

## PARAMIXUVIRUSES IN RACING PIGEONS

The etiological agent causing this disease is a Paramyxoviridae.

The strains that act are different and we can classify them into:

Lentogenic or Mild

Mesogenic or Moderate

Velogenic or Very Virulent

Fanciers who have suffered from this disease often wonder why it was so strong or why so mild? This is due to the strain that is acting. The vaccines are manufactured with very little aggressive strains such as Sota or some that are a little more aggressive with B1.

The main characteristics of this virus are neurotropic (affinity for nerves) and viserotropic (affinity for all viscera).

## PREDISPOSING AGENTS

Malnutrition

Lack of hygiene

immunosuppression

Mycotoxins in Cereals

stress

## SYMPTOM

Nervous: the most common of these is Torticollis, Lack of Coordination to peck the cereal.

Digestive: watery diarrhoea, as a result of which the consumption of water is increased, even twice as much as normal.

## TREATMENT

Being a virus, the only thing that can be done is alleviate the symptoms with electrolytes in the water, defense stimulants, vitamin C.

## PREVENTION

Vaccination: Live a-Virus This vaccine is very effective, it is with the Sota strain, a dose of 5 drops per pigeon is given orally, another way of supplying it is dissolved in water 6 cm per liter of water and can be added a tablespoon of skim milk. Keep in mind that this water should not be mains or running. It is convenient to leave the pigeons at least 6 hours without water and then offer them the water with the vaccines.

The great advantage of this vaccine is that, being a live virus, it produces rapid immunity, after 7 days we already have defenses in the body and the downside is that this immunity is very short, just 2 months. I recommend this vaccine at the beginning of an outbreak or when you want to give a reinforcement competing

b-Dead Virus This vaccine is for injectable use with the Sota strain or B1 strain virus, which are found in veterinarians, the most common are for chickens and the fancier commonly calls it milk because of its white color. This should be used at a dose of 0.3 ml per pigeon subcutaneously. In the United States and Europe, a triple containing Paramyxovirus, Salmonella and Mycoplasma is being used with great success.

Killed virus vaccines need approximately 21 days to produce good immunity, this immunity lasts in the pigeon between 6 months and a year depending on the vehicle used for the vaccine, whether it is aqueous or oily.

The ideal age to vaccinate is from 6 weeks of age and reach the championship with at least 3 doses.

Breeders should be vaccinated 60 days before they are put to breed in order to obtain good immunity and for it to be transmitted to the egg so that the pigeon is more protected. It can be revaccinated 20 days after vaccinating the farms.

Can pigeons be vaccinated at weaning? This is not very effective as the chick's immune system is not yet mature enough to act fully. In some cases it gives good immunity and in others it does not. The ideal would be, as I said before, after 6 weeks.

The disinfectant of choice is quaternary ammonium and within these, Benzalkonium chloride.

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