



A sample of the Skyleader tracking system

run before reaching the coast. As you will see with the trackers the Saturday before the Young Bird Derby, the birds did just over 93 kms across the water. The Saturday of the race we did train from the usual place. Tom released the birds 7.45 a.m. first batch arriving 8.56 a.m. doing about 117 kmph, and with that knowledge, I calculated I would have a good time if I get a pigeon before 12.30 p.m. from the race, based on the knowledge that there was a 10 kmph NN West wind which was strengthening on the way home."

I separated the team I had picked out and locked them down for two days to freshen them up. I also changed the feed from Tuesday night until Thursday night hampering. I removed all peas so that my mixture for this was equal parts of corn, safflower, sorghum, wheat and a half a tin of canola. Now, remember what I said about ruining all of Warren's birds for three seasons before I caught on that something had to be altered in my regiment around the lofts?

I'll spell it out, the sprint and long distance birds never exercised around the box, trained or were fed the same. Each team was completely independent of the other and NEVER mixed. I train two complete teams for two completely different race courses and follow the horses for courses theory and treat them completely as separate entities.

By using the winds and gradually taking the birds further around St Vincent Gulf in the right conditions, I ensured they no longer feared the water and crossed with ease.

As a prime example of the superior flight data obtained, check out the SAHPA 2018 Ceduna release tracker link to indicate the data that Skyleader calculated on my tagged bird for that particular race, it is absolutely amazing technology and will revolutionize the training concepts in the future. You must put the tags on your best birds to get an accurate idea of what is happening, but you can be sure you won't clock them with the tag on, it may be the weight or something to do with the chip, I don't know." <https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20180815BYIUUC>

I thought I would test the trackers and I sent 10 pigeons to a 54 km training toss. They were released at 12.23 p.m. and I got nine together at 13.08.23 p.m. The tracker bird, one of my best sprinters was timed in at 13.09.32. That is 1 minute 9 seconds behind and I am convinced they definitely slow down the birds that have to carry trackers. It is interesting to note the way they deviate from the line, and I assume falcons have a go at them causing this straying off the line of flight.

Leading up to the Young Bird Derby my birds are trained every Saturday with friends Tom and Troy Tirrell, the distance being about 135 kms in a northerly direction. Tom had purchased some Skyleader trackers and offered to put one on one of my pigeons. I was intrigued after viewing the print out of the test tracking and asked Tom to order some for my use. I wanted to teach the birds to cross the water. Tom would take the birds further inland so they could get a