



**Dr. Ockert Botha**

**World-Renowned Pigeon  
Veterinarian**

## **Pigeon programs - do you really need them?**

**Dr OJ Botha (BVSc)**

### **Introduction:**

Pigeons, more than any other animals. Need discipline structure and routine to perform well. To fully integrate the treatment of diseases with medicines and the maintenance of optimal health with vitamins and nutraceuticals is an incredible knowledge, experience and research is needed by the person that compiles the programs.

### **Why is routine vitamin and nutraceutical supplementation needed?**

Pigeons are subjected to incredible levels of stress and exposure to a multitude of infectious diseases and toxic substances. The stimulation and optimization of a healthy immune system via the correct supplementation are a prerequisite for optimal health and performance. Leaching of essential vitamins, minerals and trace elements from the ground and by extension from grain that is fed to pigeons necessitate that these are replaced correctly and scientifically via a scientific routine supplementation program. These programs need to take the needs of the different stages of the pigeon's life into account and needs to be adapted to ensure correct supplementation for that period.

### **Why is routine medication needed?**

Pigeons are notorious carriers of subclinical diseases, and these diseases often will cause no clinical symptoms. Pigeons do not live in a closed and isolated environment but regularly come into contact with other pigeons that also carry these diseases and infect them with these. It is essential to reduce the incidence of these diseases by correct vaccination, diagnosis and routine treatment.

### **How do you prevent diseases in pigeons?**

Correct and timeous vaccination is the mainstay of health and is by far the most important facet of disease prevention. Unfortunately, there are still many pigeon diseases that cannot be prevented by vaccination. These diseases need to be treated scientifically with the correct medicines at the correct times. Many of these diseases may be diagnosed at minimal cost with a microscopic analysis. These

include Trichomoniasis, Coccidiosis, Worms, Candidiasis and Malaria. It is suggested that pigeons be tested weekly during the racing season to diagnose the incidence of these diseases and only be treated when these diseases appear. The pre-racing and pre-breeding treatment programs however are essential as it is critically important to start the season with a “clean flock”. Some of the other diseases especially the respiratory diseases cannot be diagnosed with simple microscopic analysis and need to be treated on a regular basis to reduce the incidence and ensure competitive racing results.

### **Why is the Aviomed program the program of choice?**

The Aviomed program has been developed by Dr Ockert Botha. Dr Botha is accepted world-wide as one of the top pigeon veterinarians and scientists in the world. He has more than 40 years of experience with pigeons since racing pigeons with his father in the early 1970's. He has researched and developed in excess of 50 cutting edge pigeon products initially in the Medpet range and for the last few years develops all of the Aviomed products. Dr Botha actively researches the application of an integrative pigeon health program on a daily basis and constantly develops and improves the Aviomed range of products taking into account the latest research. The Aviomed program is adapted constantly and so ensures that it does not become outdated and less effective as the infectious organisms develop resistance to older medicines. When fanciers follow the Aviomed program they have the peace of mind to know that they have the ability to contact Dr Botha for advice and support in understanding and applying the programs correctly. Lastly the Aviomed program offers incredible value for money and is far more affordable than many of the other programs that have not been adapted or changes for years!

### **The Aviomed program offers you:**

- A cutting-edge scientific program developed by Dr OJ Botha
- Constant research and development of new science
- High quality products that integrate in an amazing program
- Efficient support to implement the program.
- Amazing affordability