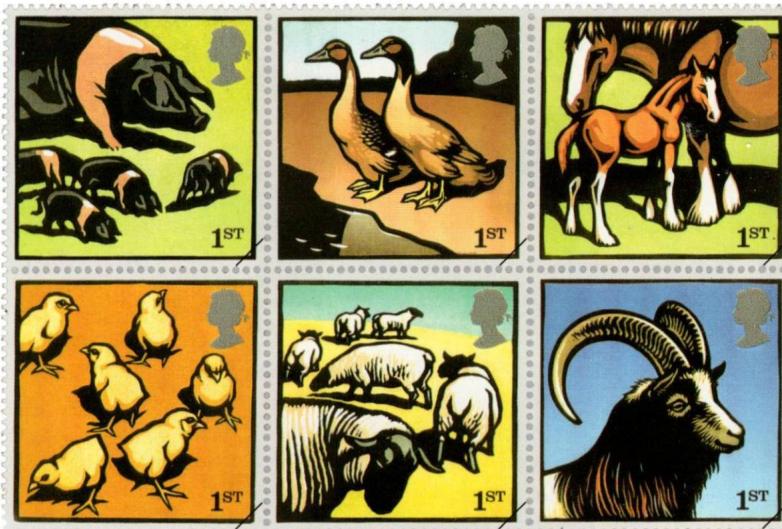


Farm Animals A colourful new stamp issue



Technical details

Printer Joh Enschedé
Security Print

Process Gravure

Size 35mm square

Sheet size 30 and 60

Perforation 14.5

Phosphor Two bands

Gum PVA

Gutter strips Horizontal

Cylinders and colours

All values E1 silver ● E1 black
● E1 cyan (blue) ● E1 magenta
● E1 yellow ● E1 phosphor

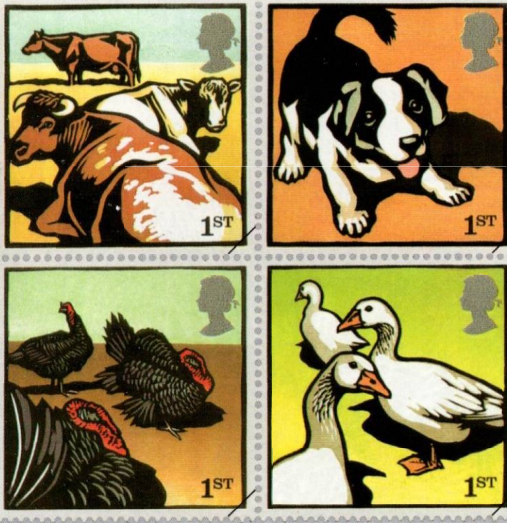
THE FIRST SPECIAL ISSUE of 2005 will feature Farm Animals and goes on sale at Post Office branches, Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets on 11 January. The stamps, all 1st class, and printed in a se-tenant block of 10. Post office branches will be supplied with sheets of 30; sheets of 60, with gutter margin, will be supplied to Royal Mail Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets.

FIRST DAY FACILITIES Unstamped Royal Mail FDC envelopes will be available from main Post Office branches and philatelic outlets about a week before 11 January, price 25p. Orders for FDCs with the stamps cancelled by a pictorial first day postmark of Tallents House Edinburgh or Paddock, Huddersfield must reach Tallents House by the date of issue. Price £3.71 UK or £3.16 overseas.

Collectors may send stamped covers on the day of issue to: Royal Mail Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB (Tallents House postmark) or to their nearest Royal Mail Special Handstamp Centre (Paddock postmark), marking the outer envelope 'FD0501' or 'FD0502'. Covers can be posted or handed in at main Post Office branches for the Paddock postmark. For details of sponsored handstamps and addresses of the Handstamp Centres see the *British Postmark Bulletin* – available on subscription from Tallents House. For a sample copy write to: The Editor, British Postmark Bulletin, Royal Mail, 148 Old Street, London EC1V 9HQ.

