

August 15, 2005

ATA RELEASES NEW "INSECTS ON STAMPS" HANDBOOK

The latest in a series of topical handbooks from the American Topical Association is Donald Wright Jr.'s HB #150, Insects on Stamps. This huge 460 page work covers all insects on stamps issued from the beginning of 1992 until the end of 2002 along with most of the issues of 2003. It picks up where ATA Handbook HB #123 left off.

Part one of the new book is a listing by country and part two lists these small life forms by Taxonomic Order and Family. This work covers stylized, unidentified and implied insects in addition to those that are identifiable. All legitimate stamps and US postal stationery are included, but because many collectors have shown an interest in knowing about so-called "stamps" from some parts of the former Soviet Union, and other illegal issues from various countries, these labels are included "for the record". Not listed are locals, revenues, cinderellas, foreign postal stationery or seals.

Where possible this handbook identifies the insects shown on stamps with the Latin name and describer, the common name, family and subfamily, and includes listings of 22 orders, 184 families and 2457 identified species and subspecies of insects. Insects that are depicted in the areas surrounding stamps are identified with the word "border" to indicate the marginal area within the perforations and "margin" to indicate areas lying outside the individual stamp(s) of sheetlets outside of the stamp itself.

This is Volume 3 in a series of Insect Handbooks. Volume 1, published in 1979, is out of print, but was incorporated into Volume 2 in 1993 (also authored by Mr. Wright), thus the two volumes are a comprehensive listing of Insects on Stamps. To help collectors of this topic, the ATA is offering the earlier Handbook #123 for sale at \$5, which is 1/3 the face price of \$15.

HB-#150 has a selling price of \$29.00 but existing members of the ATA or anyone sending in dues of \$20 per year with an order will receive a \$4.00 discount, reducing the price to \$25. Postage for HB #150 is \$2 in the US, \$4 in Canada and \$6 overseas. Postage for both books is \$3 in the US, \$6 in Canada and \$8 overseas.

At 460 pages, this is the largest bound book ever created by the ATA. There are 10 pages of

illustrations; six of which are in full color. Orders may be made by VISA, MasterCard, or check on a US Bank to ATA – PO Box 57 – Arlington, TX 76004-0057. PayPal orders must go to americantopical@msn.com . For more information call the ATA 7:30A.M to 4:00 PM at 817-274-1181.

For additional information on the American Topical Association contact the ATA Central Office, PO Box 57, Arlington, Texas 76004-0057 (telephone 817-274-1181; fax 817-274-1184; email americantopical@msn.com; or visit their website at www.americantopicalassn.org.