

THREE MOTHS & A BUTTERFLY

On 16 October 2016, Belarus Ministry of Communications and Informatization issued a set of four stamps showing species of Lepidoptera. The stamps are labeled “Butterflies,” but only one is a butterfly. The other three are moths. Each stamp was issued in a sheet of five with a label that depicts the larva, or caterpillar, of the species.

The images were produced by artist Alexander Mityanin and the stamps were designed by Marina Vitkovskaya.



The Bobruisk Integrated Printing House printed 75,000 of each stamp on chalk-surfaced paper by offset.

The value A stamp shows a Garden Tiger Moth (*Arctia caja*) paying the domestic rate up to 20g.

The value N stamp shows a Mourning Cloak butterfly (*Nymphalis antiopa*) and pays the surface rate for an international postcard.

The value M stamp shows a Six-Spot Burnet Moth (*Zygaena filipendulae*) paying the air mail rate for an international postcard.

The H value stamp has an Eyed Hawkmoth (*Smerinthus ocellatus*) paying the international letter rate up to 20g.

The four stamps were also issued in a souvenir sheet. Only 20 of these sheets were produced according to the Belpost website. The sheet shows three other butterflies in the right margin. The top image is an unidentified species of Lycaenidae, possibly *Polyommatus*. The middle image is a Peacock (*Nymphalis io*) and the bottom image is a Small Tortoise Shell (*Nymphalis urticae*).