

# **Scientifically based Pigeon Health Program**

## **will optimize your show season**

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### **Introduction**

The success of a show pigeon fancier's next season is hugely dependent on breeding and raising perfectly healthy babies that will grow up to produce the next grand champion show pigeon. The final culmination of your dedication towards genetic improvement, optimal nutrition, masterful stockmanship, and finally, maintaining optimal health in your flock is the breeding of an exceptional Fancy pigeon. Although genetics, nutrition, and husbandry are also critical, no sick or weak babies will ever consistently grow into champion show pigeons. Many sub-clinical carrier diseases may be transmitted from stock birds to babies, so it is also mandatory to ensure that the breeding stock is cleared of these diseases before the show season commences. The show season is the most stressful time for Fancy pigeons, and this stress will often re-activate low-grade slumbering carrier diseases that were not evident before. Having bred healthy babies, they will become healthy champion pigeons, and when placed back into stock, they will have a far better chance of breeding healthy babies of their own.

It is thus clear that maintaining optimal health in your flock is hugely dependent on ensuring the absolute health and vigor of your pigeons that compete in the show. Although genetic traits determine your show's success, pigeons must show optimal plumage, vigor, and health during the show. A dull looking, badly feathered, sickly-looking pigeon will never go on to be a champion at the show. In the final analysis, the health preparation before and during the show, followed by the correct post-show treatment, will determine your show results.

### **Principles of ensuring an effective show season strategy**

Compiling a Show Season Health program into Pre-show, Show, and Post-show sections is essential. Ideally, prospective Show pigeons (competing in the shows) should be kept in their loft so that their supplement program and treatment may be given to them separately. During the show season, the fancier will also need to use the correct Nutraceuticals and Supplements to optimize the immune system and maximize feather quality and vigor. These supplements should be specifically formulated for pigeons and should supply all the trace elements, vitamins, and minerals that ensure health by optimizing the immune system. It should also activate the thyroid gland to ensure perfect plumage and vitality. Lastly, show pigeons should also be supplied with an excellent pro-biotic and pre-biotic supplement to ensure optimal digestion and prevent overgrowth of Candida and pathogenic bad bacteria such as Salmonella and E. coli. These supplements should be started 4 weeks before the advent of the show season and continued for the full show- season.

### **The Show-season supplement program**

During the show season, the program is divided into three sections. The Show-season supplement program is the same for all three sections. However, three days before shipping for the show, during

the show, and seven days after the show, all the routine supplementation is replaced simply by adding AvioRotaban over the food twice a day. During this time, the stimulation of the immune system becomes paramount. During the show, whilst traveling, and for two days post-show, it is critical to add AvioLectrolyte to the drinking water to entice water intake and prevent electrolyte loss that will reduce vitality during the show.

### **Nutraceuticals and Supplements for the prevention of disease and optimizing plumage and vigor**

#### *Stimulating the immunity:*

The immunity of fancy pigeons competing in shows is often severely challenged due to the stress of traveling and showing. During the shows, pigeons will be bombarded by airborne pathogens and fomite-transmitted disease-causing organisms. Certain pigeons suffering from sub-clinical diseases will revert to shedding these organisms and may start showing disease symptoms. This is in part due to the fact that genetic predilection seldom takes the immune system of pigeons into account. Often, highly bred pigeons do not have the robust immunity that crossbreeds may have. Traditionally, Fancy pigeons have not been genetically selected for optimal immunity, and due to small gene pools, inbreeding is often found. The anatomical build of certain breeds may also predispose to certain disease syndromes. Deficiencies of certain vitamins, minerals, and trace elements also play a vital role. It has been well established fact that the grains grown in modern times are lacking in certain nutritional elements because of the leeching of these elements from the soil. The overuse of pesticides on grains also has a detrimental effect on grain quality. It is thus imperative to supplement show pigeons' diet during the show period with supplements that are well-balanced and scientifically formulated specifically to optimize the immune system. These show-specific pigeon supplements differ dramatically from chicken supplements and, in some cases, even from those developed for pigeons during the breeding period. These supplements normally contain higher levels of vitamins, amino acids, vitamins A, D, and E, and especially Vitamin B12.



#### **Advantages:**

Natural performance, fertility, and health enhancers are high in elements that support vigor and immunity in show pigeons.



