



widowhood

### **What supplements do you use or natural products?**

Harold uses many natural products and as little medication as possible. His natural products consist of garlic and onions through the water along with thyme, honey and brewer's yeast. As well as many natural products from the company DHP.

### **How do you feed and what do you feed your birds during the training period and leading up to a race?**

In the beginning, before the start of the racing season they are fed mainly barley. As the pigeons train longer, the food becomes richer and heavier. The food consists of a basic mixture from Beyers (Jellema Sport) which is used during the racing season. About 4 days before the long distance races the pigeons are fed extra with peanuts, candy seed, hemp and more fat-rich seeds.

### **Thoughts on medications?**

The youngsters and all old birds are vaccinated against paramyxovirus and in mid-March the old birds also for paratyphoid. For canker, the youngsters and breeders are never cured and the old birds only if it is really necessary (in 2019 the old racing pigeons have not been given a canker cure). It went well without medication. Harold tries to keep his pigeons as close to nature as possible, when youngsters cannot cope with it they are removed. Harold says when you do this for a number of years you will create a strong strain of pigeons.

### **What are some of your best achievements, championships, titles or prizes won?**

Harold has won many championships in the last 20 years. Too many to mention, but here are a few. In recent years he was 2 x 1st champion, 4 x 2nd champion and 2 x 3rd champion (2019 3rd Champion) in the strong long distance club VNCC.

Below are the championships of 2018:

Winner of the Super Cup Marathon North

Winner of the Ace Pigeon title for the Marathon North with "De Jonge Deugniet"

1st National Ace Pigeon NPO Bergerac 3 year ranking with the "Veens Blauwtje" (2016 to 2018)

1st Non-nominated Champion area 1

2nd Nominated Champion area 1

2nd Non-nominated Champion Province 9 East Netherlands

2nd Nominated Champion Province 9 East Netherlands

3rd Champions league VNCC

3rd Designated VNCC

5th Nominated Northern Union Champion

6th Marathon North afternoon release

8th Northern Union Champion

8th Non-Nominated Champion VNCC

9th National Champion Nominated

9th National Ace pigeon NPO Bergerac 2 year ranking with the "Veens Blauwtje" (2017 to 2018)

11th Marathon Olympiad Category E 2018 with the "Veense Blauwje"

**What is currently your best pigeon?**

When asked this question Harold came up with two names. The hen, "Veens Blauwtje" who is a super racer and the super breeder "De Deugniet" who is the grandfather of 2 NPO Winners in 2019 alone.

**Goal for the future?**

Harold's goal for the future is winning a 1st National Barcelona which he has been focusing on and has bought pigeons for the last 2 years with this goal in mind.

**What is the secret to your success or what do you attribute your success to?**

Harold says that the short road to success is by breeding a lot of pigeons and racing them and then having a strict selection, but also bringing in pigeons from the best fanciers around.