



garvo
professional food for animals

racing pigeons







Pigeon racing is an endurance sport, and all pigeon fanciers aim for improvement. But the first thing you need is a healthy pigeon. Top-quality pigeons can demonstrate their value only when their nutrition and health in combination with your care and attention are in balance.

When you want the best, you can choose from two food series: the complete **g-spirits range**, or the richly assorted **prestige** mixtures. **G-spirits range** is ideal when you opt for convenience and simplicity and when performance and health for your pigeons are paramount. The **g-spirits mixtures** are complete and easy. You only need one mixture for each season, and there is no need for supplements except for some additional sea shell grit. This makes the **g-spirits** mixtures first-rate instruments for achieving top results.

g-spirits

Feral pigeons feed on seeds, grains, plant buds and sometimes insects, all of which make up a complete diet. That's why pigeon food containing only grains and seeds is incomplete. Garvo add the lacking nutrients to the **g-spirits range** to provide the right balance in every phase of the season: our food contains vitamins, minerals, amino acids and fatty acids in the right quantities and in a highly diges-

tible form. This supports an optimum activity of the nervous system and helps reduce stress. When you feed with **g-spirits range** all year round, you will reap benefits in every period of the season.

Moulting

Many pigeon fanciers see moulting time as the end of a season, but in fact it marks the beginning. The pigeons

that you want to keep need new plumage. Their bodies need to be almost completely rejuvenated in order to return in a good performance next season. The food will make or break the quality of the 'new pigeon'. The right food at moulting time lays the foundation for the results in the new season. **7003 g-spirits moulting** has all the necessary nutrients for a brilliant new plumage. You can give **g-spirits moulting** until the last feather is half grown.

Rest

In their period of rest it is important for pigeons to get to the right weight and prepare themselves for the important breeding season. For the best egg and fertilisation results are achieved with slim birds. Fat pigeons lay fewer eggs and their fertilisation is poorer. You can reach an optimum breeding condition with your flock by using **7004 g-spirits**

rest. In cold weather you may need to increase the daily amount.

Breeding

When you pair two champions there is no guarantee that you will get a new champion. More important is that the 'chemistry' between the cock and hen is right. Love will give them the best squabs! But before eggs can hatch, there has to be fertilised eggs. This requires the correct hormone level, which depends on the pigeons' balance and condition. When the pigeons are in good condition, breeding happens easily. **7004 g-spirits resting** is what you need for the vitality of breeding pigeons. Feed them with **g-spirits resting** until the youngsters start chipping out. Then switch to **7002 g-spirits breeding** and increase the quantity by 20 - 30 per cent. **G-spirits breeding** ensures vibrant youngsters; it contains the









correct quantities of calcium to make strong bones. In case you breed in the winter you must increase the quantity of food if the cold is extreme. As soon as the last chicks are weaned off you can take care of your breeders with **g-spirits rest** until their moulting period.

Young pigeons

To ensure the optimum development of your youngsters, feed them **g-spirits breeding** until they start flying. The balance of proteins and fats in **g-spirits breeding** will produce well-muscled young pigeons with silky-soft plumage. Proteins have a great influence on the moulting of the smaller feathers, especially with darkened youngsters. As to the quantity of food, the rule of thumb is: ensure that your pigeons will want for nothing, and that all ingredients are easily digested.

Tip: once roaming feed 7002 breeding in the morning and 7001

g-spirits sprint in the afternoon until training starts. Then use just 7001 sprint. Adjust the quantity of food so you have control but try to feed until they leave some barley after each exercise session.

The races

What a big day when the races start! Your role is that of motivator. Your pigeons return to their homes more for the ambiance in their lofts than for their mates, their eggs or their young. Your effort makes all the difference!

The amount of fuel that you give your pigeons is also based on the oils in **7001 g-spirits sprint** and **7000 g-spirits marathon**. Nowadays, fats (oils) are more frequently used instead of proteins as fuel during the race.

G-spirits sprint no longer differentiates between preparation for a short or middle-long race, because condition and form are of major importance for both kinds of races. A skater will not





prepare himself differently for a five-mile than for a ten-mile race. The main difference is the training.

You encourage your pigeons, and the right amount of food is just a matter of good sense. However, you may decide to let your pigeons to eat their fill just before longer or heavier races.

You can follow the entire **g-spirits** diet plan for young pigeons, cock-birds and widowhood hens, but the latter can be fed more scantily or poorly with barley. Widowhood pigeons that are not in competition can be fed with **g-spirits rest**, but you should not overfeed them.

