

TRAINING - FLYING TIPPLERS

FROM J. CULLEN

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FOOD: FOR BREEDING, MAULTING, BEST MIXED CORN
FOR TRAINING ADULT FLYERS $\frac{1}{3}$ WHEAT $\frac{2}{3}$ BARLEY
" " YOUNG " $\frac{1}{2}$ " $\frac{1}{2}$ "

GIVE ALL FLYERS IN TRAINING ONE SMALL LEVEL SPOONFUL
OF ^{LAVEND SEED} LINSEED ONCE A WEEK ON A DAY THEY HAVE BEEN OUT.
AMOUNT OF FOOD GIVEN DAILY $\frac{3}{4}$ OF AN EGGCUP FULL (4-5)

ALWAYS REMOVE UNEATEN FOOD AND FEED EVENINGS (SPOON FEEDS)

BIRDS IN TRAINING SHOULD NEVER BE TOO WELL ^{UP} NOR TOO POOR AND
MUST BE SEEN TO WORK, TIME FLOWN IN TRAINING (NOT 5 HRS)
DEPENDS ON WIND AND WEATHER.

ALL FLYERS MUST BE KEPT SINGLE PENNED, SIZE 12 TO 15 INCHES
SQUARE WITH SAND ON FLOOR AND BLOCK AS A PERCH (CLEAN
OUT DAILY)

FLY EVERY THIRD DAY, OUT ONE DAY, IN TWO DAYS ETC
LAST WEEK BEFORE COMPETITION FLY SATURDAY - MONDAY
AND WEDNESDAY THEN FEED WEDNESDAY - THURSDAY - FRIDAY
SATURDAY FOR SUNDAY COMPETITION, THIS APPLIES TO

ADULT AND YOUNG BIRDS, FEEDS VARY BUT SHOULD BE
SIMILAR, AS FOLLOWS, WEDNESDAY AFTER FLYING 5 HOURS
(UP) TO NEAR DARK (ALWAYS FLY AFTERNOONS AND EVENINGS)

FEED IN SPOONS. 1 CANARY SEED - ^{PSERICH} WHEAT - 1 MAPLE PEAS
1 ^{GRASS} TARES - FRESH WATER (REMOVE WATER AFTERWARDS)

THURSDAY EVENING FEED. 1 MIXED FINCH SEED 1 BARLEY
1 MAPLE PEAS. 1 TARES - FRESH WATER (REMOVE WATER ALWAYS)

FRIDAY EVENING FEED. 1 CANARY SEED 1 MIXED FINCH SEED
1 WHEAT. 1 TARES. 1 BARLEY, FRESH WATER (REMOVE)

SATURDAY FEED (8 HRS BEFORE SUNDAY LIBERATION)
2 CANARY SEED 1 HEMP SEED 1 WHEAT $\frac{1}{2}$ TARES $\frac{1}{2}$ MAIZE
FRESH WATER (LEAVE WATER WITH THEM TILL SUNDAY MORNING)

VARY THIS FEED TO OBTAIN ONE THAT SUITS THE BIRDS
MAKE SURE YOU DO NOT OVERFEED, BETTER UNDER THAN OVER
TRAIN BIRDS TO COME ALWAYS TO A DROPPER OR DROPPERS
I USE 6 WHITE DROPPERS BRED $\frac{1}{2}$ RACER $\frac{1}{2}$ FANTAIL.

NEVER ALLOW BIRDS TO COME DOWN WITHOUT DROPPERS
 (AND) THEY MUST ALWAYS COME ON THE LOFT, NOWHERE ELSE.

In January all flyers should be single penned and fed only Barley from then till re commencing flying, this will help remove fat built up during the Autumn and winter while moulting. you pin ⁱⁿ eye daily, ^{then} one day ^{sets} next.

Mate the birds in March, remove young ones when 4 to 5 weeks old but make sure they can pick up food, place all young together and keep one or two Dropper pens with them.

Pin them in the flight Daily, all day, bringing them in only at evenings, feed a little mixed seed and $\frac{1}{2}$ Barley and $\frac{1}{2}$ wheat, don't over feed and do not give any food at all the day before allowing them out on the following day, do not frighten them and try to keep them out on top of the loft for as many days as possible, for all this time they are learning the place well before attempting to fly, this is done by keeping them very hungry at all times, get them running after a little canary seed lightly flung to them, always talk to them so they know your voice, always wear the same coloured outer clothing.

