

Japanese Revenue – Official Mail Overprint

By John Walter

A couple of years ago Nadiah Beekun showed me the large sheet of stamps illustrated below. She thought I would know off the top of my head what they were since I collect Japan. They definitely looked Japanese, probably revenue with an overprint.

Before looking up the stamp in the revenue catalog I offered to buy the sheet from Nadiah for \$8.00. Thank goodness I have a reference book on Japanese revenue stamps. The illustrations were all in black-and-white (with Japanese descriptions) which makes it a little more challenging.



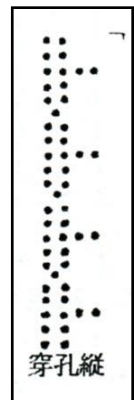
On page 129 I found the stamp was in the section for Official Mail with a price of ¥200 or a little over \$2.00 in either mint or used condition. The color description, perms and overprint all matched. The full pane was in damaged condition but a welcome addition to my Japanese collection

Official Mail, Catalogue #305, Perf. 12x12, with perfin, in sheet of 5 x 8.



Description in revenue catalog.

Perfin closeup →



Reference: *Standard Catalogue of The Japanese Revenue Stamps*, edited by M. Shimomura, 2003, page 129.