

## Internal Qualities of Good Pigeons

There are very many beautiful looking pigeons with silky feathers, balance and buoyancy in the hand. Some of these are judged on external appearance, (phenotype) win in the show pen. In reality and to the racing fancier, very few of these will be good racing birds or champion breeders.

DO NOT be conned by sparkling good looks alone. What we need to do is look at the birds as a whole with our minds, with our vision.

You see, what really determines a good bird are the "invisible" factors. The genes and on a more apparent level the heart, lungs and the brain (internal organs), without the gene carriers for racing ability, a bird will never have the potential to excel in racing.

I recall my No 2 Stock cock (Brother of Dark Destiny), he appeared to be a small, runty cock with a flat head. You see he was a result of a brother to sister mating within an inbred family. Now he was fantastic as a breeder, Why? Because he carried exceptional internal qualities.

The message I am trying to convey is to look deeper and further, try and be at one with your birds when breeding.

Concentrate around related birds with top results, this way you may hit on the "Good" gene combinations.

The acid test is marathon racing over 700 miles, success at distance proves the internal qualities.

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