Official Journal of the Biology Unit of the American Topical Association
DINOSAURS ON STAMPS

by Michael K. Brett-Surman Ph.D.

Dinosaurs are the most popular animals of all time, and the most misunderstood. Dinosaurs did not fly in the air and did not live in the oceans, nor on lake bottoms. Not all large "prehistoric monsters" are dinosaurs. The most famous NON-dinosaurs are plesiosaurs, mosasaurs, pelycosaurs, pterodactyls and ichthyosaurs. Any name ending in 'saurus' is not automatically a dinosaur, for example, Mastodontosaurus is neither a mastodon nor a dinosaur - it is an amphibian! Dinosaurs are defined by a combination of skeletal features that cannot readily be seen when the animal is fully restored in a flesh reconstruction. Because of the confusion, this compilation is offered as a checklist for the collector.

This topical list compiles all the dinosaurs on stamps where the actual bones are pictured or whole restorations are used. It excludes footprints (as used in the Lesotho stamps), cartoons (as in the 1984 issue from Gambia), silhouettes (Ascension Island # 305) and unofficial issues such as the famous Sinclair Dinosaur stamps. The name "Brontosaurus", which appears on many stamps, is used with quotation marks to denote it as a popular name in contrast to its correct scientific name, Apatosaurus.

For those interested in a detailed encyclopedic work about all fossils on stamps, the reader is referred to the forthcoming book, 'Paleontology - a Guide to the Postal Materials Depicting Prehistoric Lifeforms' by Fran Adams et. al. The best book currently in print is a book titled 'Dinosaur Stamps of the World' by Baldwin & Halstead. This book, however, shows many stamps that are not dinosaurs and the authors do not adequately distinguish between the non-dinosaurs and the real dinosaurs. It is still an excellent book for the color pictures and a story on the history of the Dinosaur Commemorative stamps issued by Great Britain in August, 1991.

If you are interested in other books on dinosaurs, the two best are 'The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Dinosaurs' by David Norman and 'The New Dinosaur Dictionary' by Donald Glut.

* * * * * * * * *
## DINOSAURS ON STAMPS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>DINOSAUR</th>
<th>Scott #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aden</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Tyrannosaurus</td>
<td>non-Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Brontosaurus&quot;</td>
<td>non-Scott</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The animal listed as "Dinosaurus" is probably Tyrannosaurus. The word "Dinosaurus" is not a valid name for any genus or species, only for the whole group. "Brontosaurus" is a popular (unofficial) name and is therefore used inside quotes. The proper technical (scientific) name for this animal is APATOSAURUS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>DINOSAUR</th>
<th>Scott #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Styracosaurus</td>
<td>1280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Protoceratops</td>
<td>1282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
<td>1283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ceratosaurus</td>
<td>1284</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>DINOSAUR</th>
<th>Scott #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Anatosaurs</td>
<td>587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Brontosaurus&quot;</td>
<td>588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1985</td>
<td>Tyrannosaurus</td>
<td>C349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
<td>C350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All species of "Anatosaurus" were assimilated into the name Edmontosaurus in 1979 with the exception of "Anatosaurus" copei. This name was changed to Anatotitan in 1990. The name "Anatosaurus" is no longer used by professional dinosaur paleontologists.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>DINOSAUR</th>
<th>Scott #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British Antarctic Territories</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Hypsilophodont</td>
<td>173</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The term "hypsilophodont" refers to a member of the family Hypsilophodontidae but not to any particular genus within that family.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>DINOSAUR</th>
<th>Scott #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>1990</td>
<td>&quot;Brontosaurus&quot;</td>
<td>3540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
<td>3541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Protoceratops</td>
<td>3544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Triceratops</td>
<td>3545</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cambodia (Kampuchea)  
1986  Brachiosaurus  non-Scott  
Tarbosaurus  non-Scott  

The pictures of Tarbosaurus and Brachiosaurus are taken from the works of Zdenek Burian, a famous Czechoslovakian artist. The same picture of Tarbosaurus also appears on the 1975 issue from Dhufar.

Canada  
1989  Albertosaurus  1235  

Central African Republic  
1988  "Brontosaurus"  872  
Triceratops  873  
Ankylosaurus  874  
Stegosaurus  875  
Tyrannosaurus  876  
Corythosaurus  877  
Allosaurus  878  
Brachiosaurus  879  

Brachiosaurus is incorrectly restored. In this animal the forelimbs are longer than the hindlimbs.

China, People's Republic  
1958  Lufengosaurus  342  

Congo, People's Republic  
1970  Kentrosaurus  229  
Brachiosaurus  231  
1975  Ornithomimus  353  
Tyrannosaurus  353  
Stegosaurus  355  

The proper name for Kentrosaurus is Kentrosaurus. Ornithomimus is in the background (Scott #353). The restoration is too small and generalized for a proper identification.

Cuba  
1985  "Brontosaurus"  2766  
Iguanodon  2767  
Stegosaurus  2768  
Monoclonius  2769  
Corythosaurus  2770  
Tyrannosaurus  2771  
1987  Triceratops  2954  
Euoplocephalus  2956  
Styracosaurus  2957  
Saurolophus  2958  
Anatosaurus  2959
The 1985 set uses the Spanish version of the names of the dinosaurs. In the 1987 set, Euoplocephalus is incorrectly restored without its tail club.

