Notes:

These Specialized pages include spots for all major varieties. They also include spots for most plate flaws, overprint flaws, etc.

Vorläufer and mitläufer (forerunners) are not included. I anticipate providing a separate file for those in the future.

All watermarks are as viewed from the rear of the stamp. Unless otherwise noted, all plate flaw positions are for partial issues, meaning the plate flaws appear at the position noted on some, but not all, printed sheets.

On pages with stamp photos included, there may be some stamp photos missing due to my inability to find suitable images of those stamps.

At the end of each set is a blank page for each page style used in the set. If you would like additional pages that include custom boxes, text, etc., in a style that exactly matches the existing pages, or if you would like further customizations (odd-size stamp, additional boxes, etc.) to the existing pages, please send me a note through the "Contact Admin" form that's in the footer of every page on my website.

NOTE ON PRINTING: If, when printing, you have the option to print the pages actual size or shrink them to fit the paper, do not select shrink to fit! Doing so will shrink all content, including the stamp boxes, resulting in them being too small. The pages should print correctly at actual size, regardless of any warnings your printer might give.

Cheers,

PostmasterGS



In 1883, German merchant Adolf Lüderitz purchased the Bay of Angra Pequena from the local natives, establishing the first permanent European presence in the area. On 7 August 1884, the German government formally took the colony under its protection, raising the German flag over Angra Pequena, now renamed Lüderitzbucht.

Throughout the next several years, the German holdings grew with the signing of agreements with several of the local tribes. By the mid-1890s, Germany controlled much of the territory, and there was a German population of approximately 1,000 settlers.



Flag of the German Colonial Office

From the mid-1890s until 1907, the colony saw a series of uprisings, which cause the German military presence to escalate dramatically. By 1907, the German forces had

defeated the local rebels, and the colony became self-governing.

DEUTSCH

Wüst SUDWESTAFRIKA

Mäßstab 1:12,000,000

Kleine Kleinerer

Scheinerer Special Street Stree

As with most of the other German colonies, German Southwest Africa was largely undefendable at the outbreak of World War I. On 9 July 1915, the German colonial force surrendered to South African forces, marking the end of the German presence in the area.

During the brief period of the German Southwest Africa's existence, Germany opened almost 100 post offices throughout the colony, more than in any other German colony. These included numerous short-lived provisional and feldpost offices to serve German troops moving throughout the colony during World War I.



Bern "Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" Overprint Issues

February 1897



Medium Brown 3 Pfennig



(Bright) Opal Green 5 Pfennig



Bright Lilac Red 10 Pfennig



Violet Ultramarine 20 Pfennig



Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Bright Reddish Brown 50 Pfennig

In February 1897, the Reichsdruckerei printed 800 copies of the first "Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" overprints for the Universal Postal Union in Bern, Switzerland. The issues feature a heavier overprint than the normal issues, and the 3 Pfennig value is in a different color – medium brown.



Printing presses at the Reichsdruckerei



"Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" Overprint Issues

July 1897 / 1899

1899



Medium Brown 3 Pfennig



Light Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



Light Ochre 3 Pfennig



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig (UV) Brownish Black



(Bright) Opal Green 5 Pfennig



Bright Lilac Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Red



Violet Ultramarine 10 Pfennig



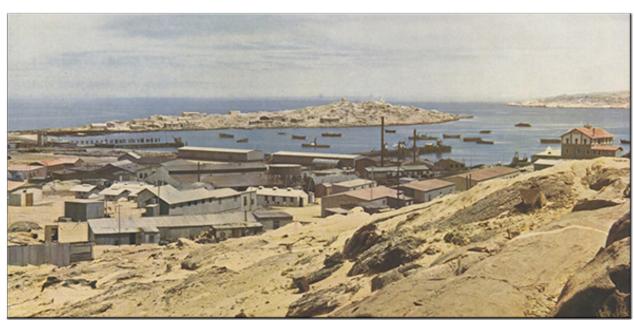
Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Dark Orange 25 Pfennig



Bright Reddish Brown 50 Pfennig



View of Lüderitzbucht



"Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" Overprint Issues

Plate Flaws

Break in scroll (right)



July 1897 / 1899

Posn. 33, 38, 83, 88



Medium Brown 3 Pfennig



Light Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



Light Ochre 3 Pfennig



1899 -

Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig (UV) Brownish Black

Broken "I" (right)



Posn. 22, 27, 72, 77



Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Dark Orange 25 Pfennig

Dot beside lower left scroll (right)



Posn. Unk. —

— Posn. Unk.

