

A new era in Avian disease management has arrived with the release by Vetafarm of **AVICLENS**. **AVICLENS** is a liquid antiseptic that should be used in aviaries to **reduce disease** incidence. The activic ingredient in **AVICLENS**, Chlorhexidine, is a very safe, effective antiseptic that has been tested extensively in Australia in birds for (4) years.

**AVICLENS** is at the forefront of modern antiseptic agents because of its broad spectrum, rapid action, effectiveness of high dilutions, innocuous nature and low incidence of resistant strains.

AVICLENS also contains a surfactant that prevents precipatition in hard water, so it may be used Australia wide, irrespective of water quality.

**AVICLENS** in the drinking water of birds acts to **reduce the contamination** of water that occurs very rapidly in Australian conditions. The growth of algae, fungi, yeasts and bacteria, is controlled by regular use of **AVICLENS**. **AVICLENS** is also active against some viruses.

**AVICLENS** is poorly absorbed by the bird and hence is entirely excreted in the faeces. There is a wealth of medical literature which demonstrates the absolute safety of the active ingredient. No known side effects have been recorded in the trial period in Australia.

**AVICLENS** should also be used when soaking or sprouting seeds. Soaking seed greatly increases the bacterial, yeast, and fungal content of that seed, which is then eaten by the birds and fed to chicks. The routine use of **AVICLENS** will vastly **decrease** the organism growth and leave the soaked/sprouted seeds much safer for the birds.

As a routine disinfectant around the aviary **AVICLENS** is also useful. At DOUBLE the in-water dose, **AVICLENS** can be used to disinfect perches, nest boxes, cabinets, etc.

**AVICLENS** may also be recommended by your Avian Veterinarian for the treatment of various diseases in birds.

As science begins to be applied to birdkeeping, the use of safe, proven products to promote Avian health will become standard practice. **AVICLENS** is just that. **Safe and provent!** The reduction in disease incidence that follows the regular use of **AVICLENS** makes this a **very valuable** tool in Aviary Management.

## **KEEPS DRINKING WATER SPARKLING CLEAN**

Sizes available: 250ml makes up 500 litres 500ml makes up 1000 litres Make AVICLENS up in a bulk container and use throughout the aviary and loft all year

## **Barbara Cunningham**

It is mentioned from time to time how important our wives are to us if we want to be successful in this fascinating sport of ours. Being a shift worker for the last 20 odd years my wife, Barbara, has been a great help with the pigeons, doing all the usual chores necessary to run a successful loft when I can't be there.

It wasn't until three seasons ago though, when our then 14 year old son decided he wanted to race pigeons but after being set up with a loft, the pick of my stock birds to breed from etc. he decided that it wasn't for him. To cut a long story short, my wife took over the son's loft and decided to see what she could do on her own the first two seasons were moderately successful. but we decided it would be better to work together in the one loft instead of trying to run two lofts. Not knowing what to do with the birds she had left Barbara decided she would have some fun for a while and fly them out this year. Having only 21 pigeons to start with she decided she would split them into three teams of six with three spares. We fly south one week and west the next and the west route is usually easier than the south so Barbara decided she only needed one team for the west which could go back each fortnight and race her two south-line teams every four weeks.

I think her results were beyond everyone's imagination. Her small team flew 20 races for the season only missing out on the two Young Bird Derbys because they were all old birds. In most races Barbara's six birds were home within 1/2 hour of the winner and we had a lot of split up races this year. Her south line birds were tossed twice a week from 50 miles and she lost one pigeon all season tossing. In about the first 16 races Barbara contested she lost five pigeons. For the whole season 12 pigeons were lost. In a club of nearly 30 members racing, Barbara won a 500km race and a 800km race. Was placed several other times finished 9th in

## PORT PIRIE, S.A.



Barbara Cunning holding her bird of the year, 1990.

the overall aggregate. She also had the bird of the year.

I have been the top flyer in the club for the last five years and I send 20 odd birds each race, but Barbara's little team of six put me to shame, quite a few times on race days. I am looking forward to having Barbara as my loft manager in 1992. We intend having a complete break next season.

A woman's touch certainly worked in this case and also proved that it is not necessary to carry heaps of pigeons to be competitive.

I hop this article will prove that the ladies are at least equal to the men in this sport if they decide they want to have a go.

The enclosed photo is of Barbara in front of her loft holding her bird of the year. Yours in the Sport, **David Cunningham** Pt. Pirie Homing Soc., S.A.