**Dahomey**

- **1974**
  - Stegosaurus C-220
  - Tyrannosaurus C-221

The Stegosaurus stamp is incorrectly labelled as Crétacé (for the Cretaceous Period, 135 to 65 million years ago). It is actually from the Jurassic Period (about 200 to 135 million years ago).

**Dhufar**

- **1975**
  - Iguanodon non-Scott
  - Tarbosaurus (S/S) non-Scott

The artwork for these two dinosaurs are taken from the works of Zdenek Burian.

**Equatorial Guinea**

- **1975**
  - Styracosaurus Michel 1163
  - Stegosaurus 1165
  - Corythosaurus 1167
  - Ankylosaurus 1168
  - Triceratops 1169
  - Diplodocus S/S

**Fujeria**

- **1968**
  - Triceratops Michel 253
  - Plateosaurus 254
  - Stegosaurus 255
  - Allosaurus 257
  - Triceratops 258
  - Plateosaurus 259
  - Stegosaurus 260
  - Allosaurus 261
- **1972**
  - Triceratops 1216
  - Stegosaurus 1218
  - "Brontosaurus" 1219

**Germany, Berlin**

- **1977**
  - Iguanodon 9N 411
  - Iguanodon 9N 412
  - Iguanodon 9N 413
  - Iguanodon 9N 414

**Germany, East**

- **1990**
  - Dicraeosauris 2812
  - Kentrosaurus 2813
  - Dysalatosaurus 2814
  - Brachiosaurus 2815
  - Brachiosaurus 2816
The proper name for Kentrurosaurus is Kentrosaurus.

Great Britain

1991
Iguanodon
Stegosaurus
Tyrannosaurus
Protoceratops
Triceratops

This set is labelled OWEN'S DINOSAURS. When Richard Owen coined the word DINOSAURIA in 1841, he based the name on 3 dinosaurs: Iguanodon, Hylaeosaurus, and Megalosaurus. The only stamp in this set that applies is Iguanodon. The other dinosaurs in this set were discovered after Owen died and have nothing to do with him. Most of the dinosaurs are improperly restored. In dinosaurs, the shoulder blade lies mostly parallel to the backbone, not perpendicular to it as it is in mammals, and as incorrectly seen here.

Guinea

1987
Iguanodon 1049
Stegosaurus 1053
Triceratops 1054

Triceratops is on a minisheet with many dinosaurs in the background. Several of these dinosaurs are taken from the artwork of both Burian and Zallinger.

Guinee-Bissau

1989 "Trachodon" 827
Tyrannosaurus 831
Stegosaurus 832

The name "Trachodon" is no longer used in paleontology. The original material upon which the name was erected in 1856 turns out to be from two different types of dinosaurs. This makes the name useless for scientific purposes and is therefore enclosed in quotation marks to denote its "unscientific" status.

Hungary

1986 "Brontosaurus" 2972
1990 Tarbosaurus 3263
"Brontosaurus" 3264
Stegosaurus 3265

Korea, North

1980 Stegosaurus non-Scott
Tyrannosaurus non-Scott
In the Stegosaurus stamp there appears to be one of the ankylosaurian dinosaurs in the background.

Kuwait

1982
sauropod
894
sauropod
895

In this stamp the dinosaur appears to be one of the sauropods (the group to which Diplodocus belongs). It is too small and generalized to be properly identified although the Baldwin & Halstead book call it Plateosaurus.

Laos

1988
Tyrannosaurus
860
Ceratosaurus
861
Iguanodon
862
Euoplocephalus?
863
"Trachodon"
865

In this set, the names for Tyrannosaurus and "Trachodon" have been switched and appear on the wrong stamps. The Scolosaurus stamp is identified as Euoplocephalus in the Baldwin & Halstead book but the tail club and head shape are closer to Scolosaurus. Most of the artwork in this set is copied from the famous Czechoslovakian artist Zdenek Burian.

Malagasy

1989
Tyrannosaurus
899
Stegosaurus
900
Triceratops
902
Saurolophus
903

Maldives Islands

1972
Stegosaurus
389
Diplodocus
391
Triceratops
392
Tyrannosaurus
394
Tyrannosaurus
394a

The inspiration for the artwork in this set appears to be from the famous Rudolph Zallinger mural at Yale University.

