

No. 103

March 3, 2025

XX International Botanical Congress in Madrid

On March 10, 2025 the Ministry of Digital Development of the Kyrgyz Republic puts into circulation a series of 2024 Kyrgyz Express Post postage stamps: "XX International Botanical Congress in Madrid".

In July 2024, the 20th International Botanical Congress (IBC) was held in Madrid, the capital of Spain. This significant event in the field of botany takes place every six years under the guidance of the International Association of Botanical and Mycological Societies (IABMS). The main topics of the 2024 Congress were: systematics, phylogenetics, biogeography and evolution, ecology and climate change, invasive species, interactions between flora and fauna, biodiversity and its conservation, genetics and genomics, bioinformatics, as well as the relationship between plants and society. To commemorate this major event in the world of botany, KEP has prepared postage stamps featuring a rare species of Kyrgyz flora - the **Wrapped Alpine Saw-wort** (*Saussurea involucrata*), which is also called the snow lotus.

The Wrapped Alpine Saw-wort is a perennial herbaceous plant reaching a height of 10-35 cm. Its inflorescence, in the form of a dense head, is located at the top of the stem and is surrounded by bracts. The plant blooms from July to August. In Kyrgyzstan, the Snow Lotus grows on rocky and gravelly slopes in alpine zones at elevations ranging from 2,100 to 4,000 meters above sea level.

The Wrapped Alpine Saw-wort has long been recognized for its medicinal properties and is used in traditional medicine in various countries.

As a rare species within the flora of Kyrgyzstan, this plant requires active human protection.

The KEP stamps feature photographs of the Snow Lotus taken by the professional Kyrgyz photographer Vladislav Ushakov at the Chon-Ashuu Pass (3,800 meters above sea level) in the upper reaches of the Turgan Ak-Suu Gorge. KEP expresses its gratitude to Vladislav Ushakov for his valuable contribution.

For this series, KEP also issues two postcards, which are used to realize two maximum cards.

Stamps description

No. **232**. 150 KGS. Closed Flower of the Alpine Saw-wort

No. **233**. 300 KGS. Open Flower of the Alpine Saw-wort

No. **232**



No. **233**



Technical specifications

Paper: coated, gummed, 105 g/m².

Printing method: full-color offset lithography.

Stamps perforation: comb 14:14½.

Stamps size: 46 × 27.5 mm.

Stamps are issued in minisheets of 5 stamps with one label.



Stamps are also issued in a collective minisheet of 2 stamps (one complete set and two labels).

Minisheets size: 113 × 108 mm.

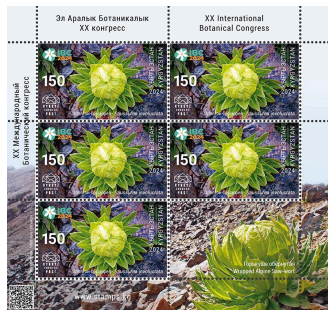
Collective minisheet size: 113 × 80 mm.

Quantity issued: 7 000 pieces each stamp (5 000 in minisheets plus 2 000 in collective minisheets).

Photographer: Vladislav Ushakov.

Designer: Daria Maier.

Printer House: "Nova Imprim" (Chişinău, Moldova).



A special cancellation on FDC will be carried out at the Bishkek KEP Office (729001) on the stamps issuing day. The first day cover, postcards and special postmark are designed by Daria Maier. Photographer: Vladislav Ushakov.



Cover size: C6 (162 × 114 mm).

Quantity of covers issued: 300 pieces.

Quantity of postcards issued: 300 pieces each.

Endorsing ink color: black.

