

Con Moukas - Marla Winner - 29157 SA04 BBH

Con Moukas, Broadview, North Suburban Racing Pigeon Club

Con began his racing career in Pt Lincoln in 1966 and now races from Broadview with the North Suburban club. He rates as the highlight in his career the provision of two squeakers into the 1992 Sires Produce, purchasing them back and winning 1st and 2nd. Other highlights include 2nd Temora 1993, 2nd Morundah 1993 (when only two birds on the day) and Farina 3BS when living at Craigmore. On that Farina race day, the bird won when flying in her second race and in conditions which did not suit (an east wind). His achievements in 2007 were winning Marla and winning 2nd aggregate points to Fred di Mella in a very tight contest.

Con races from a very well set up race loft and breeds using spacious single pens. He uses 50 pairs of breeders and aims to breed around 200 youngsters each year. The birds have been developed from two sisters he brought from Pt Lincoln. The 1973 hen bred 2nd and 16th Alice Springs (separate races), and one of these (a cock) when mated back to the sister became the basis of his loft to the current day. He added some Goodger in 1982 from Grant Patterson and shared birds with the late John Pryor. He currently has Janssens (Sheer Elegance) from Nick Brent and has gained some 18 SAHPA



placings with these crosses. Con has been a very successful flyer in Sires Produce races and uses these as a basis to fly and try pigeons.

He has purchased the TIPES electronic system for 2008 and notes that if he gets two or more birds to drop together, he won't be able to choose which one to clock!

Generally he mixes last years race birds with the youngsters sometime in April after the young are flying strongly around the loft.

Tossing generally starts around 3 weeks before the first race (around 40kms) then aims for up to 10 tosses to a maximum of 140kms. In 2008 he is



planning structured programme with a long toss on a Friday, then short tosses Monday and Wednesday prior to the race hampering.

Returning race birds are provided with preventative medication for 1 to 2 days (TurboSole and Doxy-T) and droppings are regularly checked by Colin Walker.

Losses in pigeon races he puts down to insufficient training on lines of flight (specifically the east line), and to assist in getting better returns advocates single line flying with rotation on a yearly basis.

Regarding the welfare of racing in Adelaide, he wants flyers to be aware of the broad needs and goals of the SAHPA and not individuals preferences when determining issues at SAHPA meetings.

Con thinks the current pigeon unit should be reviewed with replacement in mind, and this could be reviewed by a committee with a range of relevant expertise. With the right setup of truck unit and trailer, he feels that it could cater for both races and training tosses.