Central Provincial Loft
Sentrale Provinsiale Hok

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NUUSBRIEF MEI 2018 / NEWSLETTER MAY 2018

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Die duiwe in die Sentrale Hok is in uitstekende kondisie en gesond. Op die oomblik oefen hulle ongeveer ‘n uur om die hok en volgende week sal die padwerk begin.

Ek het al baie gewonder of al ons deelnemers besef watter moeilike pad ‘n jong duifie het voordat hy in die hok aangepas is. Vanoor die hele land word hulle per pad met ‘n geleentheid, koerier, trokke en ook vliegtuie aangery. Party neem ‘n hele dag en soms ook ‘n nag om hier uit te kom en soms kom hulle warm, honger en dors hier aan. Met aankoms kry hy eers kos en water en daarna volg die eerste paramyxo inenting sowel as kankerbehandeling. Daarna word hulle in ‘n ontvangshok geplaas waar hulle dopgehou kan word en seker gemaak word dat hulle eet en water drink en goed aanpas. Daarna gaan hulle na die sonhokke waar hulle tussen 3 tot 4 weke vertoef en elke dag buite kan wei om die omgewing en die “traps” gewoond kan raak. Na die tweede paramyxo enting word hulle verder verskuif sodat hulle bedags buite kan loop en op hulle eie kan vlieg en sterk word.

As ‘n mens in ag neem onder hoeveel stress so ‘n klein duifie verkeer sedert hy by die huis weg is en totdat hy eers teen ongeveer vier weke in die hok aangepas het, kan jy verstaan hoekom daar soveel siektes in die One Lofts uitbreek. So ‘n gestresde duif se immuniteit verlaag ernstig en dan is hy vatbaar vir enige ellende en virus waarmee hy in aanraking kom. Duiweboere van oraloor het hierdie jaar groot verliese gely weens siektes. Dit is ‘n One Loft se grootste uitdaging om die duiwe gesond te hou en veral deur hierdie eerste vier weke te kry.

Dit is dus van uiterste belang dat die eienaars hulle duifies goed voorberei voordat hulle na die hokke gestuur word. Maak asseblief seker dat u broeipare goed voorberei is en dat die duifies hul eerste paramyxo inenting ontvang nadat hulle gespeen is en hou hulle dan vir ten minste 3 weke voordat u hulle stuur. In hierdie tyd kan u hulle immuniteit opbou en kropkanker en wurms doen. Dit word dan weer met opname in die hok gedoen. Dit bied jou duiwe die beste kans om die eerste paar weke te oorleef en in die hok te presteer.

Die volgende groot uitdaging hier by ons hok is om die jongduiwe in die lug te kry. Weens die groot getalle, moet dit hok vir hok gebeur en neem dit baie tyd om almal ‘n oefenkans te

gee. Nadat hulle mooi in die lug is word die hokke bymekaar gevoeg om groter pakke te vorm. Tans oefen hulle in twee pakke jongduiwe en een pak ope duiwe van ongeveer ‘n uur om die hok. Dit is ‘n wonderlike gesig om hierdie groot pakke duiwe te sien oefen. Hulle word elke dag deur die oplaaihok en die trok se laaibak uitgejaag en is dus reeds goed gewoond daaraan en sal dus baie maklik gelaai word. Volgende week sal ons hulle laai en vir kort entjies begin met die padwerk. Ons probeer om ongeveer 1,200 km padwerk te doen voor die eerste wedvlug en sal oefenvlugte vanaf ongeveer 100 km op die Benzing webwerf plaas.

Die eerste wedvlug vind plaas op Vrydag 6 Julie vanaf Hanover. Die wedvlugprogram word hierby aangeheg en sal ook op die webwerf www.centralprovincialloft.co.za geplaas word.

JONG & OPE DUIWE					
DATUM	**RACE**		**PLEK**	**KM**	**ACE**
29-Jun	OEFENVLUG		COLESBERG	200	
06-Jul		1	**HANOVER**	263	*
13-Jul		2	**RICHMOND**	320	*
20-Jul		3	**DRIE SUSTERS**	379	*
27-Jul	OEFENVLUG		Springfontein	145	
03-Aug		4	**BEAUFORT WES**	485	*
10-Aug	OEFENVLUG		Springfontein	145	
17-Aug		5	**LEEU GAMKA**	524	*
24-Aug	OEFENVLUG		Jagersfontein	98	
31-Aug		6	**PRINS ALBERT FINAAL**	596	*
14-Sep	**SUPER CHALLENGE**		**MATJIESFONTEIN**	700	

The pigeons in the Central Provincial Loft are healthy and in excellent condition. At the moment they are circling the loft for about an hour and the roadwork will start next week.

I have been wondering if all our participants realize what a difficult road a youngster have untill setling in the loft. From all over they come by road, courier, truck and by air. Some take a whole day and sometimes more than one day to arrive at the loft and some arrive hot, hungry and thirsty. On arrival they first get food and water and then the first paramyxo vaccination as well as crop canker treatment. After that they are placed in a reception loft where they are watched to ensure that they are eating and drinking and adapting well. After that they go to the aviary lofts for 3 to 4 weeks and are in the aviary every day in order to get used to the environment and entering the traps. After the second paramyxo vaccination they are moved further along for free flying and honing their skills.

If one takes into account how much stress a youngster takes since leaving home until about four weeks in the loft, you can understand why there are so many diseases in the One Lofts.

The immunity of such stressed pigeons decreases seriously, and then he is susceptible to any misery and virus with which he comes into contact. Fanciers from all over suffered major losses due to disease this year. It is a One Loft's biggest challenge to keep the pigeons healthy and especially through these first four weeks.

It is therefore of the utmost importance that fanciers prepare their birds well before sending them off to the loft. Please ensure that your breeding pairs are well-prepared and that the squabs receive their first paramyxo vaccination after they are weaned and treated for crop canker and worms. This will be done again on arrival at the loft. Keep them for at least 3 weeks before shipping. During this time build up their immunity. This gives your birds the best chance to survive for the first few weeks and to thrive and become winners.

The next big challenge here at our loft is to get the youngsters in the air. Due to the large numbers, it has to be in batches and it takes a lot of time to give everyone a training session. After they are circling well, the batches are joined to form larger kits. Currently, they practice in two youngster kits and one open kit, circling for about an hour each. It's a wonderful sight to watch these large numbers circling. Every day they exit via the loading bay and through the transporter box and are therefore well used to it and will be very easy to load.

Next week we will start with short distances. We try to do approximately 1,200 km of roadwork before the first race and flights from about 100 km will be live on the Benzing website.

The first race will take place on Friday, July 6th from Hanover. The race program is attached and will also be posted on the website www.centralprovincialloft.co.za.

Good luck to all participants and may we all have a wonderful 2018 season.

Regards

Koot & Hilda Strydom