An important aspect is that the pigeons must have enough fuel for their race. That is, their tank must never be empty during their race, but too full a tank is deadweight. **G-spirits sprint** is the complete diet for short and middle-long distance races, and no

supplements at all are required.

For long and overnight distances, **g-spirits marathon** is the only food you need. **G-spirits marathon** is so tasty for pigeons that it's a feast, and they eat plenty of it. **G-spirits sprint** and **marathon** are mainly based on the activity of oils as the source of energy. The ethereal oils with omega 3 and 6 fatty acids in **g-spirits** act as clean fuel. Providing oils as fuel for pigeons is not new, but the trick is to provide the various oils in the right proportion.

The mix of oils in **g-spirits sprint** and **g-spirits marathon** is carefully composed and ensures:

- I that the food reserves (glycogen) in their muscles is not affected, and at the same time allows the pigeon to store more glycogen in the muscles;
- I that the pigeon's muscles can use more oxygen to break down the glycogen into ATP when they get used

to this oil mix. The more oxygen used, the less lactic acid produced. Lactic acid causes fatigue and stiffness;

I a calming effect on the nerve system. This raises the pigeons' pain threshold, so that they do not give up easily.

All in all, the oils from **g-spirits sprint** and **g-spirits marathon** ensure that much more energy can be stored in

the pigeon's body while also reducing the amount of waste matters (lactic acid) released during its race.

The result is that the pigeon remains fit and supple for longer. Feeding a depurative mix is therefore not needed after races. Of course, there are other components besides the essential oils which play a vital role in the food. For example, amino acids in the pellets counteracts early moulting.

G-spirits feeding schedule

Feeding the **g-spirit** range is the simplest system on the market: after every exercise session feed them until they leave a small amount of barley. Tip: until they get used to eating **g-spirit** feed them in small amount so they eat everything before giving them more. Then feed until they leave a small amount of barley every time. Then it is obvious they have eaten enough whatever the weather conditions or workload is.

Short and middle-long distance races (up to 8 race hours at the most)

feeding	after the race	sunday to thursday	friday basketing day
morning	as much g-spirits sprint as they can eat	g-spirits sprint	g-spirits sprint or 3864 super energy
evening		g- spirits sprint	

You may increase the quantity when the weather is cold in spring







Long distance

feeding	after the race	sunday to tuesday	wednesday	thursday basketing day
morning	as much g-spirits sprint as they can eat	g-spirits marathon	g-spirits marathon feed as much as they can eat for the night	g-spirits marathon feed as much as they can eat for the night
evening		g- spirits marathon		

If you let your pigeon race in day races every other week, then give them **g-spirits marathon** during the week they are lofted. Keep the amount down. Do not give them too much. When the training intensity is low you can feed them a bit more scantily by adding **5433 depurative** or barley.

Extreme distance races

	week 1 pigeons stay at home		week 2 pigeons stay at home	week 3 pigeons are made ready for their race	
feeding	after the race	sunday to saturday	sunday to friday	saturday to monday	tuesday basketing day
morning	g-spirits marathon as much as they can eat until they leave some barley	g-spirits marathon	g-spirits marathon	g-spirits marathon as much as they can eat	g-spirits marathon as much as they can eat
evening		g- spirits marathon	g- spirits marathon		

If you train the pigeons sufficiently in the weeks that they are home you can give them **g-spirits marathon**. If you don't, feed more scantily.

health

When you give the **g-spirits** mixtures you are always providing all the necessary nutrients. With **g-spirits**, pigeons gradually build up more resistance and become much less vulnerable to stress. It is better not to give any additional products when you use **g-spirits**. Extra support or treatments should only be given if a pigeon is out of sorts and we would recommend **9525 profi-teck**.

E-coli and other intestinal complaints

Bacteria will have a chance to multiply if resistance is under pressure. This often happens when stress is involved. And in pigeon racing, stress is all part of the game. Just think of youngsters being weaned, getting solid food for the first time, being trained for the first time or basketed,

transported and so on. All these situations are stressful and, consequently, lower the pigeon's resistance.

What would you rather do to stay healthy, eat an apple every day or take medication? Prevention is preferable to the cure. That is why you should be conscious about your pigeons food and keep them healthy. And if the e-coli actually strikes, there is an easy way to help your pigeons with **9525 profi-teck**. **Profi-teck** removes these evildoers together with the droppings and restores the balance in the digestive system.

