

PANGOLINS ON STAMPS OF THE WORLD

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[Ed. note: Dr. Das is a professor at the Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation at the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak. Another reference that relates to this article is: “Poaching May Doom the Shy, Elusive Pangolin” by Rachael Bale, in *National Geographic*, June 2019, pp. 78–101.]

Pangolins (comprising eight species from tropical and subtropical Africa and Asia) are members of the mammalian order Pholidota (Gaudin, 2009; Gaubert et al., 2018), and all are listed as “threatened” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List (an international database of the world’s threatened plants and animals). Causes for their imperilment are various, and include hunting for food, and curiously, for their “scales,” an ingredient in certain Chinese traditional medicine. They also suffer from habitat loss and some are recorded as road-mortalities.

Fossil records reveal that the group had a wider distribution—one was discovered from the Lower Oligocene of North America between 33.9–23 million years ago (mya), and others from the Eocene (56–33.9 mya) of China and Germany (Gaudin et al., 2006). Living pangolins are toothless and are myrmecophages, meaning their diets consist of ants and termites. Their long tongue is coated with adhesive saliva aiding in the capture of these insects. There is evidence that extinct pangolins consumed plant matter.

The depictions of these animals on stamps starts in 1950, with an issue from Sarawak (now a state within Malaysia) as part of the King George VI definitive series (Sc#186). It shows a Sunda Pangolin (*Manis javanica*). To date, as many as 52 countries and postal authorities have issued stamps featuring the pangolin. An alphabetical list includes: Bangladesh, Belgian Congo, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China (Taiwan), Congo Democratic Republic (Zaire), Congo People’s Republic, Equatorial Guinea, French West Africa, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Great Britain, Guinea (Republic), Guinea-Bissau, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Laos, Lesotho, Liberia, Macao, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nevis, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Rio Muni, Saint Thomas and Prince, Sarawak, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, United Nations (Geneva), United Nations (Vienna), Vietnam, Vietnam (North), Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

An observant reader will note that not all the entities listed host natural populations of pangolins. Some issues even feature species not found within their geographical boundaries. The philatelic releases were typically to highlight the world’s threatened species. The cutoff for entries in this listing was 20 October 2019.

Let us briefly describe these philatelic issues by species, starting with the **Asian species**.

Philippine Pangolin

The Philippine Pangolin, locally called “Balintong” (*Manis culionensis*), has the smallest distributional range. It is endemic to the island of Palawan in the Philippines, where it lives in forested habitats, as well as in adjacent grasslands. It is classified as endangered in the IUCN Red List, on account of hunting and habitat loss. All stamps featuring the Philippine Pangolin have been issued, unsurprisingly, by the **Republic of the Philippines**.

The first was released on 14 May 1979, with face value 5p (Sc#1408). The catalogue calls it an “anteater” and it is incorrectly captioned *Paramanis culionensis* (Fig. 1). The second stamp was issued on 12 August 1994, with face value 6p (Sc#2311c), which the catalogue and its caption calls a “Scaly Anteater,” one of its alternative names. It is also incorrectly captioned *Manis javanica*. The latest example, in a miniature sheet of four 15p stamps (Sc#3634c), was issued on 11 November 2015.



Fig. 1. *Manis culionensis*
Philippines 1979, Sc#1408

Indian Pangolin

The Indian Pangolin (*Manis crassicaudata*) has numerous vernacular names, depending on locality, one being “Bon Rui” (forest fish) in Bengali, on account of its scales. It is widespread in the Indian Subcontinent, from Pakistan to Peninsular India, and including Nepal and Sri Lanka. A forest and scrubland species, ranging from the lowlands to more than 2,000 m above sea level, it is threatened by hunting and habitat loss.

On 16 June 1991, **Bangladesh** issued a set of four stamps showing endangered animals. The face value 10t stamp (Sc#393) depicts an Indian Pangolin (Fig. 2). **Nepal** issued a strip of four mammal stamps on 31 August 2005, with the face value 10r stamp (Sc#762b) showing this species (Fig. 3). **Niger** showed the species in the selvage of a 3300fr souvenir sheet issued on 5 December 2016 (not yet catalogued). On 10 September 2013, **Saint Thomas and Prince Islands** issued a miniature sheet of four 25000d stamps one of which (Sc#2550a) depicts the species together with a lion.

