

**Zeitschrift:** Panorama suizo : revista para los Suizos en el extranjero  
**Herausgeber:** Organización de los Suizos en el extranjero  
**Band:** 22 (1995)  
**Heft:** 6

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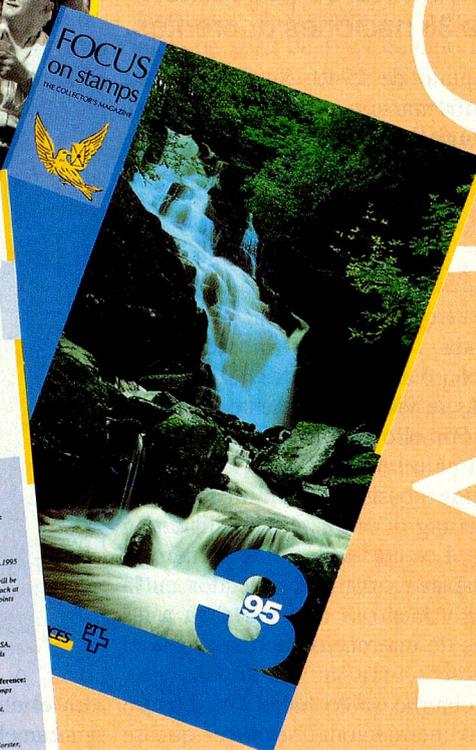
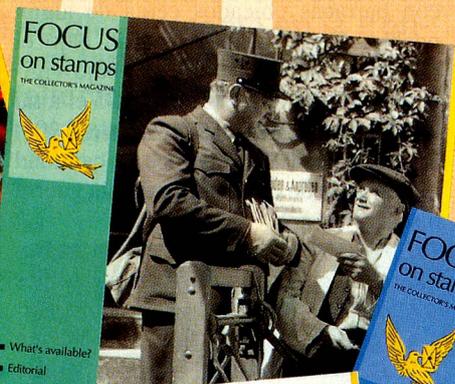
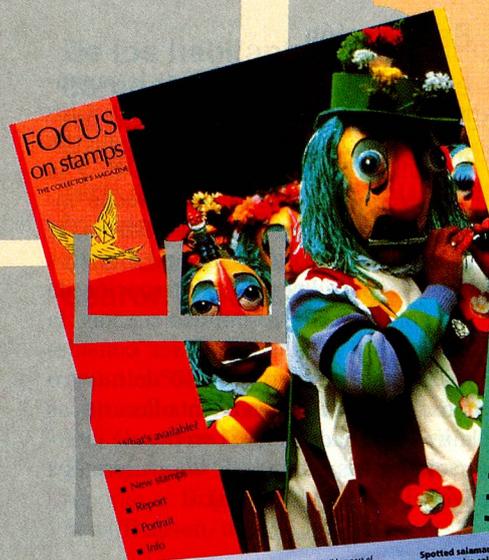
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# FOCUS ON STAMPS

THE COLLECTOR'S MAGAZINE



## NEW 1995 PRO JUVENTUTE STAMPS

**NEW STAMPS**

- Report
- Editorial
- New stamps
- Info

**(Salmo trutta fario)**  
Since the last century, seven out of fifty fish species have become extinct in Switzerland, including the sea trout, the "sawfish" of our river trout was not just the mass changes made in the of seas, as well as that proved the rainbow trout from Europe.

The river trout's characteristic features are the red spots on its body and its maximum length of 1.50 metres. It feeds on insects, especially caddisflies, and also on small crustaceans. It breeds in rocky streams and lakes on an altitude of 2500 metres. Shaded by the forest, this fish with a strong swimming light.

It reproduces in winter: the female lays 2000 eggs per kilogramme of body weight.

The female builds a nest of moss and grass, just above ground-level, and usually especially suitable sites are often "looked up" for years. From April to June, she usually lays five finely speckled, cream-coloured eggs providing daytime temperatures are higher than 10° C. The eggs hatch after 14 days and the chicks are mainly fed by the female. After another 12 days, they leave the nest and their parents' territory.

The grey wagtail, with its strong biogeographic ties, often migrates to the same territory year after year – providing its habitat has not been destroyed.

Throughout the day, it hides under cool stones or drinking troughs, becoming active at night, especially during warm thunder showers, when it feeds on insects, especially flies and beetles.

### Spotted salamander (Salamandra atra)

The spotted salamander was first described in 1758 as the lacerta salamandra, or "salamandre lizarde". However, salamanders are amphibians. They have a round tail and a cream-coloured body with yellow spots on a black ground. They grow to a length of 20 centimetres, weigh up to 50 grammes and live to the amazing age of 50. The spotted salamander is still found fairly frequently in mixed deciduous woodlands in Ticino and the Jura.

During the April mating season, the female takes in a sperm case from the male, and the 35 larvae gestate in her body for one year before being released the following spring in streams as water-dwellers equipped with gills. Depending on the water temperature, the spotted salamanders develop larval and transfer to land after two to ten months. They usually spend the winter in the same safe place year after year, in deep, moist holes in the ground and in caves.

### Christmas issue

For the Christmas stamp, the artist chose an angel motif inspired by the picture "The Annunciation" by the Spanish Baroque painter Bartolomé Estéban Murillo (1618–1682), the original is in the Prado Museum in Madrid.



Estéban Murillo (1618–1682), the original is in the Prado Museum in Madrid.

Printed by Romprevue Helve Courvoisier SA, La Chaux-de-Fonds. Size: 35.4 x 24 mm. Cylinder circumference: 2 sheets of 50 stamps. Paper: white, fluorescent, matt pummed.

Designers: Olivier André Forster, Scherzblum.



...contains news, details of new issues, feature articles, portraits and background stories covering the fascinating world of Swiss stamps. The main theme in each issue – such as «Centenary of the Cinema», «On the Basle Fasnacht», «Life in and around Water» – is linked to a stamp subject, thus providing topical information about Switzerland. «FOCUS ON STAMPS» is published four to five times a year.

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