

Van Gent

• New Discoveries In Pigeonland •

This article I would like to inform you about a new and tested discovery against Raptors. Dirk Veldhuis discovered a new weapon against raptors. Dirk lives in Diemen, one of the outskirts of Amsterdam. He keeps his pigeons on a piece of land in the middle of nature.



The loft of Dirk Veldhuis, in the middle of nature!

Dirk is a specialist on the so called ZLU races, so morning release marathon races. In 2007 he was the champion on this discipline of the Fondclub Noord-Holland, so of the whole province. During that winter the raptors started to treat his lofts as the local McPigeon. It was like there was a giant golden M on the roof of his lofts. A peregrine, a hawk and a female sparrow hawk were haunting down his pigeons. At one time the pigeons did not even want to come out of the loft to exercise.

In 2008 he got from a friend a pigeon shaped wind vane. He mounted this on one of his lofts. After a year or so he noticed that this vertical assembled vane was bended. So he took a ladder to inspect the iron pole of the vane for rust. But the iron pole was not rusted at all. During the 2011 season he was with his loft to wait for the pigeons to come home from one of the big races. He was very late still there and then he noticed that the raptors were attacking his pigeon shape wind vane. This was also the case in the early mornings. The attack a shape of a bird or something that looks like it.

So he replaced this wind vane with all kinds of prototypes with double sided adhesive tape on them. With this he concluded that raptors attack on pigeon shaped figures. He found the feathers of the raptors back on the adhesive tape.

Then he figured that the raptors only learn from a pain incentive and not from a missed target, like a strike on a pigeon shaped figure. So he made some sharp pins on the wooden stool pigeon. And he made it maneuverable so that it could adjust to the wind and when a raptor did hit it would turn.

After this last adjustment the number of strikes reduced to none. It looked like the raptor alliance learned their lesson. They do not strike anymore on the real pigeons in the roof of the loft and the pigeons like to go outside again and exercise.

The peregrine, hawk and female sparrow hawk are still there but they do not attack the pigeons anymore. There are also less attacks



The old wind vane bottom with the Roofvogelstop on it!

in the air as well. This whole process took more than three years of changing and improving the product.

NOT TO KILL BUT TO STIPULATE RAPTORS

This called RAPTORSTOP is there to stipulate raptors and not kill. This in view of the fact that when the individual raptor keeps his natural habitat or territory, there will be no other of that same species in that habitat. Attacks by passing raptors cannot be ruled out of course.

Joy again

Dirk has found new joy again in handling his pigeons. This fall and winter he even trained them almost every day, a thing that he could not do for the last six years.



De Roofvogelstop or in English the Raptor Stop for sale.

He called his discovery De Roofvogelstop, in English the Raptor Stop. It is for sale now in the Netherlands. He only mentioned his discovery on Facebook and it is only sold until now by email and in two shops in the Amsterdam area. It is for sale there for 89,50 Euro. I do not know the price for the UK, because that also involves shipment of course. He hopes this is the solution for a lot of fanciers with this problem. He already got requests from Belgium, Germany and the rest of the Netherlands.

It is advised that you place one Roofvogelstop every six meters so 18ft. He produces the Roofvogelstop in more colours but the tests have proven that the black version is the one that is the most popular by raptors to attack. So that one has the best learning curve.

Dirk will have a sale stand at the Spring Fair in Houten during the weekend of the 7th & 8th of March. His email address is d.veldhuis@planet.nl when you want to make reservations, have questions or want to order the Roofvogelstop. Good luck!