

Japanese firm prints needle-eye sized book

TOKYO, JAPAN: A book with pages the size of the eye of a needle has been printed in Japan, the publishing company said Wednesday, with each tiny page showing a microscopic flower.



This picture released by Japan's printing giant Toppan Printing shows the printed book entitled "Shiki no Kusabana" (flowers of seasons) next to a needle eye for comparison. (Image: Copyright 2013 Printing Museum Tokyo, TOPPAN PRINTING CO, LTD)

The 22-page micro-book, entitled "Shiki no Kusabana" (flowers of seasons), contains names and monochrome illustrations of Japanese flowers such as the cherry and the plum, it said, adding the 0.75mm pages are impossible to read with the naked eye.

Toppan Printing said letters just 0.01mm wide were created using the same technology as money printers use to prevent forgery. It has been making micro books since 1964.

Toppan said it would be applying to Guinness World Records to claim the title of world's smallest book, currently held by a 0.9mm volume published in Russia.

The book is on display at Toppan's Printing Museum in Tokyo, and is on sale, together with a magnifying glass and a larger copy, for ¥29,400 (US\$307).

Source: AFP via I-Net Bridge