

L3: 1 1/2 d MAORI COOKING, TYPE (Recess)



A young Maori woman lowering into a boiling spring a “kete” of food for cooking is the subject of the stamp. The Kete is a basket plaited from flax. On her head she is wearing a “pare” (headband). From her waist hangs a “piu-piu” made from flax blades, scraped at intervals and immersed in dye which bleaches scraped portions, leaving the rest a natural brown colour. The blades of the flax on drying curl into tubes, which with each movement of the wearer, make a soft rustling sound. The side panels represent the “pou-pou” which alternates with the panel of reed-work (tukutuku) along the inside walls of the larger Maori “whares” or houses.

Artist: Mr. M Mathews, Wellington

Colour: Copper brown

	L3a	L3b	L3c	L3d
Issue	Original issue W.7	Experimental Wet Printing with brown gum	Experimental Wet Print (Wmk inverted and reversed)	Change of Watermark W.8
Date	1935 May 1	1935 Nov	1936 Feb	1936 Jun
Printer	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co
Perfora- tion	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co	De La Rue & Co
Plate	14 * 13 1/2	13 1/2 * 14	13 1/2 * 14	14 * 13 1/2
Water- mark	1A, 1B 	1A, 1B 	1A, 1B 	1A, 1B 
Paper	W.7 Esparto	W.7 Esparto	W.7e Esparto	W.8 Esparto
Colour	Red-brown 	Red-brown 	Red-brown 	1. Red-brown 2. Deep red-brown 3. Purple-brown 

L3: 1 ½ d MAORI COOKING, TYPE (Recess) Timeline of Issue

L3a: Original Issue with Single Watermark (W7)

L3b: Experimental "Wet" Printing with brown gum (W.7)

L3c: Experimental "Wet" Printing Watermark inverted and reversed (W.7e)

L3d: Change to Watermark W.8

1935

1936

1937

1938

LO3d: Change to watermark W.8

LO3b: Official Overprint Experimental Wet Print

LO3a: Official Overprint - Very Rare

Jul 1938

Superseded

L3: PENNY-HALFPENNY Notes from Vol 2, The Postage Stamps of New Zealand.

The design of this denomination showed a young Maori woman lowering -a flax basket of food into a boiling spring. The side panels represent the "pou pou" from the inside walls of larger Maori whares. The artist was Mr. M. Matthews of Wellington.

Only one plate was used, containing 480 impressions, in two groups of 240 which were distinguished by the markings 1A and 1B. The printing on the paper with multiple watermark was placed on sale in June, 1936, and the shade varied from deep brown to deep reddish-brown.

Four impressions on the panel marked **1A** were re-entered:

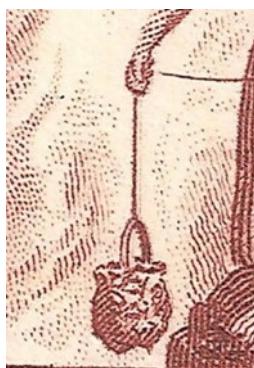
R7/2 Faint trace of doubling of the vertical portion of the string near the Maori woman's hand, the extra line being to the right of the string.

R8/2 Doubling of the lower portion of the string and of the right-hand half of the handle of the basket.

R9/2 Doubling of the whole length of the vertical portion of the string and of the right-hand half of the handle of the basket.

R10/2 Doubling of the whole length of the vertical portion of the string, of the handle of the basket and of the right-hand outline of the Maori woman's right arm and hand and left shoulder.

The first supplies with the multiple watermark were perforated by means of a comb machine gauging 14 x 13 1/2 Stamps from sheets from the last supplies are found which appear to have perforations which gauge 13 1/2 but this was due to an irregularity in the spacing of the pins in the long row of a comb head in which the normal gauge was 14.



R9/2

The 1 1/2 d. was superseded on July 26, 1938, and remainders were destroyed.



1/- Postage, Used, Postmarked Wellington 1937

L3: PENNY-HALFPENNY

Campbell Paterson's Notes

Extracted from Campbell Paterson NZ Bulletin—Oct 1964

1935 1½d Maori Cooking.

This stamp has a design that could hardly apply anywhere but in NZ – and even there only in Rotorua or some other spot on the geological fault that stretches from White Island in the Bay of Plenty to Lake Taupo and the Central Volcanic Plateau. The thermal area is so well known that I need hardly take up space here in describing it with its geysers (guysers, not geezers!), its bubbling mud-pools, boiling lakes and hot springs.

Not so widely known is the use that Maoris make of the natural source of heat for cooking (not to mention clothes washing and bathing). On the 1½d stamp we see a Maori woman lowering a woven flax-basket or kete of prepared food into a hot pool. The food would most likely be vegetables including probably the sweet potato or kumara. I ought at this stage to make it clear that few Maoris will be found today cooking by means of a hot pool; generally, they prefer an electric cooker; still, if one chances to have a natural hot-spot in one's back-garden it seems foolish not to make use of it!

