

## **Specialist Young Bird Techniques by Jim Emerton**

Young Bird racing can be very exciting and lucrative. Good ones will perform with distinction from 50 miles to 450 miles on the day of liberation. I look forward to the first 500 miles young bird on the day into the UK.

In the York area in England, my birds were twice first five open and twice first three open from 6 races with other positions. At the time, I was ahead of the game described as follows;

### **Feeding:**

Hoppers of layers pellets at all times. The birds were called in at tea time (around 5pm) to a mixture of Haiths Widowhood Sprint Corn, Peanuts, Redband (Condition Seed) and Brewers Yeast.

### **Water:**

Wednesday - Fruit Spoon of "Bovril" / Gallon Water  
Sunday - Fruit Spoon of "Bovril" / Gallon Water  
Thursday/Friday - "Aviform"  
Saturday (Race Day) - "Chevita Multivit"

Before Basketing: Mycosan 't' and Chlortetracycline & mixed together on Thursday and Friday. The Birds were psyched up to the eyeballs.

### **Exercise:**

The birds ranged the skies on open loft from 5:30am onwards (Summer).

### **Training:**

I liked a 90 mile toss on Wednesday.

### **Fielding:**

My birds sat on wires and fed on Barley in the fields around the village of Holtby, York.

### **My Secret:**

The night before basketing the birds were kept in the house back room with no feed and water in the baskets. They got warm and were really keen to get home.

### **Psychology:**

I mobilised the birds instincts to survive and get home as quickly as possible.

### **Result:**

It was a joy to watch the shiny beauties racing flat out to the loft.

### **The Strain of Bird:**

The birds were of the Emerton Strain 71 to 879 miles. You just alter the management systems as the distance gets higher.

Photo 'A' - Dorothy Emerton at 90 years old with "Diabolos" (pigeon aged 22) in the garden of "Sycamore Cottage, Holtby, York, England



Photo 'B' - Dorothy Emerton with "Freddie" and corn tins on a race day waiting for birds. She tended the birds until 91 years of age - "An Indomitable Inspiration"