Chinese Pangolin

The Chinese Pangolin (*Manis pentadactyla*), also called the Asian Pangolin, is distributed from north-eastern India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Vietnam, and southern China, including Hainan. It inhabits wet forests within its vast range, and is hunted for food as well as medicine. The scales, in particular, are in high demand for Chinese traditional medicine. The Chinese Pangolin features in the stamps of a number of nations.

On 16 April 2018, **Guinea-Bissau** issued a miniature sheet of five 640fr stamps (not yet catalogued) depicting critically endangered animals, one of which features a Chinese Pangolin. On 4 May 1982, **Hong Kong** issued a set of four animal stamps including a \$1 stamp (Sc#385) showing this species (Fig. 4).

Laos issued two stamps with this species (captioned *Panis auritas*) on 6 November 1969, with face values 15k (Sc#192) and 30k (Sc#193) (Fig. 5), and another as part of a set of fauna stamps on 15 August 1985, with a 10k face value (Sc#649) (Fig. 6).



Fig. 5. *Manis pentadactyla*
Laos 1969, Sc#193–93

On 14 April 1988, **Macao** issued a 3p stamp (Sc#564) as part of a set on wildlife protection (Fig. 7) picturing the Chinese Pangolin, and on 10 April 1995, a set of four 1.50p stamps (Sc#767–70) celebrating the World Wildlife Fund. On 27 May 2016, **Sierra Leone** issued a souvenir sheet with face value 24000le (Sc#3800) that shows this species in the margin, and on 30 August 2018, a miniature sheet of three 9800le stamps (not yet catalogued) with this species.

On 25 June 1971, **China (Taiwan)** issued a \$3 stamp (Sc#1718) showing this species as part of a set of four showing Taiwan animals (Fig. 8). On 4 April 2001, Taiwan issued a \$12 stamp (Sc#3356) as part of a set of four on children’s rhymes that



Fig. 2. *Manis crassicaudata*
Bangladesh 1991, Sc#393



Fig. 3. *Manis crassicaudata*
Nepal 2005, Sc#762b



Fig. 4. *Manis pentadactyla*
Hong Kong 1982, Sc#385



Fig. 6. *Manis pentadactyla*
Laos 1985, Sc#649



Fig. 7. *Manis pentadactyla*
Macao 1988, Sc#564

shows a stylized pangolin, and on 16 October 2014, a \$5 stamp (Sc#4197b) on a miniature sheet of six celebrating the centenary of the Taipei Zoo. On 24 June 1965, **North Vietnam** issued a 12xu stamp with this species (Sc#352) as part of a set of six showing wild animals (Fig. 9). An 800d stamp (Sc#3179) issued by **Vietnam** on 5 June 2003, as part of a set of four also shows this species (Fig. 10).



Fig. 8. *Manis pentadactyla*
Taiwan 1971, Sc#1718



Fig. 9. *Manis pentadactyla*
North Vietnam 1965, Sc#352



Fig. 10. *Manis pentadactyla*
Vietnam 2003, Sc#3179

Sunda or Malayan Pangolin

The Sunda Pangolin or Malayan Pangolin (*Manis javanica*) perhaps has the largest distribution of all Asian species of the Order, with its range including most of mainland southeast Asia, in addition to the islands of Sundaland, including Sumatra, Borneo, and Java. It is not only found in lowland forests, but also ventures into adjacent areas of scrubland and plantations.

Numerous countries and postal authorities have issued stamps that show this species. **Burundi** issued a 7500fr souvenir sheet (Sc#1130) for wildlife trade on 31 August 2012, that shows this species on the selvage, and on 21 December 2012, they issued a miniature sheet comprising four stamps with one showing this species (Sc#1192c), and a 7500fr souvenir sheet with the species on the selvage (Sc#1217). On 12 October 2015, the **Central African Republic** issued a miniature sheet of four 900fr stamps depicting disappearing animals with one stamp showing a Sunda Pangolin (Mi#5651). On 18 July 2016, the C.A.R. issued another miniature sheet of four 750fr stamps of disappearing animals with one stamp showing the species (Mi#6281).

On 10 October 2018, **Great Britain's** Royal Mail issued personalized stamps with a face value £6.70 (sold for £15.95) as a "commemorative sheet" of 10 first class rate stamps with attached labels (not yet catalogued). These stamps were issued to raise funds for United For Wildlife, a project created by The Royal Foundation of The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and The Duke of Sussex. This species is one of two pangolins shown on the stamps.