Clean air tracts

Pigeons' air tracts must be absolutely clean, otherwise they can never perform optimally. Give treatments only when absolutely necessary. As a means to keeping your birds





healthy, Garvo prefers a wholesome diet above preventative treatments. Providing **g-spirits** feeds will support your pigeons' health by building up and maintaining their resistance. But

when it is necessary to give treatments, try to do this at the beginning of the week. Consult a proper vet if you are worried.

prestige pigeon food

If you opt for a well-assorted mixture to get a step up in the homing pigeon sport, then **prestige pigeon food** may be the answer. The **prestige pigeon food** are easy to use and the rich composition guarantees the desired result in every season. You may complement the mixtures with **g-spirits solution**.

Moulting and wintertime

When you want your pigeons to have a beautiful plumage, they need the right nutrients, especially proteins. The richly assorted **5583 prestige moulting** provides sound nutrition

during their moult. Give **prestige moulting** when the last feather is half grown and add one quarter of barley to the food. This will bring the pigeons in a slim condition, which is necessary for good breeding results. This special food for moulting time is completed by adding one-third part of **g-spirits solution**.

Breeding

A good condition of the breeding couples ensures well-fertilised eggs. You can give a resting food until the chicks have hatched. Then switch to two-thirds of **5582 prestige breeding**





start with prestige g-spirits solution

Mixtures that contain only grains and seeds will not do for pigeons. If they are not supplemented, they will use up their reserves and this may cause problems. **3864 G-spirits solution** is an additional pigeon food with a concentrated pellet. This is unrelated to the other **g-spirits mixtures** and contributes greatly to the resistance and vitality of your pigeons. Add one-third to the 'usual' pigeon food, such as the **prestige** mixtures, and your pigeons are provided with all the necessary nutrients.

when breeding profi-calcium

9518 Profi-calcium is a mixture of highly digestible minerals, and that is the reasons why pigeons only need small quantities. **profi-calcium** is very suitable for forming the egg shell and skeleton in growing, young pigeons. For a week's feeding, mix one level tablespoonful with 1 kilogram of food.

when breeding garvo-cyme

For a long time, **9508 Garvo-cyme** has proven to be a valuable supplement for your pigeons. **Garvo-cyme** is based on baking yeast and contains the necessary protein and vitamins. For this reason, it can serve as additional food for your pigeons.





and one-third of **g-spirits solution**. Increase the food quantity with 20 - 30 per cent from the time the chicks have hatched and also scatter some **profi-calcium** on their food once a week. When they breed in winter, increase the quantity of food if the cold is extreme. After weaning the last youngster, you can add about 20 per cent of barley to the breeders' food until their moulting time.

Young pigeons

To help the squabs get used to solid food after weaning and to make sure they get all the vital nutrients, there is **5587 prestige junior growing**. **Prestige junior growing** contains small peas and small kernels of maize, which can easily and promptly be digested by young pigeons. When combined with one-third part of **g-spirits solution** and

profi-calcium scattered on the food once a week, it guarantees a perfect development of the squabs. You can start with **5586 prestige junior racing** from the time they fly out. It's a first-rate race food for your young birds. Add one-third of **g-spirits solution** to complete the food. A very simple feeding program for caring for your young birds is listed on the website www.garvo.eu

The racing period

The richly assorted **5581 prestige racing** is the basic food in the period that they fly. The survey below applies to cock-birds and widowhood hens. This assortment can be supplemented by adding one-third part of **g-spirits solution**. A pigeon takes in about 30 grams of food a day. You can adapt the quantity when necessary.

prestige racing schedule

Short distance

feeding	after flying	sunday	monday to thursday	friday <small>basketing day</small>
morning	prestige racing full trough	2/3 depurative 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution
evening		2/3 depurative 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution	

Middle-long distance (not more than 8 racing hours)

feeding	after flying	sunday	monday to thursday	wednesday and thursday	friday <small>basketing day</small>
morning	prestige racing full trough	2/3 depurative 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution	1/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution 1/3 super energy	1/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution 1/3 super energy
evening		the same as in the morning	the same as in the morning	the same as in the morning	

When you basket them on thursday start giving super energy one day earlier

Long distance in daytime, with basketing every week (8 to 10 racing hours)

feeding	after flying	sunday	monday and tuesday	wednesday	thursday <small>basketing day</small>
morning	prestige racing full trough	2/3 depurative 1/3 g-spirits solution	1/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution 1/3 super energie	2/3 HE 4000 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution feed plenty
evening		the same as in the morning	the same as in the morning	the same as in the morning feed plenty, for a full crop at night	

If your pigeon races during the day every other week, give them 2/3 **prestige racing** and 1/3 **g-spirits solution** during the week they are lofted. Keep the amount down, do not give them too much. When the training intensity is low you can feed them a bit more scantily by adding **depurative** or barley.





