

## Aaron Hodgins - Maree Sires produce Winner - 3406 HOR08 BBC 130 Owners - 530 Birds - 590kms



Aaron Hodgins is the 8 year old son of Greg and Carol Hodgins and races his pigeons to his own loft with the Vitesse Club. He is the third generation of Hodgins that has raced pigeons successfully. Aaron generally gets Greg's latebreds to race to his own loft and in 2010 will get mostly cocks to fly on the basis that Aaron won the Maree Sires produce with a young cock. Aaron chooses which birds to hamper after his father has chosen those fit enough to race, and Aaron generally chooses the 'shiny' ones as his hamper birds! He likes pigeons and loves the babies.

He gets a great thrill when he beats his Dad - and in 2009 this occurred quite a few times!

Seven birds were purchased at the Sires sale (at the cheapest possible price) for Aaron to fly (as Greg had no intentions of actually buying any birds for Aaron to race!)

On the day of the race neither Greg nor Aaron had any idea what the possible placing might be. At the club it was obvious that he had a good time, and it wasn't until after 10.00pm on the night (and the results hadn't changed for an hour) that Greg was sure that Aaron had won the Maree Sires Produce for 2009.

Aaron decided that he would give the 1<sup>st</sup> prize to his Mum, and she has decided to purchase a new car with the assistance of the prize.

The local Messenger Press, Channel 7 News and ABC Radio all did feature articles on Aarons win, and the resultant publicity should have been good for pigeon racing in SA.

**HOR07 3406 BCC** raced Carrieton #1 (won the club) and the Maree Sires Produce for 1<sup>st</sup> MSP. Aaron raced birds in CA1, CA4, Lyndhurst YBC and the MSP in 2009.

Birds are fed a custom mix of 2 parts peas, 3 parts wheat, 1 part Maize, 1 part Milo, and 1 part Safflower all year round. Probiotics and oils on seed are provided and lemon juice is added to water after rain or on days of high humidity.

Turbosole and Resfite are provided twice a year (pre race and pre Derbies) and Turbosole is provided on return from racing.

Birds start toss training two weeks before racing starts from 50kms and get to 90kms before race day. Once racing starts his birds are tossed on the SAHPA race unit once a week with his dad's birds.