Fig. 11. *Manis javanica*
Indonesia 1956-58, Sc#429 & 451-52

On 4 April 2017, **St. Vincent** issued a miniature sheet of four stamps based on images taken by the acclaimed National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore (<https://www.joelsartore.com/>) with one stamp showing this species (Sc#4099b). Between 1956 and 1958, **Indonesia** issued stamps with face values 35s (Sc#429), 40s (Sc#451), and 45s (Sc#452) (Fig. 11) that depict the Malayan Pangolin.

On 4 January 1979, **Malaysia** issued a set of stamps showing fauna including one with face value of 75c (Sc#178) depicting this species (Fig. 12). Also, on 28 July 2019, they issued a set of three 60c stamps, one of which shows the Malayan Pangolin (not yet catalogued) (Fig. 13). **Mozambique** issued a 350m souvenir sheet on 10 August 2016, showing this species (not yet catalogued).



Fig. 12. *Manis javanica*
Malaysia 1979, Sc#178



Fig. 13. *Manis javanica*
Malaysia 2019, no cat

On 3 January 1950, **Sarawak** issued a set of 15 stamps with the 10c value showing a Sunda Pangolin (Sc#186), though the catalogue and the caption calls it a “Scaly Anteater” (Fig. 14). On 6 June 2007, **Singapore** issued a set of stamps showing mammals. The \$5 stamp depicts a Malayan Pangolin (Sc#1258) (Fig. 15) that was also issued in an accompanying “collectors sheet” (Sc#1259a). This stamp has three other varieties with imprinted dates of “2007B,” “2007C,” and “2007D.” Singapore also issued a set of four and a souvenir sheet of four stamps on 13 July 2013, that include this species on a 1st Class (26c) stamp (Sc#1608 & Sc#1613a).



Fig. 14. *Manis javanica*
Sarawak 1950, Sc#186



Fig. 15. *Manis javanica*
Singapore 2007, Sc#1258

The **African species** too have had their share of appearances on philatelic releases.

Giant Pangolin

The largest living pangolin, the Giant Pangolin (*Smutsia gigantea*), inhabits the equatorial region of Africa from Uganda to western Africa. The maximum weight attained of this animal is 33 kg (72 lb). This species is associated with savannahs as well as lowland rainforests.



Fig. 16. *Smutsia gigantea*
Central African Republic 1985, Sc#J13–15

Stamps that commemorate this giant among the pangolins have been issued by a number of nations. On 21 December 2012, **Burundi** issued a miniature sheet comprising four stamps showing pangolins. One of these stamps (Sc#1192b) depicts a Giant Pangolin, captioned “*Manis gigantea*.” On 25 July 1985, **Central African Republic** issued a set of three postage due stamps shaped as inverted triangles stamps with face values of 5fr (Sc#J13), 20fr (Sc#J14), and 30fr (Sc#J15) (Fig. 16).

On 17 April 1985, **Gabon** issued a set of four stamps and a souvenir sheet (Sc#584a) depicting four native wildlife species. The 125fr value (Sc#583) shows a Giant Pangolin (Fig. 17). On 28 December 1987, the **Republic of Guinea** issued a set of six wildlife stamps. The 400fr denomination (Sc#1073) was issued in an unlisted souvenir sheet that shows this species in the selva. On 25 September 1995, Guinea issued a set of six mammal stamps with a 500fr value stamp (Sc#1283) showing this pangolin.



Fig. 17. *Smutsia gigantea*
Gabon 1985, Sc#583



Fig. 18. *Smutsia gigantea*
Kenya 1966, Sc#34



Fig. 19. *Smutsia gigantea*
Nigeria 2001, Sc#735

On 12 December 1966, **Kenya** issued a set of 16 animal stamps with the 10sh denomination (Sc#34) showing a Giant Pangolin (Fig. 18). **Nigeria** issued a set of fauna stamps on 25 June 2001, including a 40n face value (Sc#735) with this species (Fig. 19).

On 1 June 1964, **Rio Muni** issued a set of three stamps for child welfare, two of which, the 25c (Sc#32) and 1p (Sc#34) (Fig. 20), depict the Giant Pangolin. Rio Muni issued another set of four stamps on 23 November 1966, for Stamp Day including two values, 40c (Sc#60) and 4p (Sc#62) with this species (Fig. 21).



