

# The Pigeon Genetics Newsletter, News, Views & Comments.

## The Pigeon Genetics Newsletter, News, Views & Comments.

(Founded by Dr. Willard .F. Hollander)

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March 2025

This Month's Topic : {*"Tippler-Tossing pigeons of Bangladesh and their Racing Seasons"*  
by **Sabbir Hossain** (Shoibal)}

In the continuation of October-2024 newsletter on "Tippler Pigeon (Bangladesh)"; would like to share some interesting activities among the Tippler fanciers in Bangladesh. Pigeon racing is a competitive sport where specially trained homing pigeons are released from a designated location and race back to their home lofts. The winner is determined based on the speed of return, measured in meters per minute. But what we are going to share in the entire newsletter from the other part of the world is "Tipper pigeon tossing & their race" which is very common, interesting, passionate and a long waiting year around in making Tippler birds ready for the season for flying and race.

As we explained broadly, most of the flying breeds came here from Pakistan, while we heard about Pakistan the very first word hit on our head is "Highflyers", but Bangladeshi fanciers took this hobby to an extended level and developed Tippler breeds for short distance racing. Over the decade fanciers doing short distance races game among the clubs. In Bangladesh, tippler pigeon racing is a cherished tradition, with several organizations hosting events across various distances. While specific long-distance races for Tippler pigeons are still not prominently highlighted.

### **How Tippler Pigeon Races Happen in Bangladesh:**

Tippler pigeon racing in Bangladesh follows a structured format where birds compete based on endurance distance and flight duration rather than speed. These races are organized by different pigeon clubs and associations, mainly in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, and other major cities. Here's how the races typically take place: Race Categories

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## **There are two main types of Tippler pigeon races in Bangladesh:**

### **Endurance Races (Long Duration):**

- The goal is to keep the pigeons flying for the longest time.
- Can last 8 to 15+ hours.
- Birds must fly continuously without landing.

### **Toss Races (Short-Distance):**

- Most common and interesting; held by clubs.
- Pigeons are released from a set distance (e.g., 50-100 km) and must return home before 6pm
- Time is recorded upon return. Any one pigeon becomes “Pigeon of the game”
- Besides this range some extra distance game also happens as 110-130km, which is very tough for tippler pigeon & such game is very rare.
- Shorts distance also two types, one is called “**Game**” happen in between two persons, another is called “**Tournament**” which happen among a group of fanciers.
- In Game: Person decides pigeon release spot of opposite person, sometimes this game held up to 10days (5+5) each person’s pigeon release every alternative day, open side or opposite direction for certain km distance. Number of pigeons counts for every game day, the highest no. of pigeon returns home in 5<sup>th</sup> day, the person win.
- In tournament: Group of fanciers select a certain distance spot, and release pigeon altogether. Whose bird counts more, he or they win.

The **Tippler pigeon tossing process** is a method used by pigeon fanciers to train their birds for endurance flying and homing. Here’s a step-by-step breakdown:

**Conditioning & Training**, before tossing, Tippler pigeons must be in peak condition. This includes:

- Proper feeding with a balanced diet (grains, proteins, and vitamins).
- Regular flying sessions to build stamina.
- Establishing a feeding and watering routine to maintain discipline.

### **Loft Orientation**

- Pigeons must be familiar with their home loft and recognize it as their safe return point.
- Loft flying (short-distance flights) helps them develop homing instincts.

### **First Toss (Short Distance)**

- Start by releasing the pigeons a short distance away (e.g., 1-2 miles).
  - Ensure they are well-fed but not too heavy.
  - Observe their return time and behavior.
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### **Gradual Increase in Distance**

- Increase the tossing distance progressively, moving to 5, 10, 20 miles, and beyond.
- Conduct tosses in different directions to improve their orientation skills.

### **Weather Consideration**

- Avoid tossing in extreme weather (strong winds, heavy rain, or fog).
- Gradually expose them to different weather conditions to build resilience.

### **Group vs. Single Toss**

- Tossing in small groups can boost confidence.
- Solo tossing (one pigeon at a time) strengthens individual navigation skills.

### **Tracking & Adjustments**

- Monitor performance and return times.
- Adjust feeding, rest periods, and training intensity based on results.

### **Final Endurance Preparation**

- Bangladeshi Tippler pigeons are bred for short-distance flights & race (30+ kilo).
- Reduce food slightly before major flights to prevent excessive weight.
- Ensure proper hydration and energy levels before major tosses.

### **Best Season for Tossing and Preparing Tippler Pigeons**

The ideal season for training and tossing Tippler pigeons depends on weather conditions, daylight hours, and competition schedules. Here's a breakdown of the best times and key preparations:

#### **Best Season for Training & Tossing, Spring (March - May) → Best for training young birds**

- Moderate temperatures, longer daylight hours.
- Less risk of extreme weather (heat or cold).
- Birds molt less, keeping strong flight feathers.

#### **Late Summer to Early Fall (August - October) → Best for endurance training**

- Stable weather conditions.
  - Birds have recovered from molting (August-September).
  - Good time for testing various distance tosses before winter.
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### **Avoid Tossing in These Periods:**

- ✗ **Winter (December - February)** → Short daylight, cold winds, high predator risk.
- ✗ **Mid-Summer (June - July)** → Extreme heat, dehydration risk, overheating.

