

Sandhill Veterinary Services

Game Bird, Poultry and Pigeon care

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PIGEON CLIENT NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2013

WELCOME

to our pre-racing season newsletter. In this newsletter our main article covers the effective use of disinfectants and suggests products that are safe and effective for use in pigeon lofts.

Office Opening Times:

Monday-Friday
8.30am - 5.00pm

Saturday
9.00am - 12.00noon

All other times by
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THE EFFECTIVE USE OF DISINFECTANTS

An effective schedule of cleaning and disinfection will reduce the number of disease-causing organisms to which your birds are exposed. Disinfectants work poorly in the presence of organic debris so the physical cleaning of houses and equipment is essential if disinfectants are to be effective.

Disinfection Routine:

- 1) Remove dirt and debris
- 2) If the loft was very dirty do an initial wash-down with detergent
- 3) Disinfect the loft and equipment

Detergents:

The initial clean and wash down of the house is of critical importance for a successful cleaning of a loft. If poorly done then the organisms left will be able to subsequently multiply and affect the birds again. Washing down with a detergent removes the grease layer from a surface and this then allows the disinfectant to kill pathogenic organisms (bugs) more effectively and so the disinfection procedure is more likely to be successful.

Disinfectant selection:

Select the appropriate disinfectant for each task. It is important to have a disinfectant that kills viruses, that it is safe for the person using the disinfectant and that it is also safe for the birds and the environment.

There are many types of disinfectants with each type having particular properties for use in different situations. Not every disinfectant is suitable for cleaning pigeon lofts.

Rotation of Disinfectants:

Acquired resistance to disinfectants is thought to be rare, and once a programme has been established using products which have been shown to be effective, then it is probably not necessary to think of changing the programme for at least two years.

For a broad spectrum disinfectant that is also effective against coccidial oocysts we recommend the use of **Bi-oo-cyst** in pigeon lofts.