Fig. 20. *Smutsia gigantea*
Rio Muni 1964, Sc#32 & 34



Fig. 21. *Smutsia gigantea*
Rio Muni 1966, Sc#60 & 62



Fig. 22. *Smutsia gigantea*
South Africa 2016, Sc#1556d

On 26 September 2016, the **Republic of South Africa** issued a miniature sheet on the occasion of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) held in Johannesburg. This sheet (Sc#1556) shows the four African pangolin species, where the Giant Pangolin stamp (Sc#1556d) is for the “International Small Letter” rate (Fig. 22). On 12 December 2016, the **Solomon Islands** issued a miniature sheet of four \$12 stamps for this same CITES conference. One stamp (Sc#2181b) features a Giant Pangolin.



Fig. 23. *Smutsia gigantea*
Uganda 1992, Sc#1057

On 8 May 1984, **Tanzania** issued a souvenir sheet of two stamps depicting Rare Species of Zanzibar. The 20sh stamp (Sc#262b) shows a Giant Pangolin. On 25 September 1992, **Uganda** issued a set of eight stamps showing wild animals with the 250sh denomination (Sc#1057) picturing this species (Fig. 23).

Ground or Temminck's Pangolin

The Ground Pangolin or Temminck's Pangolin (*Smutsia temminckii*), inhabits southern and eastern Africa, and is known from lowland savannah woodlands, inhabiting deep burrows composed of semi-spherical chambers. The species is arguably the most often represented in philatelic material, as the following listing will attest.

On 6 July 1977, **Botswana** issued a set of five stamps for endangered wildlife. The 25t face value (Sc#185) shows a pair of Ground Pangolins (Fig. 24). Botswana issued a set of 18 wild animal stamps on 3 August 1992, including one with face value 12t (Sc#523) (Fig. 25). This design was reissued and revalued 10t (Sc#594A) on 1 August 1994. On 21 December 2012, **Burundi** issued a miniature sheet of four stamps, including the Ground Pangolin on two stamps with face values 1180fr (Sc#1192a) and 3000fr (Sc#1192d).



Fig. 24. *Smutsia gigantea*
Botswana 1977, Sc#185



Fig. 25. *Smutsia gigantea*
Botswana 1992, Sc#523



Fig. 26. *Smutsia gigantea*
Congo D.R. 2000, Sc#1510



Fig. 27. *Smutsia gigantea*
Mozambique 1976, Sc#557

On 28 February 2000, the **Congo Democratic Republic (Zaire)** issued a set of six stamps depicting African flora and fauna with one 3fr stamp (Sc#1510) showing a Ground Pangolin (Fig. 26). The **Great Britain** personalized commemorative sheet issued on 10 October 2018, and referenced above, also shows this species.

On 22 May 2000, **Lesotho** issued a miniature sheet of six 4m denomination stamps at the London Stamp Show, one of which depicted a Ground Pangolin. This sheet has not received a Scott number, probably because of its limited distribution. Lesotho issued a miniature sheet of four stamps with animals of Africa on 17 May 2004, one of which (Sc#1342c) shows this species.

In January 1976, **Mozambique** issued a set of 12 animal stamps including a 1.50e stamp (Sc#557) with a Ground Pangolin (Fig. 27). On 30 January 2010, they issued a miniature sheet of six 33m stamps (Sc#1951a–f) and a 175m souvenir sheet (Sc#1978) showing this species. On 30 August 2011, Mozambique issued a miniature sheet with six stamps showing pangolins and armadillos including two 16m stamps (Sc#2343a & Sc#2343d) and one 66m stamp (Sc#2343e) showing a Ground Pangolin. This issue also included a 175m souvenir sheet (Sc#2373) that shows the species on both the stamp and the selva. Finally, on 25 March 2013, they issued a horizontal strip of four stamps (Sc#2825) and a 175m souvenir sheet (Sc#2826) with this species. In addition, two each of the four stamps were issued in a miniature sheet of eight (Sc#2825e).

