

DAHOMEY

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The part of Africa which became Dahomey was long a centre of the slave trade. Porto Novo on the coast, originally established by the Portuguese, served as the base for the shipment of slaves to Brazil and the Caribbean. The French became interested in Dahomey as a strategic point in the race to acquire colonies in Africa, in competition with Britain (with Nigeria) and Germany (Togo). First tenuous treaties were made with local rulers from 1851, a base was made at Porto Novo in 1872, and after two brutal wars against local rulers, the coastal area named as Benin was attached to Senegal in 1886, the inland area of Dahomey was declared a protectorate in 1894, and the full colony was reorganised in 1904 within the A.O.F. group.

Originally French revenue stamps were used as needed, but special revenue stamps for Dahomey began to be introduced from 1910.

The colony was seen as primarily a producer of tropical produce, especially cotton and palm oil. A new port was constructed at Cotonou. In the aftermath of WWII, Dahomey gained greater autonomy as a French Overseas territory with representation in the French National Assembly. Inevitably, various rival groups attempted to gain control in the move towards independence. In December 1958 the country gained internal autonomy within the French Union as the République de Dahomey, and became fully independent on 1st August 1960. In 1972 the country was renamed Benin.

DAHOMEY REVENUE



1931. Daussy key type with lined background, and inscribed A.O.F. / DAHOMEY in red.

1. 10c bistre, brown, blue & red	2.00
2. 15c bistre, brown, blue & red	10.00
3. 20c bistre, brown, blue & red	2.00
4. 25c bistre, brown, blue & red	2.00
5. 30c bistre, brown, blue & red	2.00
6. 35c bistre, brown, blue & red	3.50
7. 40c bistre, brown, blue & red	2.00
8. 45c bistre, brown, blue & red	3.50
9. 50c bistre, brown, blue & red	2.00
10. 75c bistre, brown, blue & red	3.50
11. 1F green & red	2.00
12. 1F50 green & red	3.50
13. 2F green & red	3.50
14. 3F green & red	5.00
15. 4F green & red	7.50
16. 5F green & red	3.50
17. 6F green & red	7.50
18. 7F green & red	7.50
19. 8F green & red	10.00
20. 9F green & red	10.00
21. 10F blue & red	5.00
22. 12F blue & red	15.00
23. 20F blue & red	10.00
24. 30F blue & red	15.00
25. 50F blue & red	15.00
26. 100F violet & red	35.00

For 10c, 30c, 40c with A.O.F./DAHOMEY in blue, see issue of 1939.



1932. Above issue, surcharged with large figures at left, and two bars, in blue (B).

27. 0.20 on 1F50 green & red (B)	7.50
28. 0.50 on 1F50 green & red (B)	7.50
29. 1 fr on 1F50 green & red (B)	10.00
30. 2 fr on 1F50 green & red (B)	15.00



1936. Surcharges in smaller figures, at right, and two bars (these are longer on the 0f25 on 1F value).

31. 0f25 on 10c bistre, brown, blue & red	7.50
32. 0f25 on 20c bistre, brown, blue & red	7.50
33. 0f25 on 50c bistre, brown, blue & red	7.50
34. 0f25 on 1F green & red	10.00
35. 0f75 on 20c bistre, brown, blue & red	7.50



1938. Daussy key type inscribed A.O.F. / DAHOMEY, with diamonds background. White paper, no wmk.

36. 25c lilac & red	3.50
37. 75c lilac & red	3.50
38. 6F rose & blue	7.50



1938. Same Daussy key type, diamonds background. Slightly tinted paper and with wmk.

39. 20c lilac & red	2.00
40. 25c lilac & red	2.00
41. 35c lilac & red	2.00
42. 50c lilac & red	2.00
43. 75c lilac & red	3.50
44. 1F rose & blue	2.00
45. 1F50 rose & blue	3.50
46. 2F rose & blue	2.00
47. 3F rose & blue (A.O.F. blue)	3.50
48. 3F rose, blue & A.O.F. red	7.50
49. 4F rose & blue	3.50
50. 5F rose & blue	2.00
51. 6F rose & blue	5.00
52. 10F blue & red	5.00
53. 50F blue & red	10.00
54. 100F blue & red	15.00
55. 200F blue & red	25.00



