

CHRISTMAS BIOTA

How many different biological subjects can you find on Christmas stamps? That question occurred to me when I came across a stamp from Christmas Island showing a drawing of a Christmas tree composed of red crabs (Sc#539).

There are animals associated with the Holy Family and the birth of Jesus.



Many dozens of stamps have been issued that show holiday trees, both realistic and stylized, as well as other greenery and flowers associated with the season.



Besides Santa's reindeer, there are many portrayals of other animals that are either associated with the winter season, or evoke warm feelings of friendship and charity.



Many stamps (like the red crab tree) depict a wide variety of local or exotic animals that are not normally associated with the traditional western Christmas traditions.

An interesting and challenging collection could be assembled that shows at least one example of every biological subject found on a Christmas stamp from around the world.