Broken "I" (right)



Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Dark Orange 25 Pfennig



Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Dark Orange 25 Pfennig



"Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" Overprint Issues

Gutter Pairs

July 1897 / 1899

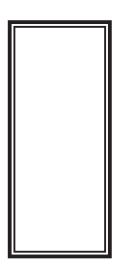




Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig (UV) Brownish Black



Light Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



Light Ochre 3 Pfennig



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig (UV) Brownish Black



(Bright) Opal Green 5 Pfennig



Bright Lilac Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Red



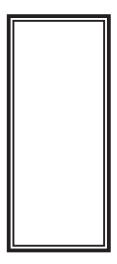
Violet Ultramarine 20 Pfennig



"Deutsch-Südwest-Afrika" Overprint Issues

Gutter Pairs

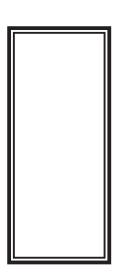
July 1897 / 1899



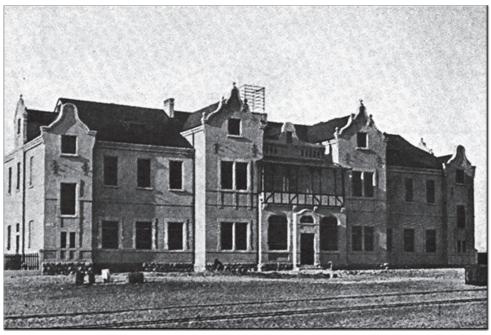
Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Dark Orange 25 Pfennig



Bright Reddish Brown 50 Pfennig



Swakopmund Post Office



"Deutsch-Südwestafrika" Overprint Issues

October 1898 / 1899

1899

October 1898

1899



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig (UV) Brownish Black



Light Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



Bright Brown Ochre 3 Pfennig



Bright Orange Brown 3 Pfennig



Light Ochre 3 Pfennig

October 1898

(Bright) Opal Green

5 Pfennig

October 1898



Bright Lilac Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Red



Lilac Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Light Vermilion

1899

1899



Dark Pink (Red) 10 Pfennig (UV) Bright Ochre



Dark Pink (Red) 10 Pfennig (UV) Yellowish Orange

October 1898



Violet Ultramarine 20 Pfennig



Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Dark Orange 25 Pfennig

October 1898



Bright Reddish Brown 50 Pfennig



"Deutsch-Südwestafrika" Overprint Issues

Plate Flaws

October 1898 / 1899

Break in scroll (right)





1899 -– October 1898 – _ 1899

Posn. 33, 38, 83, 88 —



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig (UV) Brownish Black



Light Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



Bright Brown Ochre 3 Pfennig



Bright Orange Brown 3 Pfennig

- 1899



Light Ochre 3 Pfennig

Broken "I" (right)



Dot beside lower left scroll (right)