1939. Daussy key type with lined background, and inscribed A.O.F. / DAHOMÉY now in blue.

56. 10c bistre, brown & blue	10.00
57. 30c bistre, brown & blue	10.00
58. 40c bistre, brown & blue	35.00



1939. Previous Daussy types, ovpt in small figures at left, and two bars, in black, or in reddish-violet (V).

60. 0 fr. 25 on 1F green & red (V)	10.00
61. 0 fr. 75 on 50c lilac & red	10.00
62. 0 fr. 75 on 6F rose & blue (no wmk)	10.00
63. 1 fr. 50 on 2F green & red	15.00
64. 1 fr. 50 on 3F rose & blue	15.00



1939 etc. Postage stamps of 1913 etc (Palm Tree), surcharged in large figures, and ovpt TIMBRE / FISCAL and previous value deleted with block of 16 small squares. Quantity printed is indicated in brackets, where known, but remaining stocks were destroyed in November 1946 (quantities destroyed unknown)..

65. 0,05F on 1c violet & black (26,260)	15.00
66. 0,10F on 2c brown & rose (7500)	65.00
67. 0,15F on 4c black & brown	65.00
68. 0,15F on 80c red-brown & ultramarine	20.00
69. 0,25F on 1F blue & ultramarine (14,774)	35.00
70. 0,30F on 2c brown & rose	35.00
71. 0,30F on 5c purple & violet	75.00
72. 0,30F on 65c brown & olive-green	75.00
73. 0,40F on 10c sepia & red (1216)	125.00
74. 0,45 on 80c red-brown & ultramarine (873)	175.00
75. 0,50F on 1F75 blue & ultramarine (25,000)	20.00
76. 0,60F on 90c rose & red-brown (871)	175.00
77. 0,75F on 1F brown & red (10,000)	50.00
78. 0,80F on 4c black & brown	35.00
79. 0,80F on 20c magenta & slate	25.00
80. 1F on 1c violet & black	15.00
81. 1F on 25c purple & orange (15,000)	35.00

82. 2F on 2c brown & rose	15.00
83. 3F on 2c brown & rose	15.00
84. 3F on 30c olive-green & green (7500)	75.00
85. 4F on 35c blue-green & green (52,500)	15.00
86. 4F on 5F violet & dull blue (10,000)	50.00
87. 5F on 45c grey & ultramarine (7500)	75.00
88. 5F on 1F75 blue & ultramarine	20.00
89. 5F on 5F violet & dull blue (5000)	100.00
90. 8F on 55c brown & green	150.00
91. 9F on 2c brown & rose	35.00
92. 10F on 1c violet & black	35.00
93. 10F on 5c purple & violet (4950)	150.00
94. 10F on 65c brown & olive-green (7500)	85.00
95. 12F on 80c red-brown & ultramarine	150.00
96. 13F on 2c brown & rose	100.00
97. 20F on 10c red & olive-brown (2550)	150.00
98. 20F on 90c brown & red (7500)	75.00
99. 20F on 1F75 blue & ultramarine	100.00
100. 25F on 2F orange & sepia (7500)	75.00
101. 30F on 20c magenta & slate (2550)	150.00
102. 30F on 1F75 blue & ultramarine	100.00
103. 50F on 1F75 blue & ultramarine	125.00



1939 etc. Surcharged postage stamps of 1922 etc (Palm Tree, previous value deleted with pair of two small two bars), further surcharged in large figures and ovpt TIMBRE / FISCAL, and previous surcharge value deleted with two longer bars. Quantity printed is indicated in brackets, where known.

104. 3F on 10F on 5F violet & yellow-brown (5000)	100.00
105. 8F on 10F on 5F violet & brown	125.00
106. 10F on 20F on 5F red & green (5000)	125.00



1943. Postage Due stamps ovpt "Fisc" and surcharged, and previous value deleted with block of 16 small squares. Quantity printed is indicated in brackets, where known.

107. 0,20F on 10c rose (17,153)	35.00
108. 0,50F on 15c grey (60,000)	15.00
109. 1F on 5c green (60,000)	15.00
110. 2F on 30c blue	15.00
110a. "2" missing from surcharge	-
111. 6F on 20c brown (25,000)	25.00

112. 9F on 60c orange	10.00
113. 10F on 50c black	20.00
114. 18F on 1F violet (124)	350.00

From 1945 to 1959, regular revenues of the A.O.F. group were used in Dahomey.

