












L10: 8d TUATARA TYPE (Recess)

The Tuatara lizard is the central subject of this denomination. The reptiles found in New Zealand are very small and harmless. The Tuatara is a link between the lizard and the crocodile, and is the sole living representative of some of the oldest creatures that have ever inhabited the earth – evidence of the great antiquity of New Zealand. The Tuatara is peculiar in having the relic of a third eye. It is 12 to 18 inches in length, covered with a grey leathery, wrinkled skin, and this, with the dour expression given by its drooping mouth, supports the impression that it is truly a survival from prehistoric times.

Artist: L.C.Mitchell of Wellington.

Colour: Brazil Nut

	L10a	L10b	L10c	L10d	L10e
Issue	Original Issue	Watermark Change	Watermark Change	War-time Issue Waterlow Print and Perf	Final Issue Royal Cypher
Date	1935 May 1	1936 June	1939 July	1941 July	1942 July
Printer	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co	Waterlow & Sons	De La Rue & Co
Perforation	De La Rue & Co 14 * 13 ½	De La Rue & Co 14 * 13 ½	De La Rue & Co 14 * 13 ½	Waterlow & Sons 12 ½	De La Rue & Co 14 * 14 ½
Plate	A2 Registered “Single” side-ways (W7a)	A2 Multiple Sideways (W8a)	3 Multiple Upright (W8)	3 Multiple Sideways (W8a)	3,4 Multiple Sideways (W8a)
Watermark					
Paper	Esparto	Esparto	Esparto	Esparto	Royal Cypher
Colour	 Sepia Brown	 Deep Brown Sepia Sepia-Brown Pale-Brown	 Sepia Sepia-Brown	 Deep Sepia Deep red-sepia Seep red-brown	 Sepia-Brown Deep red-brown