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Registered address: 400, Pisang Road West, 93150 Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.
Correspondence address: P. O. Box 1177, 93724, Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Editor: Dr Ong L T, PhD (Swinburne)  long@swinburne.edu.my

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For members only
An earlier article in this journal covered innovative and advanced technologies employed to produce postage stamps issued from Malaysia, up to 24 April 2018 (Gee and Das, 2018). In this article, we list issues since that date, till close to the end of the year 2021. The cut-off date for entries was 1 December 2021.

Over the reporting period, Pos Malaysia continued to issue these 'unusuals', including stamps that are circular (one issue), hexagonal (five issues) or octagonal in shape (one issue), extra-long or tall stamps (two issues), or stamps belonging to the following categories: die-cut sheetlets or perforations (16 issues), printed with optically variable ink (28 issues), with microprinted text (five issues), photomosaic stamps (four issues), or printed using thermographic technique (one issue), embossed (four issues), varnished (two issues), with spot lamination (eight issues), sprayed with glitter dust (one issue), printed with silver ink (four issues), or gold ink (four issues) or with gold foil (two issues) or silver foil (two issues), gold hot-foiled, pre-printed stamp on cover (two issues), and finally, stamps with images visible under black (UV) light (four issues). Some items show more than a single special feature, for which we have listed them in chronological order, rather than by category. Since the standard flat-bed scans often fail to show some of these features, additional images, especially close-ups, are presented. Reproduced images are not to scale.

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Date of Issue: 19 December 2017
Face Value: RM 3
Catalogue No: N/A
Remarks: Gold hot foil stamping on preprinted stamp of cover
Malaysia's Achievements at the 18th Asian Games Jakarta-Palembang 2018

Date of Issue: 15 November 2018
Face Value: RM 2
Catalogue No: N/A
Remarks: Gold hot foil stamping on preprinted stamp of cover
Historical Museums in Malaysia

Date of Issue: 23 July 2018
Face Value: RM 6.50
Catalogue No: SG MS2327
Remarks: Thermographic printing gives a sandy-feel on Admiral Cheng Ho’s statue

Baliphex 2018 Four Nations Stamps Exhibition

Date of Issue: 3 August 2018
Face Value: RM 8
Catalogue No: SG MS2328
Remarks: Extra-long stamp (ca. 180 mm); die-cut in wavy shape, incorporating two hornbills and a proboscis monkey (overprint of ‘Rivers in Malaysia’).
Malaysia Day Celebrations

Date of Issue: 31 August 2018
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS2341
Remarks: Die-cut heart-shaped perforations; Malaysian flag; logo and words ‘Sayangi Malaysia’ with spot lamination
Jit Sin School

Date of Issue: 9 October 2018
Face Value: RM 8
Catalogue No: SG MS2352
Remarks: Silver ink school logo / Embossed clock tower / Gradient printing on silver foil of vertical Chinese characters “Jing Ai Qun Pu” (= Respect Love Diligence Moderation) / Gold ink printing of horizontal Chinese characters “Bukit Mertajam Hall”
Thailand 2018 World Stamp Exhibition

Date of issue: 28 November 2018
Face Value: RM 6
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of front of train; stamp shaped like a flat-bottomed cylinder; spot lamination on front of train, the FIAP World Stamp Exhibition, Bangkok, Thailand 2018 logo and the top coloured lining of train (overprint of Electric Train Service; SG MS2299)

State Definitive Series. Wild Orchids (14 States)

Date of Issue: 4 December 2018
Face Value: RM 1.55 (perforate); RM 5.00 (imperforate)
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: OVI (optically variable ink) lettering: wavy "POS MALAYSIA" across individual stamps visible when sheetlets are tilted to one side (as shown in top figure). Images of perforate (left) and imperforate (right) versions, alphabetically by state, follow.
Malaysian Festivals (Series 3)

Date of Issue: 15 January 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS2364
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of a longhouse; glitter dust on costumes of people

Exotic Foods

Date of Issue: 19 February 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS2368
Remarks: Die-cut at bottom, outlining the horseshoe crabs
Date of Issue: 21 March 2019  
Face Value: Undenominated cinderella sheetlet  
Catalogue No: SG uncatalogued  
Remarks: UV spot lamination with prismatic effect to simulate torch flame. The 100 dots represent the school’s centenary
Honey Bees in Malaysia

Date of Issue: 9 April 2019
Face Value: 60 sen (x 3), RM 4
Catalogue No: SG MS2377
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of a honey bee; miniature sheet with two hexagonal stamps; stamps also hexagonal, a reflection of the shape of the honeycomb cells

Places of Worship (Series 2)