Daussy key types inscribed only DAHOMÉY (without the A.O.F.) were supplied to the new Republic of Dahomey, which is listed by us under Benin (as the country subsequently became known).

DAHOMEY ACTES DIVERS



1912. French key type.
1. 50c brown & black 15.00

DAHOMEY CONNAISSEMENTS

A) one stamp with tax value was affixed to the principal document, and B) control stamps without value to additional documentation as necessary. Control stamps did not show a value, therefore are indistinguishable from the preceding unsurcharged issue.



1910. Large format stamps with large DAHOMEY inscription.

	A	B
1. 1F20 blue & black	25.00	25.00
2. 2F40 rose & black	35.00	35.00



1918. Connaissements stamp of France, with small handstamp DAHOMEY in violet (V).

	A	B
3. 1F20 violet & black (V)	25.00	25.00
4. 2F40 rose & black (V)	35.00	25.00

These stamps, further ovpt A.O.F., only known further ovpt for use as Quittances provisionals.



1931. Daussy key type, inscribed A.O.F. / DAHOMEY in red, no wmk.

	A	B
5. 1F20 lilac, black & red	10.00	10.00
6. 2F40 rose, black & red	10.00	10.00

1937. Same, but with wmk.

	A	B
7. 1F20 lilac, black & red	10.00	10.00
8. 2F40 rose, black & red	10.00	10.00



c1939. Above issue (with wmk), surcharged.

	A	B
9. 5F on 1F20 lilac & black	25.00	-
10. 10F on 2F40 rose & black ..	25.00	-



1941. Daussy key type, inscribed A.O.F. / DAHOMEY now in black, 8F and 16F no wmk, 10F with wmk. CONTRÔLE with circumflex accent

	A	B
11. 8F green & black	20.00	5.00
12. 10F green & black	20.00	5.00
13. 16F violet, green & black ..	20.00	10.00

For further higher values in the Daussy type, inscribed only DAHOMEY (no A.O.F.), and Control stamps of similar colour but text larger and without accent on the "O", see under Benin (Dahomey).

DAHOMEY CONTRATS DIVERS

Tax at 0.05%.



1917. Key type, value and inscriptions all handstamped.

- 1. 0,05F brown & black 25.00
- 2. 0,10F brown & black 25.00
- 3. 0,15F brown & black 25.00
- 4. 0,30F brown & black 25.00
- 5. 0,50F brown & black 25.00
- 6. 1F brown & black 50.00
- 7. 3F brown & black 50.00
- 8. 5F brown & black 50.00



1921. Above issue, surcharged.

- 9. 0,20 on 0,30F brown & black 50.00
- 10. 0,40 on 0,50F brown & black 50.00

DAHOMEY COPIES



1910. Copies type of France, inscribed DAHOMÉY.

- 1. 50c rose & black 10.00

DAHOMEY COPIES ET EXPEDITIONS



1918. Key type, value and inscriptions handstamped in violet.

- 2. 0,50 orange & violet 20.00

x

c1910. Same, but DAHOMÉY in black.

- 3. 0,50 orange, violet & black` 20.00

DAHOMEY EFFETS DE COMMERCE



1912. Key type. DAHOMEY is typo in black.

1. 5c grey & black	2.00
2. 10c grey & black	2.00
3. 15c grey & black	3.50
4. 20c grey & black	3.50
5. 25c grey & black	3.50
6. 30c grey & black	5.00
7. 35c grey & black	5.00
8. 40c grey & black	5.00
9. 45c grey & black	10.00
10. 50c grey, blue & black	3.50
11. 1F grey, blue & black	3.50
12. 2F grey, blue & black	15.00
13. 3F grey, blue & black	20.00
14. 5F grey, green & black	35.00
15. 10F grey, red & black	50.00



