

Ken Waters - Little Topar 10 Bird Special Winner - 11990 SA08 BCPC - 165 Owners - 1304 Birds



Ken is a member of the Para Club Gawler and lives on Germantown Road near Two Wells. He has been flying pigeons since he was a child and estimates around 40 years. His first success was clocking 1st SAHPA Temora in 2004 and has been pleased to add 1st Lyndhurst 10BS in 2009 to his collection.



The sire of SA08 11990 BCPC was purchased from Jack Vanderlinden and is a half Vandenabeele/half Flor Engels and the dam is a Flor Engels purchased by Barry Gould at a Keith Sagers sale.

SA08 11990 BCPC flew Hawker, Parachilna and the Lyndhurst 10BS in 2009.

Ken uses 30 pairs of breeders and breeds around 200 youngsters. Breeders are mainly Goodger, Busschaert, Alan Durraugh (Ireland), and some Flor Engels and Vandenabeele.

He times his pigeons using Tipes ETS.

Race birds are flown around the loft for an hour a day or whatever Ken can manage given his work commitments. Work was such that he was unable to race the SAHPA programme in 2009 and consequently has some 100 2 y/o for 2010 race year. Race birds are handfed twice a day on a mixture comprising 50% wheat, 20% peas, 10% barley, 5 % Maize, 5% Milo, 5% Canary and 5% Vetch. For the longer races he adds more peas and maize to the mix.

No additives are provided in feed or water to supplement the grains.

Initial loft training starts immediately the birds enter the race loft and tossing starts at 20kms some 5 weeks before racing starts. He expects to get up to two tosses a weekend (his only free time) and the last toss will be from 120kms.

Once racing starts birds are loft worked daily and get a 120km toss weekly. For the longer races, (and if work permits) Ken likes to short toss every night from 40kms.

The race loft is cleaned daily and medication is limited to only necessary requirements. Triple-X is his drug of choice when medication is required.

Breeding birds are fed 50% peas and 50% wheat plus some small seed for variety. Breeders are paired in October. He usually line breeds older pigeons for breeding birds and outcrosses or breeds best to best for racing purposes. He has been able to procure better birds as gifts from friends, but admits to purchases at sales for new birds to try.