

1958/1959 Black Beauty Nickels

As far as I know the reference of the "Black Beauty" Jefferson nickels only refers to nickels that were only minted in 1958 and 1959 at the Philadelphia mint. Quality was a real problem and much of the issue is dark or black in color. The 1958 Jefferson had most of these "Black Beauties" where only a few 1959s were found. Black beauty or "sintered" Jefferson nickel is a perfect addition to any collection. These coins get their dark finish from being sintered or left in the furnace too long during the annealing process.

These coins, IMO should only be bought in uncirculated condition. There is more than one person putting up all kinds of coins that were in the ground for a while and turned black from corrosion and calling them "black beauty". These are NOT.

There are many other dates and denominations that have "Improperly annealed planchets" but they are not designated as "black beauties". Black Beauty is reserved for the 1958 and 1959 Jefferson's,

ANACS first coined the term as they were the only coin grading company in the early years. They still designate these with that term today.