1917. Similar, but DAHOMEY handstamped in dark violet.

16. 5c grey, black & violet	5.00
17. 10c grey, black & violet	5.00
18. 15c grey, black & violet	5.00
19. 20c grey, black & violet	5.00
20. 25c grey, black & violet	5.00
21. 30c grey, black & violet	5.00
22. 35c grey, black & violet	5.00
23. 40c grey, black & violet	7.50
24. 45c grey, black & violet	10.00
25. 50c grey, blue & violet	5.00
26. 1F grey, blue & violet	5.00
27. 1F50 grey, blue & violet	7.50
28. 2F grey, blue & violet	5.00
29. 2F50 grey, blue & violet	5.00
30. 3F grey, green & violet	7.50
31. 4F grey, green & violet	10.00
32. 4F grey, green & violet	10.00
33. 4F50 grey, green & violet	15.00
34. 5F grey, green & violet	7.50
35. 5F50 grey, green & violet	15.00
36. 6F grey, green & violet	10.00
37. 6F50 grey, maroon & violet	10.00
38. 7F grey, maroon & violet	10.00
39. 7F50 grey, maroon & violet	10.00
40. 8F grey, maroon & violet	15.00
41. 8F50 grey, maroon & violet	20.00
42. 9F grey, maroon & violet	15.00
43. 9F50 grey, red & violet	25.00
44. 10F grey, red & violet	15.00

45. 15F grey, red & violet	25.00
46. 20F grey, red & violet	25.00
47. 25F grey, red & violet	25.00
48. 30F grey, red & violet	35.00



1922. Similar, but A.O.F. top right.

49. 50c brown, black & red	5.00
50. 1F bistre & red	5.00
51. 1F50 bistre & red	35.00
52. 2F bistre & red	20.00
53. 2F50 bistre & red	15.00
54. 3F bistre & red	50.00
55. 9F bistre & red	50.00
56. 10F bistre & red	10.00
57. 15F bistre & red	15.00
58. 20F bistre & red	15.00
59. 25F bistre & red	20.00
60. 30F bistre & red	25.00
61. 50F bistre & red	25.00
62. 100F bistre & red	50.00



1939. Surcharged, and two bars through previous value, in dark blue (B).

63. 200F on 30F vbistre & red	75.00
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DAHOMEY IMPOT PERSONNEL

Two-part stamps, in use during the period 1935-1940 (or later) but few have survived. Reported by Duston; not seen by us. Stamps with value label blank were in some cases issued (for the tax value to be inserted by hand), but may also be proofs or remainders.



c1935. Sea View & Sun. No wmk. Perf 13.

1. 16+6F rose, blue & black	-
2. 65F rose, blue & black	-

c1939. Similar, ovpt FLOTTANT.

10. 40+9F grey, black & violet	-
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1940. Similar design, but printed locally, heliogravure.

11. 33+9F grey & black	-
12. 50,05F grey & black	-

DAHOMEY JUGEMENTS



1912. Key type, typo inscriptions.

- 1. 25c red & black 10.00
- 2. 50c red & black 15.00
- 3. 75c red & black 25.00
- 4. 1F50 red & black 20.00
- 5. 2F50 red & black 35.00

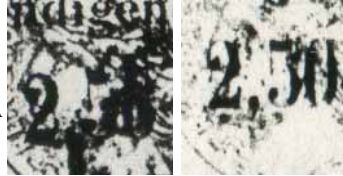
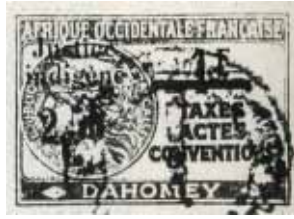
A similar set, but inscriptions handstamped in violet, was prepared, but not issued.

x

1926. above issue, additionally printed with A.O.F..

- 6. 2F50c red & black 35.00

DAHOMEY JUSTICE INDIGENE



1936. Taxes, Actes, Conventions stamp of 1923, ovpt "Justice/ Indigene", and double bar (one thin, one thick). Surcharge figure "2" has A) curved base, or B) flat base.

- 1A. 2F50 on 1F orange & blue A 50.00
- 1B. 2F50 on 1F orange & blue B 65.00

DAHOMEY LIBERATIONS



1910. Key type. DAHOMEY and text all handstamped.

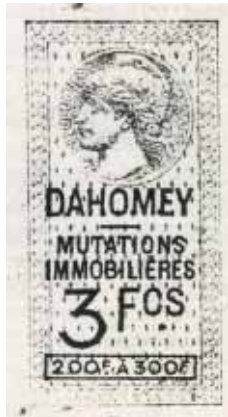
- 1. 0F10 blue-green & black 20.00
- 2. 0F20 blue-green & black 20.00
- 3. 0F50 blue-green & black 35.00
- 4. 1F blue-green & black 50.00
- 5. 3F blue-green & black 65.00
- 6. 5F blue-green & black 100.00