#### **Advantages:**

**Multivite** is one of the most complete pigeon supplement products currently available. All of these elements have been carefully researched to work optimally together. The ingredients are of the highest quality available. It is unique in its complete formulation, and high levels of the elements for optimal feather formation and health are included. The addition of MSM is a breakthrough in ensuring optimal feather quality and health of joint cartilage.

A strong and healthy Immunity is mandatory in show pigeons as no number of drugs will ever be able to take the place of a healthy immune system. If a pigeon's immune system is not optimal, it cannot rid itself of the carrier diseases, and vaccination failures will ensue. The following elements, Beta-glucan, Avian strain Pro-biotics, Pre-biotics, Grape seed extract, Garlic powder, and Mycotoxin binders (FOS & MOS), are mandatory for inclusion in any cutting-edge pigeon-specific supplement. The growth of certain molds on grain will produce Mycotoxins that cannot be detected without very specialized tests. One of these Mycotoxins is called Aflatoxin and is well known to cause infertility in poultry, farm animals, pigs, and even dogs. A supplement that contains effective mycotoxin binders will prevent the absorption of these Mycotoxins. **AvioEntromune** contains such mycotoxin binders and should be given twice a week. Mycotoxins are cumulative toxins, and if absorption can be prevented twice per week, it prevents many of the negative effects these have on immunity.



**Advantages:**

Entromune is the ultimate weapon in preventing Young Bird disease, Salmonella, E. coli, and Mycotoxins in pigeons. Currently, no other single pigeon product in the world contains the amazing blend of natural elements that Entromune contains. It combines six natural elements to make it the most effective immune stimulant, intestinal protector, and antioxidant available today. Ultra-pure Beta-glucan combined with Grape seed extract and garlic combine synergistically as the ultimate immune stimulant. Pro-biotics specifically blended for avian use combined with Pre-biotics (FOS & MOS) ensure the maximal growth of good bacteria in pigeons' intestines, thereby reducing the risk of Salmonella and E. coli. The addition of toxin-binding natural salts reduces the absorption of mycotoxins and heavy metal poisoning often found in pigeon food and polluted water.



**Advantages:**

AvioGel is a unique powder used to ensure maximum attachment of any powder or liquids to pigeon food. This amazing powder turns into a highly digestible gel when mixed with water. The gel attaches

well to the grain and dries to form a permanent film around the grain, thereby ensuring that none of the added products are lost. It is fortified with Grapefruit seed and apple cider vinegar extracts to inhibit Candida and bad bacteria and acts as a potent antioxidant.

#### *Optimizing plumage and vigor:*

Fanciers need to use a specific pigeon-formulated oil supplement to add to the food. They should ensure that it contains high levels of Vitamin E and state specifically that it will stimulate immunity and support feather quality. It is also critical that such an oil contains the correct Omega 3 to 6 ratios. **AvioFeather and Immune oil** is a unique mixture of optimally balanced Omega 3, 6, and 9 oils fortified with optimal Vitamin A and E levels. It contains six different oils, including cold-pressed Garlic oil, which acts as an immune stimulant.



#### **Advantages:**

This economical but extremely well-formulated oil, made specifically for pigeons and birds, will ensure shiny and healthy plumage in your pigeons when used regularly. It contains a combination of 6 different oils known to be beneficial to pigeons. Feather & Immune Oil has been specifically fortified with high levels of Omega 3 oils that are combined with high levels of special ultra-pure cold-extracted garlic oil. The combination of garlic and Omega 3 has excellent immune stimulant properties. It is also fortified with very high levels of Vitamin E, which stimulates fertility and acts as a potent antioxidant.

The molting period and show period necessitate the supplementation of a wide range of natural elements that have been specifically formulated for pigeons and take into account the physiology of pigeons. This is a highly complex science; only an exceptionally scientifically formulated product such as **AvioMoult** can fulfill all of these requirements.



### **Advantages:**

AvioMoult is the ultimate supplement ever developed for use during the molting season. It is the first supplement to support feathers' formation, growth, and health on all the physiologically needed levels. In keeping with the latest avian research regarding kin and feather health, it finally takes into account the extreme importance of the balance between Omega 3 and 6 oils. This is ensured by the first-ever inclusion of Krill powder in the formulation. Over and above the inclusion of all the Vitamins, trace elements, and essential amino acids needed, it is the first to recognize and cater to the all-important thyroid metabolism needed during the molt. Including the perfect Iodine salt and Thyroxine naturally stimulates the Thyroid to initiate and maintain the perfect molt. Finally, AvioMoult is one of only a few worldwide to include MSM and Glucosamine as a superior source of the all-important Sulphur supplementation needed during the molt. AvioMoult is the first supplement to include Tryptophane as a natural stress reduction and calmative.