- Posn. 22, 27, 72, 77

1899



Yellowish Orange Dark Orange 25 Pfennig 25 Pfennig



Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig



Dark Orange 25 Pfennig



"Deutsch-Südwestafrika" Overprint Issues

Overprint Flaw

October 1898

Overprint shifted strongly upward





Bright Reddish Brown 50 Pfennig



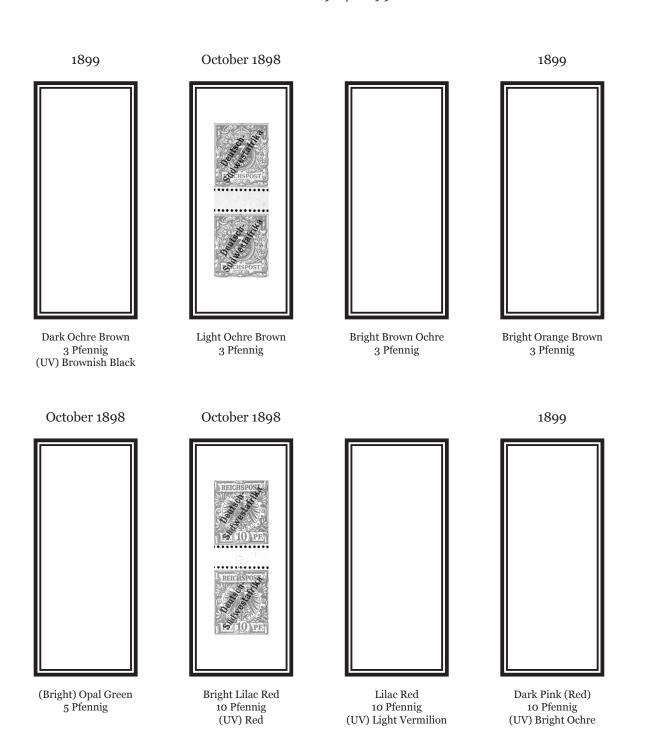
Windhuk Post Office, c. 1911



"Deutsch-Südwestafrika" Overprint Issues

Gutter Pairs

October 1898 / 1899



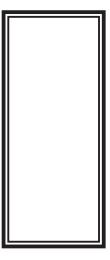


"Deutsch-Südwestafrika" Overprint Issues

Gutter Pairs

October 1898 / 1899

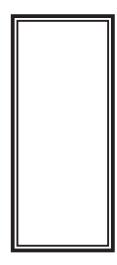
October 1898



Violet Ultramarine 20 Pfennig

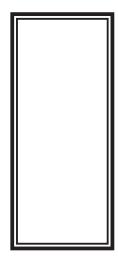


Yellowish Orange 25 Pfennig

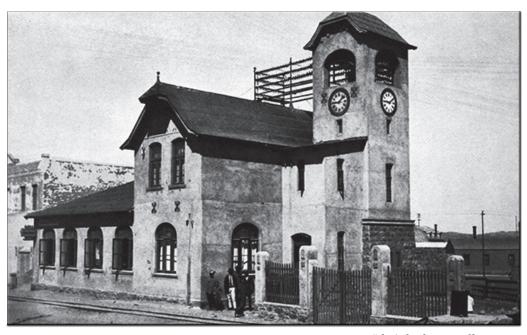


Dark Orange 25 Pfennig

October 1898



Bright Reddish Brown 50 Pfennig



Lüderitzbucht Post Office, c. 1911



Keetmanshoop Provisional

June – September 1900



Red

From June-September 1900, Keetmanshoop faced a shortage of 5 Pfennig stamps. As an interim measure, the post office bisected 10 Pfennig stamps. Genuinely used copies can be found only on postcards bearing an arrival postmark. Those on cover or on postcard without arrival postmark are philatelic.



View of Keetmanshoop



Cash Payment Provisional

September 1900

From June-September 1900, Keetmanshoop faced a shortage of 5 Pfennig stamps. In addition to the bisected Keetmanshoop provisionals, the post office also used cash payment (Barfrankierung) markings on a small number of items. These items contain a two- or four-line rubber stamp and the signature of the postal clerk, Herr Doms.



2-line rubber stamp



Cash Payment Provisional

September 1900

From June-September 1900, Keetmanshoop faced a shortage of 5 Pfennig stamps. In addition to the bisected Keetmanshoop provisionals, the post office also used cash payment (Barfrankierung) markings on a small number of items. These items contain a two- or four-line rubber stamp and the signature of the postal clerk, Herr Doms.

Franko verrechnet durch Einnahme-Nachweisung in Keetmanshoop

Postassistent

4-line rubber stamp



Yacht Issues

January 1901



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig



Dark Carmine Red 10 Pfennig



(Dark) Violet Ultramarine 20 Pfennig



Reddish Orange / Yellow Black on Light Yellow 25 Pfennig



Reddish Orange / Red Black on Dull Yellowish Orange 30 Pfennig



(Dark Reddish) Carmine / Black 40 Pfennig



Dark Brownish Lilac / Red-Black on Dull Brown Orange 50 Pfennig



Dark Reddish Carmine / Red Black on Dull Carmine 80 Pfennig



(Dark) Red 1 Mark



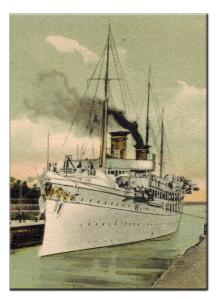
Blackish Blue 2 Mark



Violet Black 3 Mark



Green Black / Brownish Carmine 5 Mark



Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, SMY Hohenzollern II



Yacht Issues

Plate Flaw

January 1901

Black lines next to left value (right)