On 5 September 2001, **Namibia** issued a miniature sheet of ten covering fauna of the country titled “Fauna & Flora from the Central Highlands.” One stamp (Sc#987i) shows a Ground Pangolin. On 14 March 2014, they issued another miniature sheet of six titled “Nocturnal Animals of Namibia,” with one stamp (Sc#1280d), showing this species. **Senegal** issued a set of five wild animal stamps on 28 October 1994, with the 175fr face value stamp (Sc#1096) depicting this species (Fig. 28).



Fig. 28. *Smutsia gigantea*
Senegal 1994, Sc#1096

On 27 May 2016, **Sierra Leone** issued a miniature sheet of four 6000le stamps for a national park in Zimbabwe with one stamp (Sc#3782a) showing a Ground Pangolin. On the same date, they issued a 24000le souvenir sheet for a national park in Zambia (Sc#3800) with the animal appearing on the selva. On 12 May 2001, the **Republic of South Africa** issued a souvenir sheet for the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (Sc#1254a), where a small depiction of the species appears in the margin. Also, on the previously mentioned miniature sheet with the four African pangolin species issued on 26 September 2016, the Ground Pangolin appears on one of the stamps (Sc#1556b).

On 1 October 1980, **Swaziland** issued a set of four wildlife stamps with the Ground Pangolin on the 50c value (Sc#372). On 15 December 2016, **Togo** issued a 3500fr souvenir sheet (Mi#7813) for the Johannesburg CITES conference showing the species on the selva. On 10 October 2013, the United Nations Postal Administration at **Geneva** issued a set of four 1.40fr stamps for endangered species one of which (Sc#572) shows this pangolin. On 24 September 2016, the UNPA at the **Vienna** office issued a set of four €1.70 stamps for the Johannesburg CITES conference with this species featured on one of the stamps (Sc#596c).

On 3 January 1975, **Zambia** issued a set of 14 stamps depicting animals and various scenes with the 10n stamp (Sc#142) showing a Ground Pangolin. On 5 December 1988, they issued a set of four stamps showing endangered species with the 2k value (Sc#453) featuring this pangolin (Fig. 29). On 15 April 1997, **Zimbabwe** issued a set of six stamps commemorating the 10th CITES convention with one the \$1.70 value stamp (Sc#776) showing a Ground Pangolin (Fig. 30).



Fig. 29. *Smutsia gigantea*
Zambia 1988, Sc#453



Fig. 30. *Smutsia gigantea*
Zimbabwe 1997, Sc#776

Tree Pangolin

The Tree Pangolin (*Phataginus tricuspis*) is found in equatorial Africa from Guinea and Sierra Leone to central Africa, eastwards to Kenya and Tanzania, and southwards to Angola and Zambia. It is partially arboreal and found in lowland rainforests, as well as more dry areas such as savannahs.

Stamps depicting this unusual and beautiful animal has been issued by several countries. On 15 October 1959, **Belgian Congo** issued a set of 12 stamps depicting animals with face value 8fr stamp (Sc#316) showing a Tree Pangolin, though it is captioned *Smutsia gigantea* (Fig. 31). On 20 August 2013, **Burundi** issued a miniature sheet of four stamps, one of which with face value 3000fr (Sc#1402c) shows the species.

Republic of Cameroon issued a set of three stamps on 20 July 1981, with the 100fr face value (Sc#693) showing a Tree Pangolin. On 12 July 2001, **Central African Republic** issued a miniature sheet of nine 300fr stamps showing African wildlife with one showing a Tree Pangolin, but captioned *Manis temmincki*.

In December 1984, the **Congo People's Republic** issued a set of three fauna stamps with the 30fr value (Sc#720) showing a Tree Pangolin (Fig. 32). In 2006, they issued a set of four animal stamps with this species on the 50fr value (Sc#1277).



Fig. 31. *Phataginus tricuspis*
Belgian Congo 1959, Sc#316



Fig. 32. *Phataginus tricuspis*
Congo D.R. 1984, Sc#720



Fig. 33. *Phataginus tricuspis*
Equatorial Guinea 2016, Sc#320c



Fig. 34. *Phataginus tricuspis*
Fr. West Africa 1955, Sc#63

Equatorial Guinea issued a strip of four flora and fauna stamps in 2016, with the 700fr value (Sc#320c) showing a Tree Pangolin (Fig. 33). On 2 May 1955, **French West Africa** issued two stamps for wildlife protection with the 8fr value (Sc#63) showing this species (Fig. 34).