### **Contains:**

Twenty-five elements critical to the perfect molt, including Krill powder, MSM, Glucosamine HCL, Biotin, Zinc, Manganese AAC, Iodine, Thyroxine, Methionine,

Lysine, Choline, Inositol, Vitamin B Complex, Beta Carotene, Vitamin C, Vitamin E and Brewer's Yeast.

The Thyroid gland of pigeons is key to activating the molting period and the complex balance of hormones that regulates the molt. It is prudent for fanciers to provide a supplement that will stimulate the optimal function of the Thyroid gland by supplying the optimal intake of bio-available Iodine, amongst others. Trace elements, especially Iron, play a major part in the formation and growth of high-quality plumage. The uniquely scientifically formulated **AvioBludform** supplementation will supply all of the above at the correct amounts and ensure the bio-availability of the elements.



### **Advantages:**

Bludform contains a unique blend of Vitamins, Minerals, Trace elements, and Iodine that have been carefully selected to maximize the stimulation of healthy red blood cells and stimulate the pigeon's metabolism to ensure optimal vigor. Regularly using Bludform during the show - season will ensure top show results. Combining Bludform and AvioMoult will ensure the most perfect, shiny, colorful, and robust plumage during the molt and the show season. Bludform differs from other European formulations in that it contains far higher levels of Vitamin B12 and that only the purest source of non-toxic Iodine AAC salts is used during manufacture. It is extremely affordable when compared to similar European products.

## Medicines for prevention of disease transmission and treatment

Unfortunately, many proponents of the "natural way" will try to convince pigeon fanciers that it is possible to show successfully without using medicines. These "naturalists," rather than realizing the importance of combining natural products with medicines, much like their arch enemies, the "medicine men" who only want to use medicines, often serve their own selfish economic purposes and do not want to admit that by correctly combining the use of medicine with natural products health is best served! The judicious use of certain medicines before, during, and after the show will ensure the optimal health of pigeons going to the show as well as when returning from the show. During the three-day pre-show, show, and post-show period, the pigeons that are going to be shown are treated individually to minimize the effect of the dangerous sub-clinical diseases. Furthermore, we want to protect them against sub-clinical diseases carried by other pigeons during the show and treat those who appear to be succumbing to carrier diseases or having been infected during the show. Correct vaccination against PPMV1 and Paratyphoid is mandatory and should be done at least 8 weeks before the advent of the show season. This should protect the show pigeons competing at shows during the critical time of shows and ensure that they do not pick up any of these two devastating diseases at the show. Respiratory diseases (Orniplasmosis), as well as Gut infections Paratyphoid, E. coli, and Necrotic enteritis (Clostridium), are the main diseases that we focus on during the show.

Before shipping for the show, all the show pigeons should be treated with **AvioSpiradox** tablets. Although respiratory diseases caused by Chlamydophila (Ornithosis) and Mycoplasma (Mycoplasmosis) or the combination of Orniplasmosis are less prevalent in fancy pigeons, they can still cause severe clinical disease, and both are transmitted via the egg. So, once a carrier status is affected, it becomes extremely difficult to eliminate many of these. A three-day treatment with the extremely efficient Doxycycline and Spiramycin combination – **AvioSpiradox**- will again ensure the pathogenic onslaught reduction and the carrier status of pigeons participating at the show. Youngsters.



### Advantages:

For the treatment of Ornithosis and mycoplasmosis. Spiradox is currently the safest and most effective treatment for Orniplasmosis (combined infection by Ornithosis and Mycoplasmosis). The combination of antibiotics acts together to ensure that both organisms are treated optimally. The highest grade of active ingredients ensures solubility and acceptance by pigeons and reaches maximal therapeutic levels in the bloodstream and organs such as the lungs and sinuses. Spiramycin is a new generation Mycoplasma treatment that far surpasses Tylosin in efficacy and does not cause the drying of feathers seen with Tylan treatment.