Date of Issue: 11 May 2019
Face Value: Undenominated cinderella sheetlet
Catalogue No: SG uncatalogued (regular set SG 2378–2382)
Remarks: Silver ink letterings “Ulang Tahun ke-20 Gereja St. George, Pulau Pinang”
Sour Fruits

Date of Issue: 19 June 2019
Face value: RM 3
Catalogue No: SG MS2386
Remarks: Octagonal stamp

150th Anniversary of Sarawak’s First Stamp

Date of Issue: 18 July 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS 2387
Remarks: Gold ink on Sarawak SG1 stamp
Wildlife Conservation

Date of Issue: 28 July 2019
Face Value: RM 5 (x 2)
Catalogue No: SG MS2391 (tiger); SG MS2392 (rhino)
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of the head and forebody of a tiger and a rhino, respectively, as well as gold and silver ink, respectively, applied on the miniature sheets

Installation of KDYMM Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di-Pertuan Agong XVI Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri’ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta’in Billah

Date of Issue: 30 July 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS2396
Remarks: With a narrow gold ink line at bottom of stamp
National Costumes

Date of Issue: 8 August 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS2398
Remarks: With spot UV lamination

Caves of Malaysia

Date of Issue: 22 August 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS 2402
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of cave mouth, with stalactites
Malaysia Day. Our Food

Date of Issue: 16 September 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG MS 2406
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of ice-shaving machine, used in making ‘Air Batu Campur’; with spot lamination on the dessert

Carvings and Crafts of Malaysia

Date of Issue: 4 December 2019
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Embossed metal necklace (“Kalung”)
National Definitive Series. Iconic Marine Life

Date of Issue: 18 June 2020 (sheetlet and miniature sheet) / 23 June 2020 (first recorded release of counter sheets; see the following blog for further details: https://myfdc.me/definitive-reprints-and-estimated-release-dates/national-iconic-marine-life-reprints)

Face Value: RM 1.30, RM 1.40, RM 1.50, RM 1.70, RM 1.90, RM 5

Catalogue No: SG awaited

Remarks: Miniature sheet die-cut in the shape of sea turtle hatching from egg; stamp in miniature sheet circular shaped; hatchling and adult sea turtle varnished. Microtext ‘Pos Malaysia’ and name of animal depicted, in Bahasa Malaysia, at bottom of each stamp of counter sheet (missing in original issue, in sheetlet format; other differences between the two releases listed in Das et al., 2020).

Enlarged images showing microtext on each of the stamps are illustrated in the following page.
“POSMALAYSIA PENYUKARAH” on turtle’s plastron (RM 1.30)

“POSMALAYSIA LUMBALUMBAPUTIH” on edge of left flipper of dolphin (RM 1.40)

“POSMALAYSIA UPAPUS” on trailing edge of left flipper of whale shark (RM 1.50)

“POSMALAYSIA KIMABESAR” on left side of inner mantle of giant clam (RM 1.70)

“POSMALAYSIA DUGONG” on edge of right flipper of dugong (RM 1.90)
Wild Flowers (Series 3)

Date of Issue: 9 July 2020
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of flowers, buds and leaves; varnish on flower in stamp

Rukun Negara 50 Years

Date of Issue: 18 August 2020
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Gold foil maps of Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak, including letterings; Die-cut perforations
Tallest Tropical Tree in the World

Date of Issue: 29 December 2020
Face Value: RM 8
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Embossed tree; reportedly one of the ‘tallest’ stamps in the world, measuring 190 x 80 mm
125th Anniversary of Johor Constitution

Date of Issue: 31 December 2020
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Silver ink frame and spot lamination on stamp

Cattle Breeds in Malaysia

Date of Issue: 18 March 2021
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of cow’s head and neck; cow image on stamp with gold foil
Hidden Treasures of Malaysia – Islands

Date of Issue: 5 August 2021
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Spot lamination and embossing over images of islands on stamp and selvage of MS, creating a relief-like effect
King of Fruits in Malaysia – Durian

Date of Issue: 19 August 2021
Face Value: RM 5
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Die-cut in the shape of durian and wooden stand; spot lamination on the opened durian

Covid-19 Frontliners

Date of Issue: 9 September 2021
Face Value: RM 1.70 (x 4)
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Covid-19 virus visible under UV light; photomosaic stamps: each portrait composed of about 1,000 personalised (SetemKu) stamps
Close-ups of the north-east corners of the four stamps from the ‘Frontliners’ issue, showing elements of photomosaic, created with SetemKu (personalised) stamps.
Date of Issue: 1 October 2021
Face Value: 60 sen
Catalogue No: SG awaited
Remarks: Die-cut miniature sheet; silver foiled lettering “50 PERKESO” and building on stamp

References
