World of Stamps:

Landlocked States of Columbia: Tolima

by Geir Sør-Reime

Tolima

Tolima State was created July 12, 1861, from the Cundinamarca State and as part of an uprising against the national government. The creation was confirmed by the other states September 20, 1861.

Spanish colonization in the area started in 1537.

Agriculture, including coffee cultivation has traditionally been the base of the Tolima economy, but in recent years, the service sector has grown considerably.

Here, the first two typeset stamps were issued in 1870,



Tolima 1870 10c, Sc. 2

graphed stamps showing the state arms.

Map of Colombia showing Landlocked Tolima in red



Tolima 1870 5c on bluish paper, Sc. 5



Tolima 1879 10c Sc. 15



Tolima 1884 50c, 10p, Sc. 30, 34





Left, Tolima 1886 1p Sc. 39; right, 1886 two and half c Sc. 46

Similar stamps were issued in 1879 (4 stamps), 1883 (3 stamps), 1884 (12 stamps), 1886 (two series, the first with four stamps and in two versions, printed on white or purple paper, respectively, and the second with

12 stamps), 1888 (4 stamps), 1895 (6 stamps), and 1903 (8 stamps, all issued imperforate and perforated 12).

The stamps issued from 1888 had State of Tolima replaced by Department of Tolima.



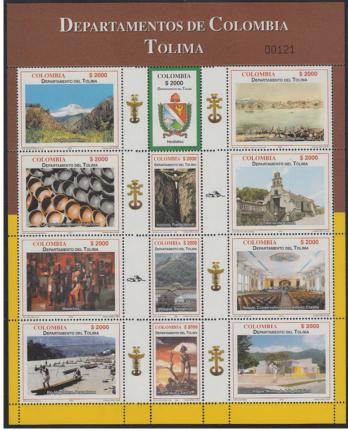
Left to right: Tolima 1888 5c, Sc. 62; 1895 1c, Sc. 66; 1903 20c, Sc. 81





Left, Colombia 1956 Tolima cotton Sc. 660; right, Colombia 1979 Rio Prado hydroelectric station Sc. C676

Colombian stamps with Tolima themes or motifs include a 1956 stamp showing harvesting of cotton, a 2004 minisheet of 12 stamps presenting the department, a 1979 stamp showing the Rio Prado hydroelectric station and a 2015 stamp celebrating the national sports games that were in part held in Tolima.



Colombia 2004 department of Tolima Sc. 1225



Colombia T 2015 national sports games

Cities of Tolima that have been honored with stamps include the capital Ibagué (1976), Honda (1982), and San Sebastian de Mariquita (1996).







Left to right, Colombia: Arms of Ibague Sc. 833; Honda Sc. 910; San Sebastian de Mariquita Sc. 1122b

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