Apply **AvioEctoBan**, the world's first spot-on formulation, uniquely containing synergistically acting Fipronil and Imidacloprid, to all show pigeons before shipping. **AvioEctoban** is an extremely safe,

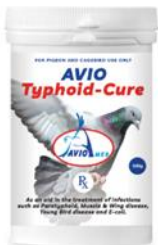
effective, and long-acting treatment against all lice, mites, and Pigeon Fly. It will protect show pigeons from being infested with ectoparasites during the show.



**Advantages:**

For the treatment of external parasites, including pigeon fly mites and lice. Fast-acting spot-on formulation with extended residual action. The only pigeon-specific spot-on formulation to contain Fipronil and Imidacloprid.

All pigeons are treated with the proven Polybiotic antibiotic **AvioTyphoidCure during the show**. This is the only proven antibiotic combination product that contains Amoxicillin, Furaltadone, and Chloramphenicol in the drinking water. It is maximally effective against Salmonella, E coli, and other gut infections that so often plague show pigeons during a show. It must be combined with **AvioLectrolyte** during this period.



**Advantages:**

This extremely effective combination of three different antibiotics acts synergistically to be highly effective against Salmonella (Paratyphoid) and E coli. Extended treatment for 10 days has been proven to cure most cases of Paratyphoid carriers and has no side effects. This treatment is far safer than the Enrofloxacin high-dose extended treatment.

Upon return from the show, all returning pigeons are treated with Avionaze drops to reduce the transmission of respiratory pathogens to the rest of the flock.



#### **Advantages:**

The combination of the incredibly effective and safe pigeon-specific nasal antiseptics with natural vitamin C makes AvioNaze one of the top eye and nose drops available to the pigeon fancier. AvioMed has ensured that AvioNaze drops stay in the eyes and nose for an extended period, increasing its effectiveness and reducing the irritant effect by adding a unique membrane adherent and coating agent. AvioNaze may be safely added to the eyes without any irritant effect on the membranes. AvioNaze is a tremendous aid in treating and preventing upper respiratory diseases in pigeons.

After returning from the show, all pigeons are dosed with an AvioCoxiWorm tablet to ensure that they do not transmit Coccidia and worms picked up at the show to the rest of the flock.



#### **Advantages:**

This product is a world breakthrough and is the first of its kind to be specifically developed for pigeons. So far, there is no equivalent available for pigeons worldwide. It combines three of the safest and most effective actives available. (Pyrantel Pamoate, Praziquantel and Toltrazuril) for the unique combined treatment of Coccidiosis and worms in pigeons. Pyrantel and Praziquantel are the two safest and most effective actives against the three most common pigeon worms (Roundworm, Hairworm, and Tapeworm). Toltrazuril, likewise, is the most effective and safe treatment against Coccidiosis. It also supplies a three-week residual protection against re-infection with Coccidia by binding to the cells in the intestine. This product is completely safe and does not cause any burning of feathers, so it is ideal for weaning youngsters. Coxiworm tablets are mild on the pigeon's system and will not cause vomiting or a loss of racing performance. Simply dosing one small tablet will eradicate all worms and even the most resistant Coccidia.



Finally, all returning show pigeons need to be closely monitored after the show, and any pigeons showing any disease symptoms should be treated with the ultra-broad spectrum disease management AvioTreasure tablets.



**AvioTreasure tablets** combine a unique range of highly effective ingredients that act synergistically to treat an exceptionally wide range of pigeon diseases, including canker, respiratory diseases, enteritis, and diarrhea. It is a unique, life-saving product in the treatment of pigeons where a specific diagnosis has not been made.

### **Conclusion**

Pigeon fanciers that follow the above show-health program will be rewarded with outstanding maintenance in the general health of their show pigeons and the optimization of their feather quality and general vitality during the show. They will find that they have far fewer sick pigeons during and upon return from the show. The program's cost is hugely affordable compared to the devastation of having quality birds perform poorly at the show, becoming ill and dying after the show.

To obtain an e-mail with the easy-to-understand Pre-Breeding, Breeding, Youngster, and Show season programs free of charge, e-mail the words "Send Show pigeon Health programs" to Foy's Pet Supplies at [info@foypetsupplies.com](mailto:info@foypetsupplies.com) fanciers may also visit the website [www.aviomed.co.za](http://www.aviomed.co.za) and look under programs and then download the Show pigeon health programs.