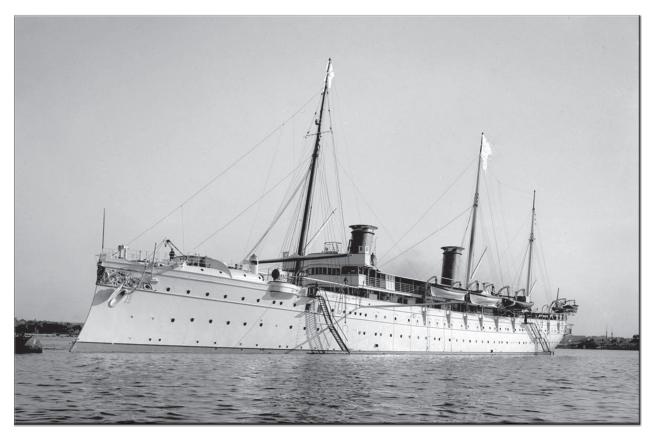




Posn. 42, 47, 92, 97



Reddish Orange / Red Black on Dull Yellowish Orange 30 Pfennig

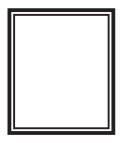


Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, SMY Hohenzollern II

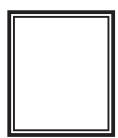


Yacht Issue Specimens

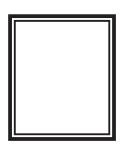
c. 1901



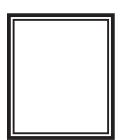
Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



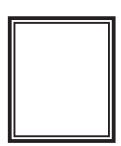
(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig



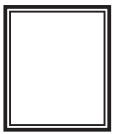
Dark Carmine Red 10 Pfennig



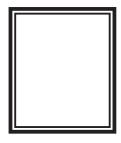
(Dark) Violet Ultramarine 20 Pfennig



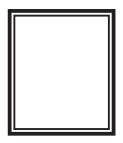
Reddish Orange / Yellow Black on Light Yellow 25 Pfennig



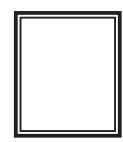
Reddish Orange / Red Black on Dull Yellowish Orange 30 Pfennig



(Dark Reddish) Carmine / Black 40 Pfennig



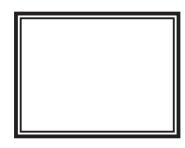
Dark Brownish Lilac / Red-Black on Dull Brown Orange 50 Pfennig



Dark Reddish Carmine / Red Black on Dull Carmine 80 Pfennig



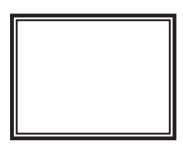
(Dark) Red 1 Mark



Blackish Blue 2 Mark



Violet Black 3 Mark



Green Black / Brownish Carmine 5 Mark



Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, SMY Hohenzollern II



Yacht Issue Watermarked Proofs





Watermar



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig



(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig



Dark Carmine Red 10 Pfennig



(Dark) Violet Ultramarine 20 Pfennig



Reddish Orange / Yellow Black on Light Yellow 25 Pfennig



Reddish Orange / Red Black on Dull Yellowish Orange 30 Pfennig



(Dark Reddish) Carmine / Black 40 Pfennig



Dark Brownish Lilac / Red-Black on Dull Brown Orange 50 Pfennig



Dark Reddish Carmine / Red Black on Dull Carmine 80 Pfennig



(Dark) Red 1 Mark



Blackish Blue 2 Mark



Violet Black 3 Mark



Green Black / Dark Carmine 5 Mark

Proof printings of the Yacht Issues were printed on paper with a lozenge watermark. The proofs can be very difficult to distinguish from the subsequent 1906/1919 issues on the same watermarked paper, differing only slightly in color.



