

Simplified Protocol for the restocking of traditional pigeon houses

If you need support to repopulate your pigeon house, or to answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Palombar.

Before starting the restocking protocol, it must be ensured that the loft's recovery/construction is complete and that there is no possibility of pigeon escape (eg roof). And that the drinkers and feeders are already installed and in full operational mode.

The necessary and appropriate material must be provided for the following procedures.

Pre-restocking Material:

- Adequate drinkers
- Proper feeders
- Resting polls
- Nest building material

Operator Material:

- Jumpsuit
- Protective mask
- Protective gloves
- Rain boots
- Hand sanitizer

Material required for restocking:

- Transport Boxes
- Poultry net with appropriate mesh for catching birds
- Newspaper sheets
- Disinfectant
- Shading net (for transportation)
- Pigeon rings
- Cooler Box
- Sample collection material (swabs; suitable vials)
- Ruler
- Peclise

- Balance

1. Pre-restocking

Attention: points c) and d) should preferably be executed before the day of restocking.

a) The Animal capture and transport

The capture of the rock-pigeons should only be done when transport is guaranteed and should be performed, whenever possible, moments before the transport begins. The animals should spend as little time as possible indoors.

The transport can be done in boxes for this purpose or in cardboard boxes, pre-drilled, for air circulation. If possible, the boxes should be lined with absorbent material (eg newspaper sheets) to prevent birds from dirtying or damaging their feathers. Avoid transporting a large number of pigeons in the same transport box, preferably never more than 10 individuals per box. Ensure the highest possible comfort for animals during transport.

b) Pigeon houseClasp

To ensure that the pigeons stay in the loft until reproduction begins, it is essential to close the exits. Ideally, a structure should be placed at the entrance of the pigeon inlet / outlet holes that allows the pigeons to come out with visibility into the dovecote envelope (rectangular structure with sturdy wire mesh and locking system); Alternatively, nets (chicken house) should be used to allow more light into the dovecote - other elements that perform the same function can be used. Ensure that the entrances are tightly closed and that there is no possibility of leakage. Do not underestimate the flight ability of the pigeons.

c) Cleaning and disinfection

Before restocking, the loft should be cleaned and disinfected. The main target areas for cleaning and disinfection are the soil, the table, the wall and the nest holes. After cleaning, with removal of organic matter, disinfection can be performed with 2% sodium hypochlorite (bleach). This prevents animals from coming into contact with any disease previously existing in this loft.

d) Feeders, drinkers and others

Prior to the installation of drinking fountains and feeders, support structures should be provided to avoid direct contact with the soil and consequently with faeces.

Drinking troughs and feeders suitable for feeding and drinking pigeons should be placed and filled with clean, fresh water and suitable pigeon feed. The placement of bird landings is crucial as it will allow birds to land in more suitable locations, avoiding

the accumulated effort and fatigue of the pigeons, as well as preventing the pigeons from landing on the ground, a place of contact with feces and inherently contact with several pathogens. Straw or similar materials should be provided so that pigeons can build nests (do not spread the materials so that there is not much of the material exposed to contact with faeces). If possible, other structures that are deemed necessary should be placed (eg small feeder with minerals, sands, etc.).

Check that all structures are fit and functioning to start restocking. Special attention to drinking fountains, check that there are no water leaks.

2. Restocking

Usually the number of pigeons used for a first restocking ranges from 30 to 60. This value can be adjusted to the dimensions of the loft.

a) The Sampling

When restocking a loft, the pigeons must be screened for health. This makes it possible to know the health status of pigeons at the beginning of restocking and to define the strategy for ensuring the pigeon's sanitary compliance. At least 10% of the total number of pigeons should be sampled, if all pigeons come from the same place. If they come from different sources, each population should be sampled separately.

Data collection (from each pigeon individually, 10% of the total population)

Elements that can be collected:

- Stool (internal parasites) - required
- Trichomonas- Required
- Biometric data
- External parasites
- Blood samples

Ringling

All pigeons should be ringed with washers appropriate for the species, and preferably numbered. Do not use electrically conductive wires or wires.

3. Nutritional Reinforcements and Preventive Treatments

Restocking, moving or transporting pigeons is an aggressive process for animals, and it often causes a great deal of stress on birds, especially when they are subjected to long

journeys and kept for several hours locked in the transport boxes. Stress levels vary between adults and juveniles, usually being higher in juveniles, and excessive stress can result in weakening of the birds or in some cases the death of some individuals. Nutritional boosters aim to reduce these risks.

Preventive veterinary treatments are a fundamental element of the restocking process, ensuring that the initial population is in an optimal or at least acceptable sanitary state. Preventive treatments consist mainly of the vitamin reinforcement of the pigeons and the treatment of coccidia and trichomonas. Treatment may be extended to other groups of parasites. When applying preventive treatments, these are always started with a nutritive reinforcement.

a) The. Nourishing Ribs

They apply mainly to young pigeons that have been subjected to a long stay in the shipping boxes. It also applies when starting preventive treatment.

Currently in use: SUPERVIT-VERSELE-LAGA®.

Short Description: Food supplement for pigeons with vitamins and trace elements. In powder, applies in water.

Dosages and methods of application vary according to the type of supplement to be applied.

b) Treatment

As mentioned before, the most recommended treatments are: trichomonas and coccideas. They can be extended to other parasites.

This situation applies mainly in three situations:

- Origin of pigeons outside the institution itself or outside the control of those responsible for restocking;
- Loft of origin has unsatisfactory sanitary results;
- The current health status of the dovecote of origin is not known.

Trichomoniasis:

Currently in use: TRICHOPLUS-VERSELE-LAGA®.

Short Description: Contains Ronidazole. Soluble in water.

Coccidia:

Currently in use: ANTICOC-PALUMBUS®. (being replaced)

Short Description: Contains Pyrimethamine; Sulfaquinoxaline and Menadione. Liquid solution applied to water.

Palombar can provide services in this area, either by monitoring repopulation, collecting samples to evaluate the health status of pigeons or by purchasing external services such as laboratory tests or purchasing the different medicines / nutrients used in their repopulation.