** Sheet stamps only, SG 14½; ZSC 14¼  
Top margin: Perforated through  
Other margins: Imperforate

**Printer:** NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe

**Origination:** Terrie Lue Graphics

**Printer’s Imprint:** Sheet stamps only, bottom margin, below Row 10 Column 3.  
Imprint printed in black

**Cylinder numbers:** Sheet stamps only, top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Colour register:** Sheet stamps only, type TL 4– round boxed – left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down – cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Sheet Value:** Sheet stamps only, top Margin, above R1/5, printed in black

**Sheet Number:** Sheet stamps only - Type SN 7 with printed ‘ZIMPOST’ prefix, right margin opposite R1/5 reading down

**Bar codes:** Opposite R10/5, printed in black, numbers:  
40c 2 009113 000578  
75c 2 009113 000585  
85c 2 009113 000592  
\$1 2 009113 000608  
(Note these are the same bar codes as used for the Recreational Fishing issue.)

**Print numbers:**

40c	3,000	75c	3,000
85c	3,000	\$1	3,000
Miniature sheet	1,000		

**Issue date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2017

### Listed varieties

No listed varieties have been reported.

## Unlisted Varieties

There are numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps, particularly in the backgrounds which are more noticeable with the solid colours.



**All values:** Narendhra Morar has noted that all stamps in this issue come with different vertical heights to the stamps. These are all caused by early or late strikes of the perforator.



**40c:** plate movements affecting the outline to “Zimbabwe” and the image edges. Stamp all appear to be a bit fuzzy  
(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)



**75c:** plate movements affecting the outline to “Zimbabwe” and the image edges. Stamp all appear to be a bit fuzzy  
(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)



**75c:** plate movements affecting the outline to “Zimbabwe” and the image edges. Stamp all appear to be a bit fuzzy  
(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)



**85:** plate movements affecting the outline to “Zimbabwe” and the image edges. Stamp all appear to be a bit fuzzy  
(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)



**\$1:** plate movements affecting the outline to “Zimbabwe” and the image edges. Stamp all appear to be a bit fuzzy  
(Courtesy of Narendhra Morar)

## First Day Cover

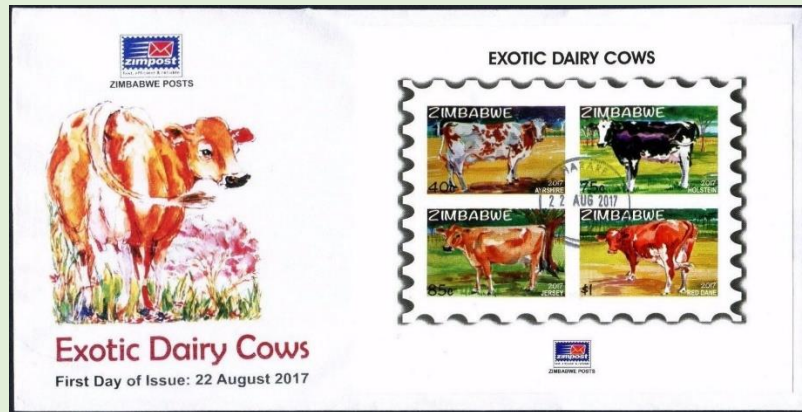
ZimPost produced a First Day Cover, which was postmarked by the Philatelic Bureau with a postmark reading “First Day of Issue/Harare”.

ZW168 (ZimPost)



220 x 110 mm

ZW168MS (ZimPost)



220 x 110 mm

**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, and is now published on the Rhodesian Study Circle website.
2. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 5 of 2017 (Note there are no bulletins 2 to 4 of 2017)