Yacht Issue 2 Pfennig Proof

c. 1899 - 1900



(Dark) Gray Blue 2 Pfennig

Following the Reichspost's selection of the design for the Yacht Issues, several blocks of 16 were printed as proofs. The proofs are in a face value and color that were not used on the final, released issues.

The blocks of 16 contain 4 stamps each from Deutsch-Südwestafrika, Samoa, Kamerun, and Karolinen, arranged as follows:

DSWA	DSWA	Samoa	Samoa
DSWA	DSWA	Samoa	Samoa
Karolinen	Karolinen	Kamerun	Kamerun
Karolinen	Karolinen	Kamerun	Kamerun



Proofs of the same design were also printed for Deutsch-Neuguinea, though the specific details of the printing are unknown.



Yacht Issues

Peace Printing



1907



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig

May 1906



(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig

May 1906



Bright Carmine Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Lilac Brown

1911



Bright Red Carmine 10 Pfennig (UV) Red

1911



(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine 20 Pfennig

1911

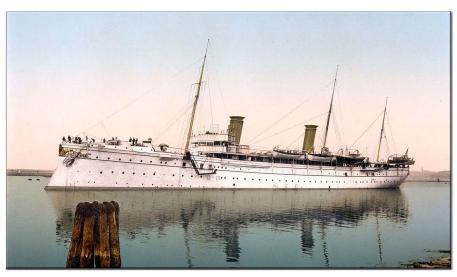


Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on White to Medium Chrome Yellow 30 Pfennig

1913



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on Orange White 30 Pfennig



Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, SMY Hohenzollern II



Yacht Issues



Peace Printing, 1912



Dark Carmine Red 1 Mark 26:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919



Red Carmine 1 Mark 25:17 Perforation

Peace Printing, 1911



Dark to Blackish Blue 2 Mark 26:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919



Dark to Blackish Blue 2 Mark 25:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919



Black Violet Gray 3 Mark 25:17 Perforation

War Printing, 1919



Blackish Gray Violet 3 Mark 25:17 Perforation

Peace Printing, 1906



Green Black / Dark Carmine 5 Mark 26:17 Perforation Center (UV) Yellowish Red

Peace Printing, 1906



Green Black / Dark Carmine 5 Mark 26:17 Perforation Center (UV) Carmine

War Printing, 1919



Green Black / Red Carmine 5 Mark 25:17 Perforation Center Type II



Yacht Issues

Plate Flaws



Black lines next to left value (right)





Posn. 42, 47, 92, 97

1911



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on White to Medium Chrome Yellow 30 Pfennig

1913



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on Orange White 30 Pfennig



Kaiser Wilhelm II's yacht, SMY Hohenzollern II



Yacht Issues

Perforation Variety





Bright Red Carmine / Bright Carmine Red 10 Pfennig

The 10 Pfennig issue was printed in 10 x 10 sheets, which were then run through a perforation machine. The machine used to perforate an unknown number of these sheets was designed to perforate two 10 x 10 sheets printed side-by-side with a margin in-between, rather than a single 10 x 10 sheet. This resulted in an extra perforation along the left margin of the sheet. For this reason, left margin copies of some printings of these issues can be found with a perforated margin, giving the appearance of a blank field attached at the left.



Yacht Issues

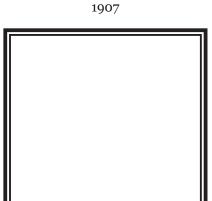
Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)



1907

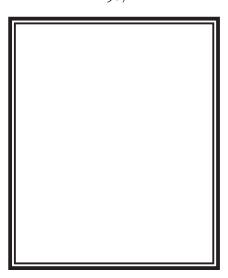


Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig HAN H 3615 at bottom

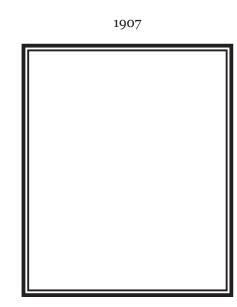


Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig HAN H 424.10 at bottom

1907



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig HAN H 5238 at right



Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig HAN H 4129.11 at right



Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)



