# GPS in pigeon racing 2022 <br> Ove Fuglsang Jensen Demark 

## New setup in articel

This year there has been 2 new setup in showing the routes of the pigeons. If there are 2 pigeons in the same race, one can campare the routes of the two pigeons, and also compare the speed, heigth and length of the route.

You can here see example of maps with 2 routes and the statistics of the fligth of the pigeons.


|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 130 A | 1451 | 1799 | 211 | 623 | 511 | 524 |
| 133 U | 1493 | 1992 | 236 | 736 | 511 | 541 |

## Åbenrå 2. July



This one year old cock has come too far west, and the normal is when pigeon reach a coast they will follow it north. This pigeon however joes straight north over the sea. nn the next page we can discuss what is happening.

The pigeons height of flying


It is normal for pigeons to gain height to overlook its position.
At the coast line the height of flying is 117 meters and speed of flight is 1311 mpm . After 7 minutes height is 490 meter and speed is 1780 ,pm. and after 10 minutes the height is 585 meter. After 25 minutes the peak of 627 meters has been reached and the height of flying is going slowly down. After 40 minutes the pigeon turns to the east and hit the coast at the harbor of Hirtshals.
Why this route?
What makes the pigeon to go straight over the sea is an open question?
We can ask what makes the pigeon to make a turn in the right way? The visibility that day was 50 km . and the pigeon is in the height of 650 meters, the pigeon can see far away. Seen in another way, all pigeons has an magnetic sense which tells the pigeon how close it is to the loft. It is therefore possible that the pigeon use both its very sharp eyes together with the magnetic sense. Picture at right shows arrival to the harbor.


## Download Åbenrå 2. July: Wind from south west

https://skyleader.com.tw/share/202207119KB9Av

## Uelzen 2. July



From Ulzen 511 km. there are two pigeons the cock 130 and the hen 133. 130 is a long distance pigeon while 133 are more a sprinter pigeon. As seen on the two routes the pigeons route are close and there are 5 minutes between the two pigeons.

Data from the two pigeons

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 130 A | 1451 | 1799 | 211 | 623 | 511 | 524 |
| 133 U | 1493 | 1992 | 236 | 736 | 511 | 541 |

If we take a look at the way the two pigeons tackle the route, they do it fine in their way.
The cock 130 has a good average speed, and top speed is good together with the average height is fairly good.
Taken a look at the hen 133 , it is a more a pigeon build for sprint! In general the average speed is higher and the top speed is nearly 2000 mpm . which is typical for this sort of pigeon.
Taken a look on the two routes, the conclusion must be that the straight line to the loft are most fast. Even if 133 are the most speedy pigeon she loose in the end because of the many curves on the route!


Download Uelzen 2. July:
Wind in start south - in north vind from west
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220711wi4Ky2
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220711xOTkXi

## Brædstrup 9. July



The distance in this race are 177 km and are a sprinterdistance. The start is normal and after $1 / 2$ hour the speed are 1400 mpm . in a heigth of 20-30 meters.
The route makes a curve and goes to the city of Ålborg and straigth north to the city of Hjørring. This is a normal route for this type of race.


Download Brædstrup 9. July:
The wind is fresh from northwest
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220713bZYZgf

## Warburg 9. July



Looking at the route it seems strange that the pigeon are doing a bend to northwest and later going straight north. The reason is a front making a lot of clouds which is shown in the next pages.


## The front mooves south

We can see the front like a bow going south making a lot of clouds and rain.

## The weather at Warburg



Why do the pigeon turns back?


If one zoome in on the start, it is clearly that the cock 130 has a bearing to the north, but after $1 / 2$ huor the pigeon turns around goes back 15 minutes and turn to a bearing to northwest. Taking a look at the weather radar, we see a rainclaud at the north of Warburg. Therefore 130 turn back and take a bearing to northwest where there are blue sky and siunshine!

