

# Common wildlife pests in pigeon keeping of Bangladesh

## Abstract

Out of 12 predator animals of pigeons there were 2 in reptilian, 3 avian and 7 mammalian pests. Within these most of the domestic cat and dog were not pigeons' pests. For controlling pests of pigeons only biological control was the best. Therefore, we should not kill other animals because all have great significance to the nature. In fact, by cleaning of the pigeon farm and if we know the breeding season of those predator pests of pigeon we may overcome such problems in any pigeon farm.

**Keywords:** pest, pigeon, predator, wildlife

Volume 7 Issue 5 - 2018

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**Received:** August 02, 2018 | **Published:** September 24, 2018

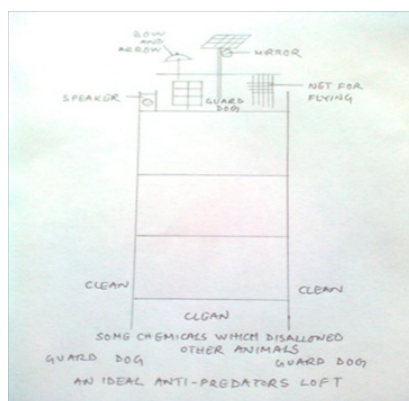
## Introduction

Predators of pigeons are a great problem nowadays. For the predator animals new variety of pigeon and during flying when falcon attacks nice pair is destroyed at all. Predator-prey is a common factor in a nature. Firstly, we should ensure the farm clean and fright those animals of that pigeon farm. Pet animals can be used that farms. Animal carcasses around the farm are not allowed. These elements may attract predator. If pigeons get shock by the presence of those predator animals it cannot show their productivity well. If one dies from a pair it may make a great problem. In this case if other pigeons are available it's possible to overcome the hatch of the egg or regurgitation of the squab. Pigeons are very intelligent and normally it doesn't get fear to see common animals. Biological control is the best for controlling predator animals in pigeon keeping. A dead crow is hanged with a stand at the center of the crop field which disallow other birds especially crow and this technique is called dead biological control. Sparrows are not predator birds for pigeons but it shares the feed of pigeons. In Israel and Bangladesh the golden jackals were as scavengers eating mostly garbage and carrion.<sup>1,2</sup> Cold-blooded snakes are susceptible to accumulate thallium sulfate. 600 different food is consumed by crow where 1/3 portions are animals. Frightening, electric device, pyrotechnics, exploders, scarecrow, water spray, avitrol (4-aminopyridine), crow repellent, coal tar, copper oxalate (mesurol), methiocarb, rhoplex AC-33 all are the controlling measures for protecting such pigeons.<sup>3</sup> Any kinds of rats carry rabies

virus and strychnine poison is used for killing stray dogs. More than 90% rabies occur in wildlife- primarily in raccoons, skunk, coyote, fox and bats.<sup>4</sup> Male cat spreads FIV which is four times serious than female cat. Tapeworm and Coccidia spreads 26% and 13% in feral cat and in domestic this is 4% and 0%.<sup>5</sup> Poison, hunting and trapping are the basic protecting measures.<sup>6</sup> Monitor lizards are the harbour of parasites.<sup>7</sup> Civet carries ectoparasites and rabies also<sup>8</sup> Antisnake trench (12x12x12 inches) is used to protect snake bites. In Bangladesh there were 17 species of raptors in one order falconiformes and three families- falconidae, accipitridae, and pandionidae.<sup>9</sup> The objective of this paper is to protect pigeons from various predators by biological control.