SMILERS SHEET A new generic Smilers sheet containing 20 Farm Animal stamps will be available from Tallents House and Post Office philatelic outlets, price £6.15. They will be printed by Walsall in litho.

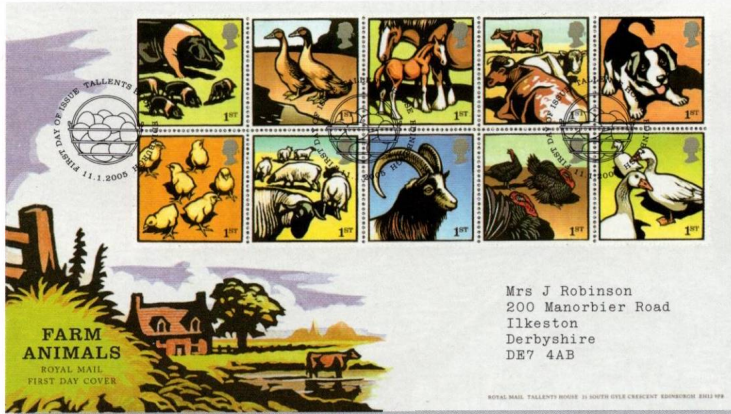
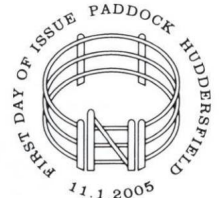
celebrates a unique part of Britain's heritage



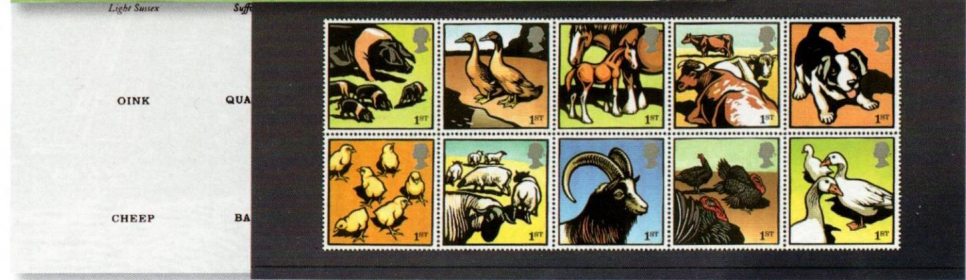
The Farm Animals stamps are the work of Rose Design, using bold colourful illustrations by Chris Wormell, who designed the 26p Farmers' Tale stamp in the Millennium series of 1999. The illustrations on pages 82-83, also by Mr Wormell, are from the book *English Country Traditions*, by Ian Niall.

Top row pigs (British Saddleback), ducks (Khaki Campbell), horses (Suffolk), cattle (Dairy Shorthorn), dog (Border Collie).

Bottom chicks (Light Sussex), sheep (Suffolk), goat (Bagot), turkeys (Norfolk Black), and geese (Embsden).



A well-illustrated presentation pack (below) containing the 10 stamps (£3.30) and stamp cards (30p each) will be available from Talents House, main Post Office branches and philatelic outlets. The pack gives information about the animals featured on the stamps, with photographs by Peter Cade and illustrations by Chris Wormell.





THIS IS THE FIRST SET of Royal Mail stamps dedicated to the topic of farm animals, although they have featured on a few stamps over the years, including: a Shire horse (opposite left, 1978), an Old English sheepdog (1979), horses and geese (31p British Fairs, opposite middle, 1983), Cattle (opposite right, 1984), a duckling (1990), Welsh Mountain sheep (1992), a cow (Patients' Tale 20p 2000) and plough horse (Farmers' Tale 26p 2000). Two stamps in the 1989 Food & Farming Year set featured meat and dairy produce. The Bagot goat, Gloucester Old Spot pig, Toulouse goose, and Orkney sheep featured on the covers of 50p stamp books in a Rare Farm Animals series of 1983 •