1921. Above issue surcharged, and thin bar through previous value.

- 7. 0,25 on 0F20 blue-green & black 75.00

DAHOMEY MUTATIONS IMMOBILIERES



1910. Key type. DAHOMEY and text all printed typo.

- 1. 1F yellow-green & black 20.00
- 2. 2F yellow-green & black 20.00
- 3. 3F yellow-green & black 35.00
- 4. 6F yellow-green & black 35.00
- 5. 10F yellow-green & black 35.00
- 6. 20F yellow-green & black 35.00
- 7. 30F yellow-green & black 50.00
- 8. 60F yellow-green & black 65.00

DAHOMEY MUTATIONS MOBILIERES



1910. Key type. DAHOMEY and text all printed typo.

- 1. 50c blue & black 20.00
- 2. 1F blue & black 20.00
- 3. 3F blue & black 35.00
- 4. 5F blue & black 35.00
- 5. 10F blue & black 50.00



1916. Similar, but DAHOMEY and text handstamped.

- 6. 20F pale blue & black 50.00

DAHOMEY OBLIGATIONS



1915. Key type. DAHOMEY and text all handstamped.

- 1. 0F20 red-brown & black 20.00
- 2. 0F40 red-brown & black 20.00
- 3. 0F60 red-brown & black 35.00
- 4. 1F red-brown & black 35.00
- 5. 4F red-brown & black 50.00
- 6. 6F red-brown & black 50.00
- 7. 12F red-brown & black 75.00
- 8. 20F red-brown & black 150.00



c1920. Surcharged, medium figures and long, thin bar 17½mm.

- 9. 0,50 on 0F60 red-brown & black 75.00
- 9a. longer bar (22½mm) 100.00



1921. Larger surcharge, short, fat bar.

- 10. 0f50 on 0F60 red-brown & black . 100.00

DAHOMEY QUITTANCES



1912. Quittances key type of France, with typographic 'DAHOMEY' in black.

1. 10c grey & black 2.00
2. 50c green & black 5.00
3. 1F violet & black 10.00



1916. Similar, but 'DAHOMEY' handstamped in black (10c) or in violet (V).

4. 10c grey & black 2.00
5. 50c green & black (V) 5.00
6. 1F violet & black (V) 10.00



1922. Similar, but 'A.O.F./DAHOMEY' in red.

7. 10c grey, black & red 10.00
8. 20c orange, black & red 3.50
9. 50c green, black & red 3.50
10. 1F purple, black & red 5.00
11. 2F rose, black & red 15.00



1931. Unissued 'Connaissements' stamp, as of 1918 but with 'A.O.F.', additionally with 'Quittances / Recus / et Décharges' and surcharged with three bars (two short, one long) through previous value, in blue (B).

12. 0F50 on 1F 2/10 violet & black (B) ` 35.00
13. 0F50 on control stamp 35.00



1931. Effets stamp of France (the type showing range of document values taxed), with 'DAHOMEY' (but no A.O.F.) and additionally with 'Quittances / Recus / et Décharges', with three bars (two short, one long) through previous value, in blue (B).

14. 0F20 on 30c grey & black (B) 20.00



1931. Similar Effets stamps of France, with 'DAHOMEY' and 'A.O.F.' (sans serif) in red, similar 'Quittances' typographic text, and one medium bar through document value, but NOT otherwise surcharged, in blue (B).

15. 20c grey & black (B) 15.00
16. 50c grey & black (B) 25.00



1931. Similar Effets stamps of France, with 'DAHOMEY' and 'A.O.F.' (sans serif) in red, and similar 'Quittances' typographic text, surcharged with three bars (two short, one long) through previous value, in red (shades) (R), blue (B) or violet (V).

20. 0,10F on 25c grey & black (V) 25.00
21. 0,20F on 25c grey & black (B) 15.00
22. 0,20F on 30c grey & black (B) 15.00
- 22a. missing "2" in "0,20" *150.00
23. 0,20F on 2F grey & blue (B) 15.00
- 23a. missing "2" in "0,20" *250.00
24. 0,20F on 3F50 grey & blue (B) 15.00
25. 0,50F on 40c grey & black (R) 15.00
26. 0,50F on 45c grey & black (R) 15.00
27. 0,50F on 4F grey & green (R) 15.00
28. 0,50F on 5F50- grey & green (B) ... 50.00
29. 1F on 4F grey & green (R) 20.00
30. 1F on 5F50 grey & green (R) 50.00
31. 1F on 6F grey & green (R) 20.00
32. 1F on 6F50 grey & green (R) 20.00
33. 2F on 1F50 grey & blue (V) 20.00
34. 2F on 7F grey & brown (R) 50.00
35. 2F on 7F50 grey & brown (V) 65.00
36. 2F on 8F grey & brown (R) 50.00
37. 2F on 8F50 grey & brown (R) 50.00
38. 2F on 9F grey & brown (R) 50.00
- 38a. long line omitted, and replaced with manus line (R) 100.00



