



HERPETOLOGY



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For the second issue in a row, I have put together a listing for this subject. I am sure some of our members have a more comprehensive listing that would be useful and informative. The information here is merely a regurgitation of the information in the Scott monthly update of new issues supplemented by some simple Internet searching. Please contact me if you can provide more complete and accurate data, and I will arrange an easy way for you to have it published in this column for the benefit of our other members.

Scott#	Denom	Common Name/Scientific Name	Family/Subfamily	Code
CAPE VERDE 2012 (Flora & Fauna of Santo Antão Protected Area)				
988	50e	Cape Verde Wall Gecko, <i>Tarentola caboverdiana caboverdiana</i>	Phyllodactylidae	A*
990	SS 100e	U/I sp.		
CHINA P. R. 2013 January 5 (New Year 2013: Year of the Snake)				
4061	\$1.20	Stylized snake		S
4061a	\$12	Bklt pane 10 (Sc#4061)		
CHRISTMAS ISLAND 2013 January 13 (New Year 2013: Year of the Snake)				
509	60c	Stylized snake		S
510	\$1.80	Chinese character for "snake"		S
510a	SS \$2.40	Sheet 2 (Sc#509–10)		
511	MS \$4.80	MS of 14 (Sc#509–10, 511a–l) (perf 14¾×14)		
511d	15c	Stylized snake with eggs		S
511m	\$3.95	Bklt pane 4 (Sc#511d, 511g, 2×Sc#510)		
511n	\$1.70	Bklt pane 4 (Sc#511i, 511j, 2×Sc#509)		
511o	\$1.70	Bklt pane 4 (Sc#511k, 511l, 2×Sc#509)		
511p	\$1.55	Bklt pane 4 (Sc#511a, 511h, 2×Sc#509)		
511q	\$1.55	Bklt pane 4 (Sc#511b, 511e, 2×Sc#509)		
511r	\$1.55	Bklt pane 4 (Sc#511c, 511f, 2×Sc#509)		
512	MS \$5.80	Sheet 13 (Sc#512a–m) (die cut 12¼) (s/a)		
512l	60c	Stylized snake (like Sc#509)		S
COCOS ISLANDS 2013 June 4 (50th anniv. Cocos Islands Postage Stamps)				
367	5c	Green Sea Turtle, <i>Chelonia mydas</i> (with diver)	Cheloniidae	A
371a	SS \$4.85	Sheet 5 (Sc#367–71)		
FRANCE 2013 January 4 (New Year 2013: Year of the Snake)				
4315	63c	Stylized snake (also exists in SS of 1)		S
2013 January 4 (Animals in Art)				
4326	(58c)	Stylized gold sculpture of snake		S
4327a	(696c)	Bklt pane 12 (Sc#4316–27)		
2013 February 4 (Animals Proverbs)				
4341	(58c)	Stylized (cry crocodile tears)		S
4343	(58c)	Stylized (to swallow snakes)		S
4349a	(696c)	Bklt pane 12 (Sc#4338–49)		