1907

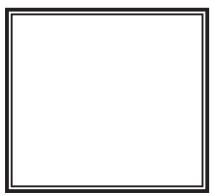


Dark Ochre Brown 3 Pfennig HAN H 755.13 at bottom May 1906

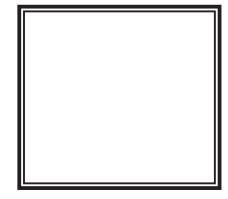


(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig HAN H 966 at bottom

May 1906



(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig HAN H 2426 at bottom May 1906



(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig HAN H 5093 at bottom



Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)



May 1906



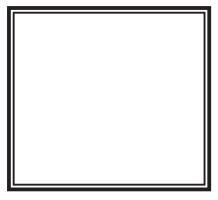
(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig HAN H 4129.11 at right

May 1906



(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig HAN H 2241.13 at right

May 1906



(Dark) Green 5 Pfennig HAN H 424.10 at bottom

May 1906



Bright Carmine Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Lilac Brown HAN H 966 at bottom



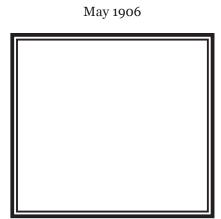
Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)

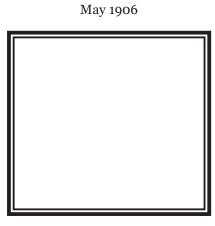


May 1906	

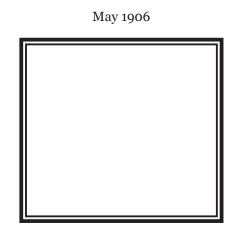
Bright Carmine Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Lilac Brown HAN H 2426 at bottom



Bright Carmine Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Lilac Brown HAN H 3615 at bottom



Bright Carmine Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Lilac Brown HAN H 5093 at bottom



Bright Carmine Red 10 Pfennig (UV) Lilac Brown HAN H 424.10 at bottom

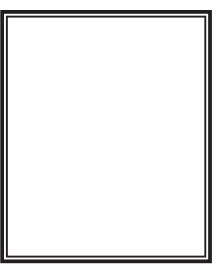


Yacht Issues

Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)



1911



Bright Red Carmine 10 Pfennig (UV) Red HAN H 4129.11 at right

H 2241 · 13

1911

Bright Red Carmine 10 Pfennig (UV) Red HAN H 2241.13 at right

1911



Bright Red Carmine 10 Pfennig (UV) Red HAN H 2893.13 at left

Though not listed in Michel, HAN H 2893.13 in the left margin is known. It is from the printing of booklet sheets for the 1913/1914 booklet, and can be found next to the upper left stamp of the booklet pane containing six 10 Pfennig stamps.

1911



(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine 20 Pfennig HAN H 424.10 at bottom



Yacht Issues

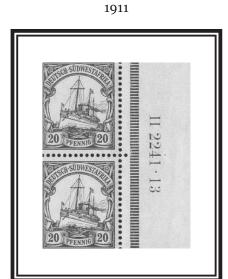
Order Numbers / Hausauftragsnummern (HAN)



1911



(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine 20 Pfennig HAN H 4129.11 at right



(Bright) Lilac Ultramarine 20 Pfennig HAN H 2241.13 at right

1911



Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on White to Medium Chrome Yellow 30 Pfennig HAN H 2068.11 at right

1913

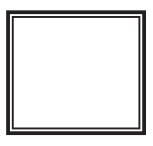


Dark (Reddish) Orange / Yellow Black on Orange White 30 Pfennig HAN H 755.13 at bottom



General Fee Revenue Stamps

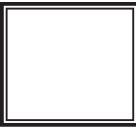
April 1897



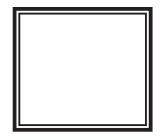
Brown 25 Pfennig



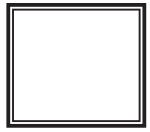
Violet 50 Pfennig



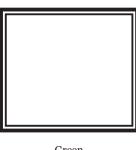
Red 1 Mark



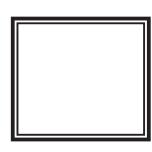
Blue 2 Mark



Olive 3 Mark



Green 5 Mark



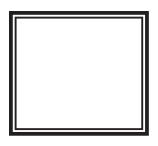
Orange 10 Mark

All values other than the 50 Pfennig and 1 Mark are known only as unused proofs printed for the archives of the Bundesdruckerei (German State Printers). They are now available to collectors, but are very rare.