### **Preparing Birds for Tossing, Before Spring & Fall Training:**

- **Diet Adjustment:** Increase protein and energy-based grains (peas, corn, millet).
- **Loft Flying:** Allow free loft flying before distance tossing.
- **Health Check:** Deworming, vaccinations, and hydration control.
- **Gradual Distance Increase:** Start with short tosses (2-5 miles), then extend.

### **Before Endurance Competitions (Late Summer/Fall)**

- **Weight Management:** Slightly reduce food before major flights.
- **Weather Adaptation:** Train in mild rain, light winds to build resilience.
- **Solo Tossing:** Helps improve navigation skills before competitions.

## **Tossing Pigeon Food Habits & Diet Plan**

Proper feeding is crucial for training and tossing pigeons, especially Tipplers. Their diet affects endurance, homing ability, and recovery after a toss. Here's a breakdown of the best feeding habits:

### **Feeding Routine Based on Tossing & Training, Before Tossing (1-2 Days Prior)**

#### **Balanced Diet** (50% protein, 50% carbohydrates)

- Mix of grains: Corn, wheat, milo, safflower, barley, and oats.
- Peas & lentils (for muscle strength).
- Small number of sunflower seeds (energy boost).
- Avoid overfeeding—keep birds light for better flight performance.

#### **On Tossing Day (Morning Toss), Light Meal (If Early Toss) or No Meal**

- If tossing early, give a very small portion (wheat, milo, or safflower).
- If tossing later in the day, feed 2-3 hours before with light grains.
- Avoid heavy foods (peas, corn) that slow down flight.
- Fresh water before release (hydration is key).

#### **After Tossing (Recovery Meal), High-Protein & Recovery Diet**

- Protein boost: Peas, lentils, and beans (muscle repair).
  - High-energy grains: Corn and millet.
  - Grit & minerals: Helps digestion and restores lost nutrients.
  - Electrolytes in water (if long-distance toss)
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### Weekly Feeding Plan for Training & Tossing:

Day	Food Type	Notes
Monday	High protein (peas, lentils)	Strength building
Tuesday	Light grains (wheat, barley)	Energy balance
Wednesday	Mixed grains (corn, safflower)	Normal diet
Thursday	Light grains (barley, millet)	Prepares for toss
Friday	Light meal or fasting	Prepares for weekend toss
Saturday	<b>Tossing Day</b> – Light grains before, protein after	Endurance training
Sunday	Recovery diet (protein + electrolytes)	Helps muscle repair

### Water & Supplements:

- **Water:** Fresh daily, with occasional apple cider vinegar (ACV) for gut health.
- **Grit & Minerals:** Essential for digestion and calcium needs.
- **Electrolytes & Vitamins:** Especially after long tosses (replenishes lost minerals).

### Ideal Time for Tippler Pigeon Sports in Bangladesh

The best time for **Tippler pigeon racing and endurance sports** in Bangladesh depends on the weather, daylight hours, and competition schedules.

### Best Seasons for Tippler Pigeon Sports: Winter Season (November – February)

- Cool and stable weather.
- Less humidity, reducing fatigue.
- No risk of heavy rainfall or extreme heat.
- Longer flight times (10-15+ hours possible).
- Many official competitions are held during this time.

**Best Months:** December – January (peak racing season).

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## Summary: Best Timing for Tippler Pigeon Sports in Bangladesh

Season	Best For	Recommended
Winter (Nov – Feb)	Endurance racing, long flights	Best time
Autumn (Sept – Oct)	Pre-race training, young bird flights	Good for training
Summer (Mar – June)	Short flights, early morning training	Limited
Monsoon (June – Aug)	Rest, loft flying, molting period	Not recommended

Sharing some amazing Tippler pigeons & game winning images to enjoy...!































Photo credit for entire newsletter goes to: "Najmul Hassan Himu" (<https://www.facebook.com/najmul.himu>)

**And proud members of:**

- Savar Tippler Pigeon Organisation
- Savar Tippler Fanciers Club
- Dhamrai Pigeon Players,
- Bangladesh National Memorial Pigeon Club

**Same way others renown clubs from various state organize Games & Tournaments every year. Listing below:**

- Ek Jhak Payra Organization
- Bangladesh Tippler Fancier's Club (B.T.F.C) Tournaments
- Jessore Zilla Tippler Breeder Association's Bangladesh Cup

**Most Famous names for Tippler toss/race; are as follows:**

- Ilias shopon – Gendaria(Dhaka) - He is called as Captain in Tippler toss community
- Samsul Alam Liton – Khilgaon, Dhaka
- Rabbani – Kolabagan,Dhaka - His breed is more popular to upgrade tippler pigeons.
- Mahabub Babu – Kalachandpur(Dhaka) - He is 1st person open side 101km game winner.
- Masud bhai and Selim bhai – Lalbag(Dhaka) he is popular for Beji(a particular Tippler breed)

**"This is for the month, wishing you all the International Mother Language Day - 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 2025 "**