## Materials and methods

Snakes are mainly nocturnal. If the netting system or door of the pigeon farm is okay snakes cannot enter easily. Monitor lizards are available in rainy season. Moreover, this is attracted the carcasses of other animals. In corvidae family they are more fighter and dangerous than others. Falcon is not normally bred in Bangladesh and a piece of mirror on the long trees beside the farm is effective. Irregular flying or racing of tumbler and homer pigeons may apply for puzzling of the raptors. Mammalian pest for the pigeons are huge in Bangladesh due to jungle beside the farm. In this case roof of the house is a best place for avoiding such animals (Table 1) (Figure 1)



**Figure 1** An ideal anti- predators loft.

**Table 1** Table shows all about the wildlife pests which are disturbing in pigeon rearing

Wildlife pest	Breeding season	Preventive measure
Common Ratsnake ( <i>Ptyas mucosus</i> ) (Linn.)	May-June	cleaning, phenol, bleaching powder, thallium sulfate, antisnake trench
Yellow Monitor ( <i>Varanus flavescens</i> ) (Gray)	Throughout the year	not thrown carcasses near the farm
House Crow ( <i>Corvus splendens</i> , Vieillot)	April-June	scarecrow, bow
Indian Treepie ( <i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i> ) (Latham)	March-July	Scarecrow, bow
Peregrine Falcon ( <i>Falco peregrines</i> , Tunstall)	Normally not bred in Bangladesh	mirror, make sure the irregular flying of the pigeons
Domestic Cat ( <i>Felis domesticus</i> )	February-April, August-September	pet, sterilization
Jungle Cat ( <i>Felis chaus</i> , Guldenstaedt)	December-February, May-July	cleaning, fear
Golden Jackal ( <i>Canis aureus</i> , Linn.)	Throughout the year	cleaning, fear, bait
Domestic Dog ( <i>Canis familiaris</i> )	December-January	pet, sterilization
Common Mongoose ( <i>Herpestes edwardsii</i> ) (Geoffroy)	Throughout the year	cleaning, trap, fear, electric fence, poison (bromadiolone paraffin, brodifacoum, thallium sulfate, strychnine sulfate, diphacinone, sodium monofluoroacetate)
Common Palm Civet ( <i>Paradoxurus hermaphroditus</i> ) (Pallas)	Late January-November	cleaning, fear, trap
Greater Bandicoot Rat ( <i>Bandicota indica</i> ) (Bechstein)	Throughout the year	cleaning, trap, thallium sulfate-coated cereals

## Results

In fact, in Bangladesh pigeon farm is not well established. Most farmers do not have adequate knowledge on pigeons. Moreover, predator animals are great problems here. If tumbler pigeons fly in the sky, falcons are killed pigeons and this is very common scenario in Bangladesh. First or newly flying juveniles are sometimes caught by domestic cat and dog. Crows and treebies are responsible to eat eggs and chicks of pigeons. For protecting pigeons farmers should know the breeding season of predator animals and that time need to establish preventive measures.

## Discussion

Small Indian Mongoose is one of the invasive worst species within 100. In 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century this animal is used to control field rats and snakes. It is controlled by trapping and poison (*bromadiolone paraffin*). In addition, mongoose carries human and animal diseases also, including rabies and human *Leptospira bacterium*.<sup>10,11</sup> Injecting poisoning rats with brodifacoum, leg trapping, live chicken bait, mongoose proof fence, thallium sulfate, sodium monofluoroacetate and strychnine sulfate is good for controlling mongoose.<sup>12,13</sup> Mongooses are highly susceptible to diphacinone LD 50 0.2mg/kg BW). The impact upon and cause the extinction of many species of birds, mammals and insects.<sup>14</sup> Predator animals are available due to increase of other animal carcasses near the farm. Poison bait is used for controlling Golden Jackal.<sup>15,16</sup> Enclosure and guard dog is effective for controlling fancy pigeons. 1.2-1.7 per cent thallium sulfate-coated wheat is used for controlling mice.<sup>17</sup> Tree pie consumes 64% insect in the crop field and its frequency of occurrence only 0.8% and attacks

0.1% to *Columba livia* nestling.<sup>18</sup> Biological control is complex matter and can't always be found locally.<sup>19</sup> One inch mesh size is enough for controlling sparrows. Those birds are responsible for spreading germs and it snatches the feed. Pit Bull, Fox Terrier and Airedale Terrier are good for guard the pigeons loft.<sup>20</sup>

## Acknowledgements

None.

## Conflict of interest

The author declares that there is no conflict of interest.

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