General Fee Revenue Stamps

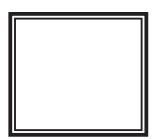
April 1897



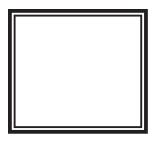
Brown 25 Pfennig



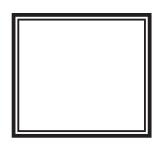
Violet 50 Pfennig



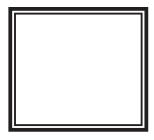
Red 1 Mark



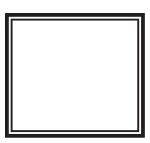
Blue 2 Mark



Olive 3 Mark



Green 5 Mark



Orange 10 Mark



Red 25 Pfennig on 1 Mark

All values other than the 50 Pf., 1 M., and 25 Pf. on 1 M. are known only as unused proofs printed for the archives of the Bundesdruckerei (German State Printers). They are now available to collectors, but are rare.



Windhuk Native Tax Stamps

1 March 1913

These stamps showing payment of the 1913 Eingeborenen-Steuer (Native Tax) are known in 6 values – 0.25, 0.50, 0.75, 1.00, 1.50, and 2.00 Mark. Mint copies (5 todate) are known only of the 0.50 Mark value. The 1.50 Mark value is known to have been sent to DSWA, but no copies are known to have survived. All others values are only known used, attached within payment booklets or on pieces cut from the same.



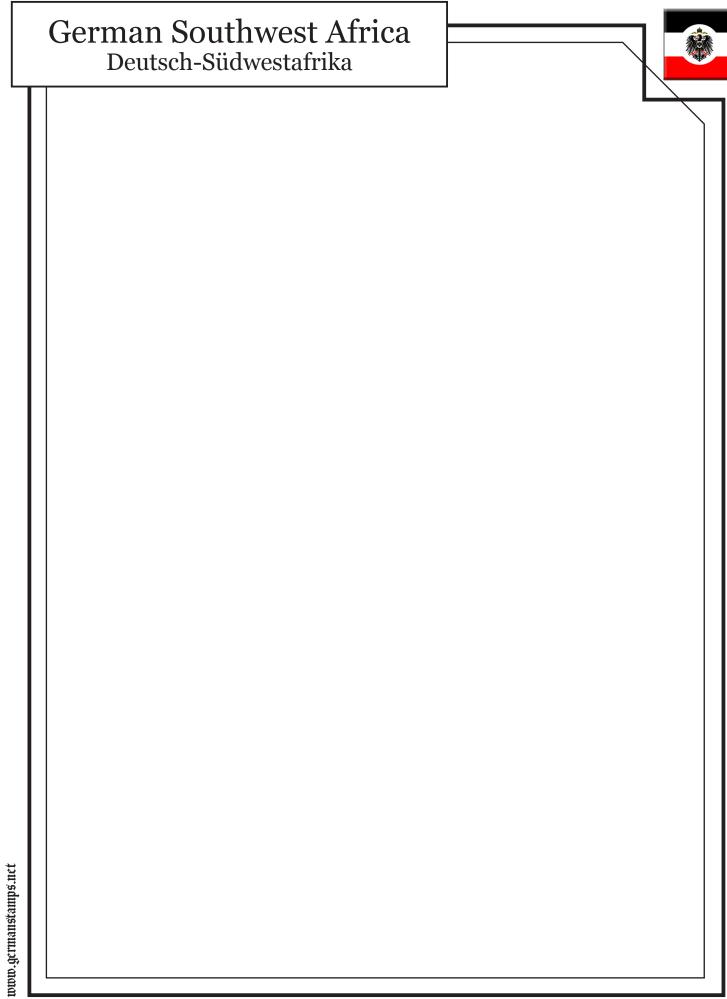


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