

## PIGEON POX

All pigeons are susceptible to pigeon pox but it is common among juvenile wood pigeons which tend to get this disease in autumn. It usually presents



itself as pustules on the feet, beak and eyes, but it will often affect the pigeon internally. This photo shows the first signs of pox on a juvenile wood pigeon's feet.

Suggested treatments to fight pigeon pox are to strengthen the immune system with echinacea, give vitamin supplements, specially Vitamin A, and administer one pilule of the 30th potency of the homeopathic remedy Arsenicum and one pilule of the 30th potency of the remedy Rhus Tox every two hours for 3 doses each. If you see an improvement, stop dosing.

I did a bit of research on the use of Echinacia. One method recommended was to mix 3 ml of Echinacia Extract with 7 ml Lactulose Oral Solution (which is available from pharmacies without prescription) . Give two and a half drops per 100 grams of the pigeon's bodyweight. It might be best to give a single dose to start with and wait a few days , because one test in humans showed that a single dose boosted the immune system whereas repeated doses suppressed it. Otherwise a short course is recommended.

In wood pigeons this illness tends to become wet or internal and therefore is often fatal...if internal wet lesions develop administer 1 pilule of the 60th potency of the homeopathic remedy Kali Mur and 1 pilule of the 60th potency of the homeopathic remedy Nat Sulph alternately once an hour for three doses, then reduce to once every three hours for three doses...if there is any improvement stop...if there is no improvement continue this treatment for a day.

It might also help to treat a wood pigeon with pox with Itrafungol, as my research also showed that pox and aspergillosis tend to occur together and

work together, each making the other more effective. As aspergillosis is difficult to identify without a postmortem this could account for the high death rate if wood pigeons with pox



This photo shows the beginning of internal pox in a juvenile wood pigeon. It can easily be confused with canker, but canker would not normally appear so far forward in the beak.