

The extent of bird of prey attacks on racing pigeons

1. How many racing pigeons do you currently own?

2. Where is your loft located? Please tick.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| ☐ England | ☐ Northern Ireland |
| ☐ Scotland | ☐ Republic of Ireland |
| ☐ Wales | ☐ Other |

3. Is your loft located in an urban (town or city) or rural (village or countryside) location?

- ☐ Urban
☐ Rural

4. Approximately how many hours per day do you exercise your pigeons at the loft during different times of the year?

April – September

October - March

5. Approximately how many times per week do you train your pigeons to race during different times of the year?

April – September

October – March

6. Approximately how many races do you enter per year?

7. Approximately how many racing pigeons do you lose a year?

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ☐ More than 20 | ☐ 1 - 5 |
| ☐ 11 – 20 | ☐ None |
| ☐ 6 - 10 | |

8. What do you think is the main cause of pigeon losses? Please tick only one.

- ☐ Collisions with powerlines or other man-made structures
- ☐ Disease
- ☐ Mis-navigation

- ☐ Terrestrial predators
- ☐ Bird of prey attacks
- ☐ Other
-

9. Please identify the bird in the picture



10. Please identify the bird in the picture



11. Please identify the bird in the picture



12. Do you think birds of prey attack racing pigeons? If no, please do not continue.

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
-

13. Which bird of prey species do you think attacks the most racing pigeons?

- ☐ Peregrine ☐ Peregrines and sparrowhawks equally
☐ Sparrowhawk ☐ Other
-

14. How often do the following outcomes occur on your racing pigeons as a result of a bird of prey attack? Please tick.

Outcomes	Five or more times a year	2 – 4 times a year	Once a year	Less than once a year
Fatality	☐	☐	☐	☐
Injury	☐	☐	☐	☐
Avoided	☐	☐	☐	☐

15. Have you observed a **peregrine** attacking your pigeons during the following situations?

	Yes	No
Whilst at the loft	☐	☐
During training	☐	☐
During a race	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐

16. Have you observed a **sparrowhawk** attacking your pigeons during the following situations?

	Yes	No
Whilst at the loft	☐	☐
During training	☐	☐
During a race	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐

17. Do you think the occurrence of bird of prey attacks threatens the future of pigeon racing?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ No opinion

18. Do you think the installation of artificial bird of prey boxes encourages attacks on racing pigeons?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ No opinion

19. Do you think there should be political measures to control peregrine or sparrowhawk numbers to prevent the killing of racing pigeons?

	Yes	No	No opinion
Peregrines	☐	☐	☐
Sparrowhawks	☐	☐	☐

20. Do you report any bird of prey attacks on the 'Hawkwatch' feature on the RPRA website?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Do not know what it is

END OF SURVEY