The **Gambia** issued a miniature sheet of six 8d stamps on 16 July 2001, titled "Animals of Africa," with one stamp (Sc#2491e) showing a Tree Pangolin. On 25 October 1990, **Ghana** issued a miniature sheet of 20 40ce stamps titled "African Tropical Rain Forest" with one (Sc#1224p) that show this species. On 1 May 2000, they issued another miniature sheet of six 1600ce stamps titled "Fauna and Flora of Ghana" one of which (Sc#2173b) shows this species.

On 2 April 1997, **Liberia** issued a miniature sheet of 12 wildlife stamps denominated 50c with one stamp (Sc#1240c) showing a Tree Pangolin. Also, on 2 March 2015, they issued a \$350 souvenir sheet (Sc#3044) as part of a set on mammals showing this species, but captioned *Manis gigantea*. On 7 April 1999, **Madagascar** issued a set of six 1950fr fauna stamps with one stamp (Sc#1410) showing this species. The Tree Pangolin is also shown on the CITES miniature sheet (Sc#1556c) from **Republic of South Africa** issued on 26 September 2016, mentioned previously.

On 30 June 1993, **Tanzania** issued a miniature sheet of 12 titled “Wildlife of the Plains of Tanzania” with one of the 100sh stamps (Sc#1001h) depicting a Tree Pangolin. In 1996, this sheet was reissued with an overprint (Sc#1531) to commemorate both the 34th World Scout Conference held in Oslo, Norway, 8–12 July 1996, and the International Scout Camp in Thailand, 25–31 March 1996. According to the catalogue, the issue date for this overprint was 16 December 1996. However, I have a first-day cancellation on cover in my collection, dated 16 October 1996, from Dar es Salaam.

On 15 June 2010 (the *Scott Catalogue* has a 6 March issue date), **Togo** issued a strip of four and miniature sheet of four 550fr stamps (Sc#2074a–d) and a 2000fr souvenir sheet (Mi#3458) showing the Tree Pangolin. This set was also released in a miniature sheet of eight featuring two each of these stamps with two labels (Sc#2074e). Togo released another set showing this species on 30 August 2013, including a miniature sheet of three 950fr stamps (Mi#5267–69) and a 2500fr souvenir sheet (Mi#5270).

Long-tailed or African Black-bellied Pangolin

The Long-tailed Pangolin (*Phataginus tetradactyla*), also called the African Black-bellied Pangolin, is an arboreal species found in western and central Africa, from the Congo region, as well as Guinea, inhabiting moist, riverine and swamp forests, and also agricultural areas.

Stamps of this species have been issued by several countries. These include a miniature sheet of twelve 5d stamps titled “Animals of West Africa” issued by **Gambia** on 5 April 1993, which depicts this pangolin on one stamp (Sc#1359c). Also, on 5 April 1993, Gambia issued a set of four stamps (Sc#1362–65) plus a 20d souvenir sheet (Sc#1366) showing the Long-tailed Pangolin. On 16 July 2001, Gambia issued a 25d souvenir sheet (Sc#2494) featuring this species.



Fig. 35. *Phataginus tetradactyla*
Ivory Coast 1983, Sc#669

On 12 March 1983, **Ivory Coast** issued a set of four stamps featuring animals with the 35fr face value (Sc#669) showing the Long-tailed Pangolin (Fig. 35). On 31 May 1999, **Sierra Leone** issued a miniature sheet of six 900le stamps, one of which shows this species (Sc#2204c). The Black-bellied Pangolin is also shown on the CITES miniature sheet (Sc#1556a) from **Republic of South Africa** issued on 26 September 2016, mentioned previously. On 10 October 1989, **Zimbabwe** issued a set of six stamps featuring endangered species with the 35c denomination (Sc#597) showing this species (Fig. 36). On 2 January 1990, Zimbabwe issued another set of six animal stamps with this species shown on the 4c value (Sc#617 & Sc#617a).



Fig. 36. *Phataginus tetradactyla*
Zimbabwe 1989, Sc#597

This essay covers members of the mammalian order Pholidota on stamps of the world. All eight species—four each from Asia and Africa—have been depicted on more than 140 stamps. The large quantity of stamps issued in the last decade perhaps corresponds to the heightened awareness on these reportedly most traded mammalian group.

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