

Effect of artificial light on fancy pigeon rearing

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Short communication

Light either it is natural or artificial both enhances to produce gametes of animals. Light develops pituitary organs then breeding happens. In winter season due to more cold the gonads cannot produce sex hormones. That time artificial lights (bulb) are important for its production. Some breeders use bulb at night for some rare breeds. Nights' bulb can reduce some flyborne diseases but one problem is that birds cannot get their rest in dark. Though, some rearers switch off those lights (bulb) at the end of night so that birds get some rest. In layer poultry farms the farmers use huge lights for getting egg. In Bangladesh the pigeon keeping is more or less a great hobby. Most people are not habituated to take it as commercial value. From the evening to mid night or whole night the rearers use light on that pigeons, because it breeds all night. The body temperature of pigeon is 107° Fahrenheit. In winter or foggy weather it needs more light. But research indicates that this more light in winter season does not affect its production. It only keeps the room hot and controls other insects. Mainly pigeons take rest at night. Due to cold weather pigeons get sick but in summer it feels good. Room heater in winter is not feasible in farms for expensiveness. Moreover, room heater absorbs moisture of the room which is very harmful for pigeons. 100-200watt of electric bulb is enough depending on room size and number of pigeons. In summer season ventilation and wind flows are important. Winter or cold weather is the hazardous season for pigeon rearing.

Artificial light during pigeons' rearing

If total 25 pigeons are reared in 8x10x8 feet loft it is enough with 1bulb with 100watt. Whereas, 30x30x8 feet loft with 200 pigeons need 17bulbs with same watt. In Bangladesh, most fancy pigeons are reared in medium-sized room and 100-200 watt 1-2bulbs are used from 3-14hours in winter season. Bulbs are shown at the four

corners or the centre of the room. The number of bulb depends on the number of pigeon and size of loft Table 1. In summer season, we need not use bulb for keeping the room hot. In winter, we can use these bulbs for very short period. Both in winter and summer season from 5pm to whole night pigeon keepers use light in those lofts. For proper breeding, less mosquito biting and heat in winter season, bulbs are must for pigeons. At night lots of mosquitoes are available in most pigeon farms. Huge mosquitoes are grown in dirty farm. For using electric bulb at night mosquitoes cannot bite on the bare parts of pigeons especially chicks. These insects are major source for carrying pathogenic microorganisms. Though for lighting at night other insects may come for their photoreceptor activities. But these do not bite pigeons. Some rearers use mosquito coil when they put off the light. But the gas of that mosquito coil is very dangerous for pigeons. Somebody uses mosquito net for protecting insect bites which is good. In Bangladesh, the production of pigeons in winter season is very low and most diseases are found. Due to artificial light (bulb) in winter season and for room closing huge ammonia gas cannot pass and this gas is responsible for eye problems of those fancy pigeons. In day time, it is needed to open all doors and windows for gas releasing. In Bangladesh, the productivity of pigeon is good in average.^{1,2} Profitable pigeon breeding can be a source of income by rearing broiler breeds.³

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Table 1 Effect of light in different lofts.

Sl.	Measurement of the room (L'xW'xH')	Total pigeons	Watt of bulb (no.)	Duration of light (hr)
1	8'x10'x8'	25	100 (1)	12
2	8'x9'x6'	32	100 (2)	10
3	10'x10'x8'	64	200 (2)	8
4	15'x8'x8'	70	100 (2)	6
5	12'x10'x7'	70	100 (4)	7
6	8'x10'x8'	70	100 (1)	12
7	14'x10'x16'	80	100 (3)	8
8	10'x10'x8'	80	100 (2)	12
9	30'x30'x8'	160	100 (8)	12
10	30'x30'x8'	200	100 (17)	14

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Conflicts of interest

The author declares that there are no conflicts of interest.

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