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 130 A | 1120 | 1873 | 99 | 409 | 677 | 777 |

Looking at the average speed and height of the pigeon, it is very typically for a longdinstance pigeon. The distance flown are 777 km . and are 100 km more than the stragth line. Although 100 km more 130 is number 25 in the section.

## Download Warburg 9. July:

The wind easy from NW
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220713hVIn2y

## Carlstorf 16. July



Here on Calstorf there are again 2 pigeons on GPS, but 1 in Sport (4 pigeon) and 1 in Open. In other words it is two different races but from the same destination.

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 130 A | 1141 | 1656 | 33 | 148 | 481 | 491 |
| $168 A$ | $1100 ?$ | 1526 | 123 | 287 | 481 | 527 |



The wind in the race was steady to fresh and can have an effect on the average speed.
At the blue pigeon it is obvious that the pigeons average height are low, but the distance flown are just 10 km. more than the straight line.
The red pigeon has a average higher way of flight with 123 meters, and this can be because the route goes along a coast where the pigeons flight goes up and down along the coast. At the end the red pigeons route and way of flight gives 46 km. longer than the straight line.
On the picture at the left one can see how the route goes along the coast where the pigeon have to fly up and down.

# Download Carlstorf 16. July: 

The wind steady to fresh from VW
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220718zxngFC
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/2022071854womE

## Vamdrup 24. July



The race that day was in wind from south, which is a tailwind and will give very high speed on the pigeons. Strange enough the route goes rather westerly and not direct from the south.

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $436 A$ | 1619 | 1819 | 169 | 548 | 240 | 256 |

As one can see the average speed and the top speed are fairly high and it looks like the pigeons in tailwind goes higher up compared with a wind from the side that is west or easterly winds. This pigeon came 12 minutes after my first pigeon and that is a lot to loose when the speed are high up.


## Download Vamdrup 24. July:

The wind easy from the south
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220725xqb4ws

## Heide 24. July



Here from Heide 2 pigeons in the same release, and it is easy to see that the blue pigeon goes more in a straight line than the red pigeon, and that is why the blue pigeon came before the red pigeon.

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $4140 A$ | $1650 ?$ | 1922 | 56 | 392 | 382 | 396 |
| $4136 A$ | $1650 ?$ | 1957 | 59 | 477 | 382 | 403 |

Also from Heide there are a tail wind and this gives high speed in average and top speed. Strange enough the two pigeons have low average height, but maybe because north of Heide is lowland without hills.

The blue pigeon fly 14 km longer than straight line and the blue pigeon fly 21 km longer.

On the Picture below the pigeon fly in 300meters height on 1730 mpm .


Download Heide 24. July:
The wind fairly from the south
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220725MXuRR1
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220725IDE3k0

## Reinfeld 30. July



This route look strange with a big bend and later on the pigeon goes very high to 1148 meters. All this has a natural explanation why the pigeon do like this.


## Around the rain clouds

On the pigeons route there are suddenly a long rain cloud and as it is very clearly the pigeon choose to go around in a bend, which naturally takes time.

Into the height of 1148 meters


Longer up north at the town of Randers the pigeon goes to 4-500 meters of height, and further north the pigeon goes to $\mathbf{7 0 0}$ meters. At last the pigeon goes total up to 1148 meters of height. After this the pigeon goes down again and on the picture it is down in 523 meters and end at the coast in 26 meters.

Why the pigeon suddenly goes high up is very simple, because the dense cloud have gone and a blue sky opens up. Properly the pigeon want to locate its position to go further north.

## Download Reinfeld 30. July:

The wind fairly from southeast
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220802ZQpj5f

## Antwerpen 30. July




Why the pigeons goes directly against north west is difficult to say. One should think that when the pigeon flock reach the coast they will follow it.
When the pigeons start the speed is 1400 mpm. but become later $\mathbf{1 2 - 1 3 0 0 ~ m p m}$.
Along the north coast of Germany the speed is $\mathbf{1 3 5 0 - 1 5 0 0} \mathbf{~ m p m}$. because of the wind from northwest.