FRENCH POLYNESIA		2013 April 26 (Flora & Fauna)		
1097	40fr	U/I lizard		U
1098a	SS 250fr	Sheet 3 (Sc#1096–98)		
FRENCH SOUTHERN & ANTARCTIC TERR.		2013 April 29 (Emblem Silhouettes)		
484	1c	Green Sea Turtle, <i>Chelonia mydas</i> (silhouette)	Cheloniidae	S
488	63c	same as above with other silhouettes in set		S
GIBRALTAR		2013 September 14 (Endangered Animals Type of 2011)		
1408	42p	Chinese Alligator, <i>Alligator sinensis</i>	Alligatoridae	A*
1410	42p	Leatherback Sea Turtle, <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Dermochelyidae	A*
1410a		SS of 6 (Sc#1405–10)		
HONG KONG		2013 March 28 (Children & Pets)		
1566	\$2.40	Stylized tortoise		S
1569a	SS \$16.10	Sheet 6 (Sc#1564–69 se-tenant)		
HUNGARY		2013 June 20 (Sándor Weöres, writer)		
4288b	110fo	Stylized frog playing flute		S
4288	440+100fo	Sheet 4 (Sc#4288a–d se-tenant) (surtax for support of youth philately)		
INDONESIA		2013 January 22 (New Year 2013: Year of the Snake)		
2330a	2500r	U/I snake sp.		U A*
2330b	5000r	U/I snake sp.		U A*
2330c	7500r	U/I snake sp.		U A*
2330d	MS 30000r	Sheet 6 (2×Sc#2330a–c)		
2330	15000r	Strip 3 (Sc#2330a–c)		
2331	SS 10000r	U/I snake sp.		U A*
		2013 May 1 (50th anniv. Transfer of West Irian to Indonesia)		
2346b	2500r	Stylized ???		S
2346	7500r	Strip 3 (Sc#2346a–c)		
ISRAEL		2012 December 12 (Wildlife Conservation)		
1960a	3s	Mediterranean Spur-thighed Tortoise, <i>Testudo graeca</i>	Testudinidae	A*
1960	9s	Strip 3 (Sc#1960a–c)		
ITALY		2013 January 12 (Folk Festivals)		
3162	60c	Stylized ???		S
KAZAKHSTAN		2013 April 25 (Lunar Calendar Animals)		
698f	100t	U/I snake sp.		U A*
698	MS 1200t	Sheet 12 (Sc#698a–l)		
NICARAGUA		2012 September 6 (San Juan River)		
2533c	5C	American Crocodile, <i>Crocodylus acutus</i>	Crocodylidae	A*
2533d	10C	Black Spiny-tailed Iguana, <i>Ctenosaura similis</i>	Iguanidae	A*
2533		MS of 6 (Sc#2533a–f)		
ST. THOMAS & PRINCE ISLANDS		2010 September 2		
2317b	20000d	Jamaican Boa, <i>Epicrates subflavus</i> (Jamaica Sc#594 s-o-s)	Boidae	B*
2317d	25000d	Nile Crocodile, <i>Crocodylus niloticus</i> (Gambia Sc#516 s-o-s)	Crocodylidae	B*
2317		MS of 5 (Sc#2317a–e) (WWF s-o-s)		
2324	SS 100000d	Margin: Green Sea Turtle, <i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Cheloniidae	Z
2327	SS 110000d	Aldabra Tortoise, <i>Aldabrachelys gigantea</i> (Z.E.S. Sc#108 s-o-s)	Testudinidae	B*

ST. THOMAS & PRINCE ISLANDS (continued)

2335f 25000d U/I snake A
 2335 MS of 6 (Sc#2335a–f) (Chinese Zodiac)

2010 December 1

2347d 20000d Stylized on 50d coin S
 2347 MS of 6 (Sc#2347a–f) (Coins)

THAILAND**2013 January 1** (New Year 2013: Year of the Snake)

2716 3b Stylized cobra snake S

TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS**2013 July 12** (New Year 2013: Year of the Snake)

1513a \$1.25 Turks Island Boa, *Chilabothrus chrysogaster* (tail) Boidae A
 1513b \$1.25 Turks Island Boa, *Chilabothrus chrysogaster* (head) Boidae A
 1513 Horiz pair (Sc#1513a–b)
 1514 SS \$3.50 Turks Island Boa, *Chilabothrus chrysogaster* Boidae A

URUGUAY**2013 April 11** (Patient Safety Day)

2427 15p Stylized snake (Rod of Asclepius) S

VIETNAM**2012 December 1** (New Year 2013: Year of the Snake)

3464 2000d Stylized snake with flowers S
 3465 10500d Stylized snake with flowers S

TURKS & CAICOS SNAKES

Because 2013 is the Year of the Snake in the Chinese calendar, we have had a plethora of snake issues this year. The majority of these issues show highly stylized and even cartoonish images.

That is all fine and many designs are very artistic and appealing, but we are dealing with Biology in this study unit, so I want to highlight one of the few issues that shows an actual native species in an attractive design using natural colors.

On 12 July 2013, the Turks and Caicos Islands issued a set of two stamps and a SS to commemorate the Year of the Snake. These stamps show the Turks Island Boa, *Chilabothrus chrysogaster* Cope (Boidae). This species is found in both the southern Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos Islands. They are nocturnal and feed on lizards, birds, and rodents, which makes them good pest controllers.

Adults can reach a length of more than 70 inches, but typically they are closer to three feet in length. This species has three color morphs: spotted, striped, and no-pattern. The spotted version seems to be the most common, followed by striped. The no-pattern snakes, which are mostly solid gray with a few dark markings, are very rare. Juveniles are orange or red and long and thin. Rarely, some adults may retain the juvenile coloration.

These snakes are threatened by introduced predators such as cats, misguided human persecution, and loss of habitat.

