

## P&T Jeffries - First Young Cock Bird Nyngan - SA08 08937 BCPC



Troy is now the senior partnership in the P&T Jeffries pigeon establishment. His father Paul has had pigeons for as long as Troy could remember (he was 3 years of age at the time) and includes the 1<sup>st</sup> SAHPA Little Topar SAD 1990, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Marla, and 3<sup>rd</sup> SAHPA Coober Pedy. Troy since taking over the 'senior' role has gained a 4<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Moulamein SAD and 16<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> SAHPA Nyngan 2009. His 16<sup>th</sup> Nyngan was the first young cock from Nyngan was his highlight for 2009. His lowlight was a bad toss from Pt Wakefield in July! Following that toss the birds were extremely falcon shy (he lives in an area very open to falcon access), and it wasn't until late in the season that he was able to get the birds back to a competitive frame of mind.

The parents of SA08 08937 BCPC are Butch Abrahams Gurney (Old Port Blood) from Keith Saberton and the mothers of his 16<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Nyngan birds were nest mate sisters.

SA08 08937 BCPC flew Yunta, Little Topar SAD, Wilcannia and Nyngan. He returned from all races

in good condition and Troy had an expectation that he would come through with a good performance sometime.

Troy uses 40 pairs of breeders and breeds around 200 youngsters a year. These breeders are essentially Butch Abrahams Gurney blood and Troy believes that these are generally underrated in the SAHPA.

Race birds are expected to loft fly for around 30-40 minutes each day, and are hand fed twice a day. Feed is 40% peas, 30% wheat, 15% maize, 7.5% milo and 7.5% safflower. Feed is not varied much during the race week or the race year. Vitamin B is added to water from time to time.

Youngsters are added to the 2 yo's after they are broken in, and he aims for around 50 trained but unflown 2 yo's for the next racing season. 2 yo cocks are only kept if they have shown some potential. Toss training is started after the birds are confidently ranging and the initial toss is around 25kms. Five tosses to a maximum distance of 75kms are required before the first race. Once racing starts, two tosses to around 70kms are required and tossing is always into the wind.

The race loft is cleaned once a day and Troy follows Colin Walker's preventative medication programme including Turbosole and Resfite.

Breeding birds are hopper fed 60% peas and 40% wheat and are paired up during the last weekend of racing. Breeders are all performance related and this becomes a mix of best to best and line breeding within the stock group.

Any new additions to the loft are based on pedigree and performance and acquired as close to the performance bird as possible.

The prime problem for Troy and Paul is the trauma and damage caused by falcon attacks and Paul would like to see the West line retrieved for SAHPA racing.