

CULTIVATED FLORA OF HUNGARY: FRUIT IV



Magyar Posta is continuing its series of special stamps on the topic of the cultivated flora of Hungary – fruit. On this occasion the stamp designs conceived as graphic compositions reminiscent of still lifes show two varieties, the Berczki quince and the giant Badacsony cherry. Thirty thousand copies of the new issue designed by the graphic artist Imre Benedek were produced by ANY Security Printing Company. The new stamps will be available at first day post offices and Filaposta in Hungary from 3 March 2023, but may also be ordered from Magyar Posta's online store.

Berczki quince: one of the oldest Hungarian varieties, this fruit may date back to the Jassic and Ossetian settlers. The fruit of the Jászság (the area named after the Jassic people), it is also known as the Jassic apple and was mainly grown in the region to the east of the River Tisza. It was noted by the pomologist Máté Berczki. It has large, pink blossom. The tree is moderately vigorous with dark brown twigs and large leaves. It copes well with dry conditions and sandy soil. The pear-shaped fruit weighing 300 to 400 grams has a ribbed, very downy surface. It is bright yellow, highly fragrant and sweet, and can be eaten from the end of October until January. It can be made into a fine compote and produces a high-quality quince cheese. It is also used to make the fruit brandy *pálinka*.

Giant Badacsony cherry: while usually acknowledged to be the giant variety of the Germersdorfer cherry, its origin is more complex. In 1959, huge trees of this variety still stood at the foot of Badacsony hill. Fortunately, György Petrovay had introduced it earlier to Nagykőrű in the central Tisza region. This vigorous tree has a round crown and is susceptible to frost although it blooms late. It produces a good crop when well pollinated. It differs in fruit size from the Germersdorfer giant cherry only due to where it is grown, and is harvested within a day or two of the main variety. Its main distinguishing characteristic is the slightly bitter taste of the flesh.

The stamp designs reminiscent of still lifes show the fruit, blossom and leaf-covered branches of the Berczki quince and the giant Badacsony cherry. Fruit compositions feature on the first day cover and in the imprint of the special postmark.

Order code:

2023070050211 (stamp set)
2023070060012 (FDC)

Issued on: 3 March 2023

Total face value: HUF 1,510
(On the date of issue, HUF 700 is equivalent to postage for a non-priority letter up to 50 g with non-dutiable content, or postcard or picture postcard to countries within the European Union customs border and European countries outside the European Union customs border; HUF 810 pays for a non-priority letter up to 50 g, or postcard or picture postcard outside Europe.)

Printing technique: offset

Number of copies: 30,000
(50 stamps and 5 barcodes per sheet)

Perforated size: 35 x 35 mm

Paper type: White, wood-free, surface-treated, gummed stamp paper with optical whitener

Printed by

ANY Biztonsági Nyomda Nyrt.
(stamp), Codex Zrt. (FDC)

Designed by Imre Benedek