Africa long neck

The banjo was developed by West African slaves who were shipped to the New World. It has a long neck and a round frame with fur covering as a sound box.

Color proof of the 25-Francs-stamp in one and two color printing, Mauretania 1965



The tidinite variety Ngoni originated in Mali was imported to the United States by slaves.

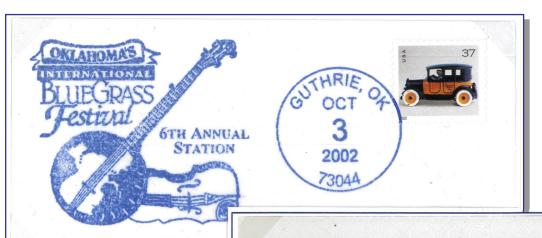
Imperforate variety



From this long-necked spit lute, they developed the American banjo.



In Dixieland music the banjo found an important place ...





... until it was displaced by the guitar.

Today, the banjo's importance lies mainly in bluegrass music.