The stamp is found in four major variations. The original stamps of 1935 had perforations gauging approximately 14x13½ and had colourless gum. The perforating machine used gave normal, regular corners. The second and third issues, L3b and L3c, were both experimental. Whereas the first issue L3a was printed on dry, pre-gummed paper, the two experimental issues were printed on damp paper -- presumably in an endeavour to get better results – and it follows that the gumming had to be done after the sheets had been dried. The gum used was a heavy brown type, easily rec-

ognized and even in used stamps usually pretty obvious. This gum and the fact that the perforation was different, 13½x14, together make the two experimental issues readily recognizable; we are further helped by the fact that as was described in the case of the 1d Kiwi 13½x14 last month, this perforating head gave an odd result in the corners of each stamp. This is not easy to describe but is easily spotted when it has once been seen.

We thus have L3a, b and c all with Single watermark. L3c looks just like L3b but has the watermark inverted & reversed -- not an accidental variety as might be supposed but the result of the paper being deliberately used "wrong side up", again presumably in an attempt to improve the printing. The inverted & reversed watermark is easily seen.

Finally, the 1½d stamp appeared on the multiple watermark paper. This paper had a horizontal mesh and so is infallibly recognizable from the earlier issues by the mesh method. Two plates only were used throughout the issue of this stamp and one, numbered 1A had three stamps showing similar reentries. In all three cases the doubling was to the string of the basket. It is most clearly seen on R10/2 and less clearly on R9/2 and R8/2. This is a pleasing variety and the more so as it is the only one recorded in a stamp which is unusually lacking in philatelic varieties. No accidental watermark or perforation varieties are known.





L3a: 1935 (May 1) Original Issue with "Single" watermark (W.7)

Perf	Paper	Colour	UHM	LHM	FU
14 x 13 1/2	Fine HM	Red-brown	25.00	16.00	25.00

L3a	Variety	Mint	Used
(Z)	[4] Plate No. 1A (two re-entries R9/2, 10/2 (doubling of string from hand to basket))	\$ 225	45.00
[4]	Plate No. 1B	\$ 200	
Note	Note: In all plate 1A L3a - L3d sheets, R8/2 shows same re-entry, less clearly.		



L3b: 1935 (Nov) Experimental "Wet" Printing with brown gum (Watermark W.7)

Perf	Paper	Colour	UHM	LHM	FU
13 1/2 x 14	Fine VM	Red-brown	20.00	12.50.	25.00

Variety	Mint	Used
[4] Plate No. 1A (incl. two re-entries R9/2, 10/2).	\$ 190	40.00
[4] Plate No. 1B	\$ 170	

The so-called "wet printing" gets its name from the fact that in an effort to achieve clearer definition the printers experimented with damp paper. This meant that the paper had to be gummed after printing and drying; the normal course being to print on already-gummed dry paper. The gum of the "wet" printing is heavier and much browner in colour than that of any dry printing. For other "wet" printings see the 2 1/2 d and 3/- values in this set, they being the only other values to be experimented with in this way.

The perforation of the "wet" printing was the same as that seen in L2b and the relevant note under that number should be read.



L3c: 1936 (Feb) Experimental "Wet" Printing (Wmk inverted and reversed) (W.7e)

Perf	Paper	Colour	UHM	LHM	FU
13 ½ x 14	Fine VM	Red-brown	\$ 100	50.00	90.00

L3c	Variety	Mint	Used
[4]	Plate No. 1A (incl. two re-entries R9/2, 10/2).	\$1,200	\$ 200
[4]	Plate No. 1B	\$ 1,100	

This stamp is the result of a further experiment aimed at improving definition. In this case, as the watermark shows, the printing was done "wet" on the wrong side of the paper. A similar experiment was made with a small quantity of the 3/- value.



L3d: 1936 (June) Change to watermark W.8

Perf	Paper	Colour	UHM	LHM	FU
14 x 13 ½	Fine HM	(1) Red-brown	20.00	7.50	10.00
		(2) Deep red-brown	20.00	7.50	10.00
		(3) Purple Brown	\$ 750	\$ 450	\$ 400

L3a	Variety	Mint	Used
(Z)	[4] Plate No. 1A (two re-entries R9/2, 10/2 (doubling of string from hand to basket	\$ 225	45.00
	[4] Plate No. 1 B	\$ 200	



LO3a: 1936 *Official* Overprint Original Issue with "Single" watermark (W.7)

Of this stamp only four copies, all mint, are known to exist. One of these is damaged.

Perf	Paper	Colour	UHM	LHM	FU
14 x 13 ½	Fine HM	Red-brown	\$50,000		



LO3b: 1936 (March) *Official* Overprint Experimental "Wet" Printing with brown gum (Watermark W.7)

Perf	Paper	Colour	UHM	LHM	FU
13 ½ x 14	Fine VM	Red-brown	60.00	40.00.	80.00

L3b	Variety	Mint	Used
[Z]	Plate No. 1A (incl. two re-entries R9/2, 10/2). each	\$130	\$120
[4]	Plate No. 1A (incl. two re-entries).	\$480	
[4]	Plate No. 1B	\$ 480	



LO3d: 1936 (July) *Official* Overprint Change to watermark W.8

Perf	Paper	Colour	UHM	LHM	FU
14 x 13 ½	Fine HM	Red-brown	40.00	16.00	10.00

L3a	Variety	Mint	Used
(Z)	[4] Plate No. 1A (two re-entries R9/2, 10/2 (doubling of string from hand to basket	90.00	50.00
	[4] Plate No. 1A, 1B	\$335	