During this time the Droppers always go out ~~to~~ with them, and those Droppers that are hens must be penned all the time with them.

Every time any of these young ones fly's off you must mark the Droppers, I find you should have a place or platform near the loft, a place you can attract the droppers to fly back and forwards, to draw the young back down on to the loft.

Also - to the young ones to fly to and from this

After about one week to ten days the young birds will fly off, but then keep working the droppers even if it is an hour or more still they return when they hit together and you feel they know where home is, allow them to fly with out the droppers, when they lower around home dont allow them to settle on the loft, put out the droppers to get them down.

Once they are flying 2-3- or more hours safely only have them out every other day for a while, then go to one day out and two days in system. Dont fly too many together, once they are settled and flying correctly, break them up into kits of not more than 5, pen each kit together with each having a block or perch, clean when the birds are out flying, keep a little sand on the pen floors, feed on a small tray so that removal of food not eaten is easier.

fly young ones regularly until they start moulting in the body feathers, then stop and feed best corn through out their moult.

The length of time flown in training must vary according to the wind and weather, on a fine sunny day with a fair wind let them out at least 7 hours before dark as they sometimes fly so well in these conditions it is difficult to drop them and you may miss them and maybe lose them.

When a pair of birds produce good young ones it is best not to part them, keep putting them together each season, if the young dont seem too good, part them and mate with other birds.

I mated a cock to different hens for 5 years before I got good young ones, and these same young ones flew over 19 hrs and hold the record in Bristol, as although the birds are all one strain

If birds appear to be flying poorly give an extra day in and a spoon of canary seed one hour before letting them out and they will perform all the better for it!

And if old birds clap and glide about in training cut down their food by 1/2 and this will stop them doing it and fly correctly, it is a case of either being too well or too poor in condition, so always watch them to see their style, but make allowances for weather.

Here is a list of corns and seeds you may use
Maize - Beans - Tares - wheat - Barley - Oats - milo
canary seed - miller seed - rape seed. Turnip seed - Hemp seed
Linseed - niger seed - great - maize (small) mixed fowl seed

only give very small amounts of the following in any feed
rape seed - hemp seed - turnip seed - niger seed - maize
all these are good but must be used very sparingly.

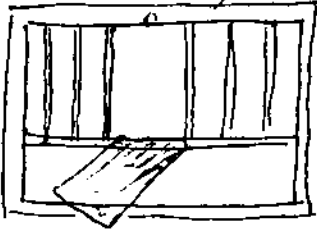
Dark Flying.
Fit up lights that are facing downwards and light up the whole top of the loft.

Train birds to show from dark and pitch them (still daylight) with lights on, keep them out on top with the door up till it has been dark for about one hour, do this every time but each night allow them to fly about 5 minutes near to dark, with care they will fly to dark within a month, but it must be done

care & slowly. if birds separate just as dark is near always put lights on and drop them out as they will pitch away if you do not, separating early in dark training is just that they are afraid, when they have seen more of dark and lights they become used to it.

So they must know you well and your voice, call them down always, even with great care you will miss the odd bird, it happens to us all, but if you watch them and have patience, most birds will come

Breeding pens should be about 18 inches long x 15" deep x 15" high, they need fronts as sketch.



The flap needs to be hinged so that it can be closed during mating, and acts as a perch later.

I always place colored slip rings on each bird, a different colour for each pair, and the same coloured rings on the young for easy recognition.

Only Breed 2 or three lots from each pair a season when mating place the birds in their pens with the flap closed, allow 2 pairs out each day to watch they know their own pens.

I use a little sand in nest pans with sawdust on top, I always give each pair 2 pans as they lay again before the first young have gone.

Young ones must go into the flight daily for at least 4 to 10 days with all the hen Droppers before being allowed to walk out on to the top of the loft, and should come inside at night when you call them in, they should follow the Droppers inside with out fear of you, when they do this it shows they know you and do not fear you, and it will when they first venture out, again great care and patience will be rewarded by few losses.

These things I have written has been done as I have thought of them so are not written in any real system, but they can, if followed prove a good start to a learner provided he does things as I have tried to write, I sincerely hope it does help, if so, I am rewarded by furthering out Spott.