Overnight distance

	week 1 pigeons are staying home		week 2 pigeons are staying home	week 3 pigeons are getting ready for the race
feeding	after flying	sunday to saturday	sunday to friday	saturday until basketing
morning	prestige racing	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 HE 4000 1/3 g-spirits solution feed plenty
evening		2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 prestige racing 1/3 g-spirits solution	2/3 HE 4000 1/3 g-spirits solution feed plenty, with a full crop for the night.

Give two-thirds **prestige racing** to one-third part **g-spirits solution** during the weeks that the pigeons are roosting and training. If you don't train them in these weeks, feed them more scantily by adding some **depurative** or barley.

Prestige easy

If you cannot handle difficult schedules, have very little time or work irregular hours and someone else must take care of your pigeons, then **5588 prestige easy** is just the thing for you. Just give **prestige easy** every day of the week during the racing season. Your pigeons will get all

the necessary nutrients for their races just by adjusting the quantity of food. You just gradually increase the quantity of food during the week, that's all. The food is complete by adding **g-spirits solution**. This feed system is very simple, and is listed on www.garvo.eu.

compositions g-spirits

g-spirits pigeon food

7002 g-spirits breeding		7001 g-spirits sprint		7000 g-spirits marathon		7003 g-spirits moulting		7004 g-spirits rest		3864 g-spirits solution	
cribs maize	15	cribs maize	33	cribs maize	30	g-spirits protein pellets	15	pigeon barley	24	broken cribs maize	35
green peas	14	g-spirits energy pellets	15	g-spirits energy pellets	15	cribs maize	14	cribs maize	14	sorghum	12
sorghum	13	sorghum	13	sorghum	10	sorghum	11	sorghum	13	pigeon barley	12
g-spirits protein pellets	10	pigeon barley	11,5	safflower	8	pigeon barley	10	g-spirits protein pellets	10	solution pellets	10
pigeon wheat	7,5	safflower	7	pigeon barley	7	green peas	10	pigeon wheat	9,5	little green peas	5
safflower	7	paddyrice	7	paddyrice	6	pigeon wheat	7,5	green peas	7	paddyrice	4
plate maize	6	hempseed	5	hempseed	5	safflower	6	plate maize	5	toasted soybeans	3
yellow peas	5	white dari	3	little green peas	5	plate maize	5	paddyrice	5	linseeds	3
paddyrice	5	toasted soybeans	2,5	toasted soybeans	4,5	paddyrice	4	white dari	5	safflower	3
toasted soybeans	5	mungbeans	2	linseeds	3	white dari	4	mungbeans	2,5	yellow millet	2,5
white dari	5	ethereal oil	1	ethereal oil	2,5	yellow peas	4	yellow peas	2	solution oil	2,5
maple peas	5			mungbeans	2	mungbeans	2,5	safflower	2	lentils	2
mungbeans	2,5			vetches	2	linseeds	2	oats	1	hempseed	2
						maple peas	2			peeled oats	2
						turnip rapeseed	1,5			buckwheat	1
						striped sunflowerseed	1,5			vetches	1
crude protein	20,7		12,6		14,2		14,5		12,5		12,4
crude fat	10,0		7,9		10,7		5,8		3,0		7,9
crude fibre	5,5		6,0		6,6		5,9		4,3		4,8
crude ash	2,9		2,9		3,2		4,0		3,2		3,3
Ca	0,40		0,22		0,24		0,59		0,40		0,14
P	0,41		0,40		0,42		0,41		0,36		0,32
vitamin A	3750		3750		3750		3750		2500		5000
vitamin D3	375		375		375		375		250		500
vitamin E	38		72		122		38		25		121