Mali

1984
Iguanodon
505
Archaeopteryx
506
Iguanodon
508
Archaeopteryx 509
Triceratops 510

Manama
1971  Stegosaurus  Michel 682
       Plateosaurus  Michel 684
       Styracosaurus  Michel 685
       Allosaurus  Michel 686
       "Brontosaurus"  Michel 688

Mauritania
1986  Iguanodon  620
       Apatosaurus  620
       Polacanthus?  620

Mongolia
1967  Tarbosaurus  447
       Talarurus  448
       Protoceratops  449
       Saurolophus  451
       Psittacosaurus  956
1977  Chasmosaurus  1871
       Stegosaurus  1872
       Probactrosaurus  1873
       Opisthocoelicauda  1874
       Iguanodon  1875
       Tarbosaurus  1876
       Mamenchisaurus  1877
       Allosaurus  1878
       Ultrasaurus  1878

Ultrasaurus is considered by most professional dinosaur paleontologists to be a larger version of Brachiosaurus. This Mongolian set has some stamps which copy the art of John Gurche and Mark Hallett, two famous American artists. The original pieces of art can be seen in DINOSAURS PAST AND PRESENT available through the University of Washington Press, and in National Geographic Magazine.

Morocco
1988  Cetiosaurus  655

Nicaragua
1987  Triceratops  non-Scott

This stamp is part of a series taken from the famous Charles Knight murals that grace the walls of the Field Museum in Chicago and the American Museum in New York.
Niger

1976 Ouranosaurus 381

The 60f denomination stamp pictures Ouranosaurus. Above the word 'dinosaur' is the word Archaeologie. This points out one of the most popular misconceptions about dinosaurs. Archaeology is a subdivision of Anthropology and deals only with MAN and covers the last 4 million years of time. Paleontology deals with ALL fossils and covers the last 3.5 Billion years of time. Paleontologists dig up dinosaurs, not archaeologists.

Niuafo'ou

1989 Stegosaurus 8917

Oman

1975 Megalosaurus non-Scott
    Triceratops non-Scott

Poland

1965 "Brontosaurus" 1309
    Stegosaurus 1311
    Brachiosaurus 1312
    Styracosaurus 1313
    Corythosaurus 1314
    Tyrannosaurus 1316

1980 Tarbosaurus 2395

Saint Thomas & Prince Islands

1982 Parasaurolophus 8219
    Stegosaurus 8220
    Triceratops 8221
    "Brontosaurus" 8222
    Tyrannosaurus 8223

San Marino

1965 "Brontosaurus" 612
    Brachiosaurus 613
    Tyrannosaurus 616
    Stegosaurus 617
    Iguanodon 619
    Triceratops 620

Soviet Union

1990 Saurolophus 5923
Tanzania

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Stamps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Plateosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Brontosaurus&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Triceratops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edmontosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plateosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diplodocus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iguanodon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Silvisaurus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In this set, Silvisaurus is misspelled Silviasaurus and it is incorrectly restored. There are no spikes along the tail.

United States

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Stamps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1970</td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Camptosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Archaeopteryx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Allosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Compsognathus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apatosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Tyrannosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;Brontosaurus&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The first stamp in 1970 is based on the legendary Zallinger Mural on display in the Peabody Museum of Natural History at Yale University. A new popular book on the mural has just been published by Harry Abrams Inc. that included a foldout of the entire masterpiece. The second set from 1989 contains the famous "Brontosaurus" stamp. The *Pteranodon* stamp depicts a Pterosaur or flying reptile which were the first cousins of the dinosaurs and often mistaken for them. The artist, John Gurche, is considered to be the best artist for dinosaur restorations. The original paintings for this stamp are only 1.5 times larger than the actual stamps!

Viet-Nam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Stamps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>&quot;Brontosaurus&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Iguanodon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tyrannosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stegosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Triceratops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Diplodocus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Styrbacosaurus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Corythosaurus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Allosaurus  SG 729
Brachiosaurus  SG 731
Gorgosaurus  non-Scott
Ceratosaurs  non-Scott
Ankylosaurus  non-Scott
Ankylosaurus  non-Scott

Two stamps are labelled "Ankylosaurus", one valued at 1000d and one at 2000d. The second stamp does NOT depict Ankylosaurus but is actually much more similar to the related dinosaur Saichania. Another stamp in the set valued at 3000d is "Edaphosaurus" which is often mistaken for a dinosaur. It is actually a member of the Synapsida or mammal-like reptiles and is more closely related to mammals than to the dinosaurs. The 100d stamp is labelled Gorgosaurus. This name was replaced over 20 years ago by the name Albertosaurus.

Yemen
1971  Iguanodon  non-Scott
1990  Tyrannosaurus  non-Scott
Popular stamp dinosaur of Good Quality and at Affordable Prices You can Buy on AliExpress. We believe in helping you find the product that is right for you. AliExpress carries wide variety of products, so you can find just what you’re looking for and maybe something you never even imagined along the way. If you are interested in stamp dinosaur, AliExpress has found 393 related results, so you can compare and shop! Graf Zeppelin Stamp Collecting Supplies. Dinosaur Stamps Activity 2 Meet the Artist. Activity 3 Follow Up Activities. 3 3 3 4 4 6. 7 8 8 9 10 11 15 16 17 19 21 23. Lesson 2 Dino Stamps from Around the World @ MoTTU. Activity 1 World Map & Country Identification 25. Activity 2 Dinosaur Scavenger Hunt. there's like no good dinosaur stamps so.. I made one all the ones I've seen are like those scene dinosaurs that are all cute and say rawr and etc you know the ones. no need to comment if you want to use! Add a Comment