When the pigeon cross the coast and goes out on the sea, they raise to 589 meters to have a overlook what is in front of them. Later over the sea the height is 200 meters over the water.
When the pigeons cross the coast the time is 10 am . and when flock returns the time is 17 am . By taking this route over the sea the pigeons have wasted 7 hours! And now this is bad luck where they instead could have followed the north coast of Germany.



The cock 130 ends to take the night on top of a house east of Kiel at 22 in the evening. Next day the pigeon starts up 07.40 and goes direct north until it goes down 12.20 to rest. It has at this point flown 1065 km.

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $130 A$ | $?$ | 1945 | 85 | 589 | 804 | Ca. 1200 |

The statistic shows that the pigeon has flown 1065 km , but there are around 150 km more to the loft and the cock 130 must have gone 1200 km!

## Analyses

It seems strange that some pigeons goes direct north over the sea. One explanation could be that the usual route we fly with our pigeons are from south to the north. But anyway when the flock of pigeon are out in the middle of the sea they must have a feeling that this was wrong and then turn back.

## Download Antwerpen 30. Juli:

The wind in start from northwest - in Denmark easterly wind https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220802WNUtpQ

## Rendsburg 6. August



Here from Rendsburg there are two hens in the same race. The wind that day was fresh and some time hard, which is visible on the speed and height of the pigeons.

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 146 U | 1221 | 1639 | 78 | 179 | 365 | 380 |
| 143 U | 1210 | 1592 | 38 | 146 | 365 | 385 |

The data in speed and height seem rather the same in the two pigeons, and this is because of the fresh wind from west. Some fanciers believe that the fresh wind blows the pigeons out of the bearing, but this is not the case as the pigeons compensate and keep the right bearing.


On this picture in the left we see the rotes of the two hens running along the coast. When a pigeon is flying along a coast it can speed down the race because the pigeon goes up and down which can delay the pigeon in the race. Some pigeons seems to be a little afraid to cross open water, but some pigeon have no fear, and that can depend of the type of the pigeons heritage!

The best landscape for a pigeon race is a lowland without bigger different in the landscape.

## Download Rendsburg 6. August:

The wind is fairly and fresh from west
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220807bWYec5
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220807L6knCX

## Altona 6. August



Here from Altona there are two pigeons in the race: Blue is cock 130 and red is hen 133.

|  | Average <br> speed | Top speed | Average <br> height | Max <br> height | Distance | Distance <br> flow |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 130 A | 1170 | 1794 | 175 | 399 | 437 | 462 |
| 133 U | 1125 | 1642 | 58 | 477 | 437 | 465 |

This race was run in temperatures of 28-30C! It looks that 130 choose a general average height than 133. Even if the two pigeons have different routes they both fly around 25 km . than the straight line.


The 2 pigeons is flying the same distance, but they arrive with 15 minutes difference - and why?

The two pigeons are following another, but at the town of Ålborg 130 are going ahead with the same speed, but 133 go down in the speed to under 1000 mpm . At this time of the day the temperatures are near 30C. and that must have an effect on the hen 133!

The two pigeons are different in that way that 130 are for the longer races, but 133 are more a general faster pigeon for shorter races.

## Download Aktona 13. August:

The wind at start light southeast - at north light south/southeast https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220814H3jOcY
https://skyleader.com.tw/share/20220814UZOsPO

## A good year for GPS flying

It has been a good year for flying with GPS on the pigeon, but it has also been good for the races with GPS ring to find some pigeons which will make a good race with a ring.
The idea with two pigeons in the same race is to compare how the indivual pigeon manage the race in speed, height an distance flown.

Underneath the two must used pigens with a GPS ring.


025-20-0130A Black Prince


025-20-0133U The Ballerina