prestige pigeon food

5582 prestige breeding		5581 prestige racing		5583 prestige moulting		5588 prestige easy		5587 prestige junior growing		5586 prestige junior racing	
cribs maize	14	cribs maize	23	pigeon wheat	18	cribs maize	17	little green peas	20	cribs maize	18
sorghum	13	sorghum	14	cribs maize	17	sorghum	12	pigeon wheat	17,5	pigeon wheat	11,5
pigeon wheat	10	plate maize	10	yellow peas	10	white dari	12	popcorn maize	12,5	pigeon barley	11
green peas	10	pigeon wheat	8	green peas	9	paddyrice	8	sorghum	10	safflower	10
yellow peas	8	white dari	8	sorghum	5	pigeon barley	7,5	yellow peas	10	sorghum	10
safflower	7	green peas	6	white dari	5	safflower	5	white dari	5	white dari	8
dunpeas	6	safflower	5	pigeon barley	4	pigeon wheat	5	safflower	5	peeled oats	4
paddyrice	6	yellow peas	4	dunpeas	4	peeled oats	5	dunpeas	5	paddyrice	3,5
white dari	6	pigeon barley	3	safflower	4	hempseed	4	peeled oats	5	dunpeas	3
peeled oats	4	paddyrice	3	maple peas	4	toasted soybeans	4	vetches	4	yellow millet	3
maple peas	3	maple peas	3	striped sunflowerseed	3	plate maize	3	hempseed	2	mungbeans	2
vetches	3	hempseed	2	plate maize	3	turnip rapeseed	2,5	yellow millet	2	linseeds	2
plate maize	3	toasted soybeans	2	linseeds	3	vetches	2	linseeds	1	little green peas	2
toasted soybeans	2	peeled oats	2	turnip rapeseed	3	maple peas	2	mungbeans	1	maple peas	2
mungbeans	1	vetches	2	paddyrice	2	yellow millet	2			hempseed	2
striped sunflowerseed	1	linseeds	2	vetches	2	canary seed	2			canary seed	2
lentils	1	mungbeans	1	canary seed	1	buckwheat	2			vetches	2
hempseed	1	striped sunflowerseed	1	buckwheat	1	linseeds	2			buckwheat	2
buckwheat	1	lentils	1	yellow millet	1	lentils	1			striped sunflowerseed	1
				peeled oats	1	mungbeans	1			lentils	1
						striped sunflowerseed	1				

specialities and additives

HE 4000		3815 super energy		3808 champions mixture		3805 sweetseed		5433 depurative	
hempseed	15	safflower	25	green peas	15	yellow millet	26	pigeon barley	36
cribs maize	12	white dari	25	plate maize	10	rapeseed	15	pigeon wheat	20
rice	12	hempseed	5	cribs maize	10	canary seed	10	sorghum	15
peeled sunflowerseed	10	canary seed	5	white dari	8	turnip rapeseed	10	white dari	9
lightskin peanuts	8	buckwheat	5	safflower	6	hempseed	8	peeled oats	5
plate maize	5	linseeds	5	popcorn maize	5	safflower	8	yellow millet	5
peeled oats	5	sorghum	5	pigeon wheat	5	white dari	8	safflower	4
paddyrice	5	paddyrice	5	sorghum	4	sorghum	7	paddyrice	4
popcorn maize	5	rice	5	lightskin peanuts	4	peeled oats	5	buckwheat	2
turnip rapeseed	5	peeled oats	5	toasted soybeans	4	striped sunflowerseed	3		
striped sunflowerseed	5	yellow millet	5	linseeds	3				
toasted soybeans	5	pigeon wheat	5	paddyrice	3				
safflower	5			yellow peas	3				
canary seed	1			turnip rapeseed	3				
linseeds	1			maple peas	3				
mungbeans	1			vetches	3				
				striped sunflowerseed	2				
				lentils	2				
				yellow millet	2				
				mungbeans	2				
				peeled oats	2				
				buckwheat	1				

HE 4000

For years, the high-energy mixture HE 4000 has been responsible for many successes in the one-day and overnight races. The food contains a lot of peeled seeds and top quality peanuts.

3815 super energy

Super energy is a mixture of very tasty and oleiferous seeds, which will give your pigeons just the bit of energy they need in the last days before they fly.

3805 sweetseed

Varied, tasty and very rich in energy is this treat to reward your pigeons.

5433 depurative

This high-fibre but light mixture can be used to keep the pigeons at ease, or to rid their body of waste matters, which may be effective after a race.

3808 champions mixture

A food for a perfect breed. This mixture can be adapted and made suitable for the neaviest races, as it has a high percentage of fat. The food scheme is given on www.garvo.co.uk

The compositions are indicative. Please visit www.garvo.co.uk for complete compositions and other products.



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