1931. Effets stamps of Dahomey of 1922 (with sans-serif 'A.O.F.' and no document value) and similar text, surcharged with three bars (all short) through previous value, in blue (B), red (R), or violet (V).

40. 0,20F on 2F grey-brown & red (B) 25.00
41. 0,50F on 1F50 grey-brown & red (R) 35.00
42. 1F on 1F50 grey-brown & red (B) . 35.00
43. 1F on 2F grey-brown & red (V) 15.00
44. 1F on 2F50 grey-brown & red (B) 100.00
45. 1F on 3F grey-brown & red (B) 50.00
46. 2F on 10F grey-brown & red (B) . 100.00



1931. Similar 'ovpt' for Dahomey, but 'A.O.F.' with serifs, on Effets stamp of France with document value, and single medium bar through document value, in red (R).

47. 10c bistre & black (R) 15.00



1931. Effets stamp of France with document value, similar 'ovpt' for Dahomey, 'A.O.F.' with serifs, and further surcharged with three bars (two short, one long) through previous value, in blue (B) or red (R).

48. 0,20F on 25c grey & black (B) 35.00
49. 0,20F on 45c grey & black (R) 10.00
50. 0,20F on 3F50 grey & green (R) 15.00
51. 0,50F on 40c grey & black (R) 20.00
52. 1F on 10c grey & black (R) 20.00
53. 1F on 35c grey & black (R) 15.00
54. 1F on 40c grey & black (R) 20.00
55. 1F on 5F50c grey & black (R) 50.00

DAHOMEY RECIPISSES DE CHEMIN DE FER



1915. Key type, inscriptions and value all handstamped in violet.

- 1. 0F25 violet & violet 50.00

x

- c1915. Similar, but DAHOMEY in black.
- 2. 0F25 violet, violet & black 50.00

DAHOMEY TAXE FIXE



1915. Key type. Text and value all handstamped.

- 1. 0,50F dull blue & black 10.00

DAHOMEY TAXES, ACTES, CONVENTIONS



1923. Marianne key type.

- 1. 20c blue & black 5.00
- 2. 50c blue & black 5.00
- 3. 1F orange & blue 3.50
- 4. 2F orange & blue 5.00
- 5. 3F orange & blue 3.50
- 6. 5F orange & blue 3.50
- 7. 6F orange & blue 7.50
- 8. 10F green & red 20.00

The following further values were prepared but not issued : 1.20F, 4F, 7F, 8F, 9F, 11F, 12F, 13F, 14F, 15F, 16F, 17F, 18F, 19F, 20F, 25F, 30F, 40F, 50F, 60F, 70F, 80F, 90F, 100F.(Listed by Forbin, 1937 French Colonies edition).



1930. Effets stamp , ovpt "Taxes / Actes / Conventions" and three bars (two short, one long) in blue (B).

- 9. 1F on 4F grey, green & blue (B) 50.00
- 10. 1Fon 4F50 grey, green & red (B) ... 50.00



1930. Effets stamp of 1922, ovpt "Taxes / Actes / Conventions" in blue (B) (but no bars).

- 12. 1F grey & red (B) 25.00



1930. Effets stamp of 1922, ovpt "Taxes / Actes / Conventions" and two bars (one short, one long) through previous description, in blue (B).

13. 3F grey & red (B) 50.00



1930. Effets stamp of 1922, ovpt "Taxes / Actes / Conventions", surcharge, and three bars (equal length), in violet (V).

14. 3F on 2F50 grey & red (V) 50.00

DAHOMEY TRANSPORTS A L'INTERIEUR



1912. Key type.

1. 25c brown & black 25.00

DAHOMEY MUNICIPALS

Municipals may exist from the colonial era, but none are reported so far. A considerable number are known from the post-independence period, see under BENIN.