

New arrivals in lofts

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Canada.

"You should know first that Antibiotics DO NOT HELP for canker! We now have very good Anti-protozoals in the market to day to treat Canker. So products like Baytril will never cure Canker!"

When we acquire new stock, we must put them in quarantine. Then, it is good to treat those pigeons mainly before the breeding season or when the new birds are in the lofts. If you have a look on the One Loft Racing Pigeons, they acquire young birds from many breeders and they are all put together. When ALL birds are arrived, they ALWAYS treat for Canker, Coccidiosis and Worms. This is a must. In the fancy, when we buy pigeons from many sources, you also MUST treat for those three diseases. There are very good products to treat the birds.

Now, let's have a look on Trichomoniasis (pigeon canker):

You should know that Trichomoniasis (pigeon canker) is the most common disease of pigeons. Approximately 80 percent of pigeons are infected with this organism. The organism is a microscopic flagellate classified as a protozoan. Different strains, *Trichomonas gallinae* or *Trichomonas columbae*, vary greatly in their ability to cause disease. The disease occurs worldwide in warm climates or during warm weather. It may occur at any time of the year in commercial squab operations. Adult pigeons frequently carry the trichomonads without showing signs of disease. When the adult pigeon is stressed, however, the organisms may multiply profusely. In addition, the following preventive measures should help: practice a high standard of sanitation at all times; do not add birds to an established flock since they may be carriers (if birds are added, quarantine for 30 days); and provide a source of clean, fresh water eliminating all sources of stagnant water.

Please also have a look on the following Web Site for more information:

<http://www.chrissthlofts.co.za/health.htm> This is very serious because right now we have new stains of Canker. The antiprotozoal drugs which were used successfully in treating this disease, such as dimetridazole and metronidazole, have been removed (or about to be) from the market. They are no longer efficient.

SUMMARY

You have to treat ALL your birds from Canker (with appropriate Antiprotozoals) when;

1. You have acquire new birds from different sources
2. When you have had canker in your loft the year(s) before.

You have to remember that your birds will be mostly infertile for about three weeks

after the treatment.

The best time to treat is about 5 weeks before your breeding season or, when you are in the middle of the breeding season, when most of the birds are on eggs. Giving Probiotics after the treatment will help. Use the new approved products to treat.

Footnotes

1. This document is based on the VM75, one of a series of the Veterinary Medicine-Large Animal Clinical Sciences Department, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Original publication date May, 1996. Reviewed May, 2003. Visit the EDIS Web Site at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.
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