

Where will feeding take place?

Automatic wildlife feeders will be placed on City-owned buildings/property in known pigeon feeding or roosting areas. This aims to take advantage of the habitual nature of pigeons which will return to secure food and shelter sites.

What is OvoControl?

OvoControl is a bread-based pellet feed which contains nicarbazin, a compound which interferes with the fertilisation of the egg once high blood levels are reached (from consistent feeding). This compound was originally introduced in poultry to control disease and is still used for this purpose worldwide. It is also used as a contraceptive for pigeons and Canada Geese.

Will this impact other birds/wildlife?

The risk to non-target birds and other animals is minimal. The feed type and program are targeted toward the behaviour of pigeons, and OvoControl is unlikely to be ingested by non-target species. The feeding sites will be monitored for other species and excess food will be removed each day.

In the case of successful ingestion and treatment of a non-target species, the contraceptive effect is reversible, and the bird will return to normal reproduction within 5-10 days after the bait is withdrawn.

The active ingredient, nicarbazin, does not bioaccumulate, meaning that animals which may ingest an affected pigeon, such as a raptor, will not be impacted.

OvoControl has no effect on mammals, reptiles, insects or anything else that might consume some of the bait and is approved for use by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA). The bait is also endorsed by the RSPCA Australia and other animal welfare agencies across the globe.

[More information on the effects of OvoControl.](#)

Will homing pigeons be affected?

If licensed homing pigeons are released near baiting areas, owners will be advised to manage the frequency of release. The treatment will only be effective with consistent feeding and is reversible.

Will pigeons be managed on private property?

OvoControl will only be undertaken on City-owned premises. Reducing reproduction and population numbers over time will support other techniques of management such as habitat modification, physical barriers or elimination taken by private landholders.

The City also aims to support further education for landowners on management options.

