



The Role of Contraception in Integrated Pest Bird Management ("IPM")

Erick Wolf
CEO
Innolytics, LLC



***“Planned
Pigeon-hood”***



Presentation Outline

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Pest Bird Species**
- 3. Integrated Pest Management**
- 4. Bird Biology and Reproductive Physiology**
- 5. Mitigation Techniques**
- 6. Contraception for Birds**
- 7. Questions**





Common Pest Birds

- House sparrows
- Crows*
- Starlings
- Geese*
- Muscovy ducks
- Pigeons
- Gulls*



* Protected by MBTA



Integrated Pest Management ***“IPM” for Pests****

- ✓ Set Action Thresholds
- ✓ Monitor and Identify Pests
- ✓ Prevention
- ✓ Control

*www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/ipm.htm



IPM – EPA Definition

“Integrated Pest Management (“IPM”) is an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management that relies on a combination of common-sense practices.....in combination with available pest control methods, to manage pest damage by the most economical means, and with the least possible hazard to people, property, and the environment.”



Bird Damage

Poop and disease vectors





Resident Canada Geese

Low cut grass + a body of water =
fast food for a goose





Evidence of a Significant Resident Canada Goose Problem at US Airports



Pigeon Biology

- ✓ **Clutch**: 1 to 3 eggs
- ✓ **Breeding season**: Year round
- ✓ **Diet**: Seeds, Fruits, Pizza
- ✓ **Feeding**: Flocks
- ✓ **Territories**: Soft boundaries
- ✓ **Sex**: Look identical
- ✓ **Juveniles**: Look like adults
- ✓ **Life expectancy**: 2-4 years in urban areas





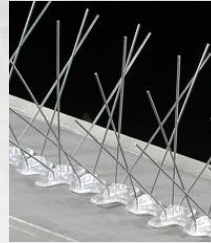
Pigeon Mitigation Techniques

- Short-term

- Ineffective

- Effective

- Removal – trap, shoot, poison
 - Harassment, effigies, noise
 - Repellents – goo



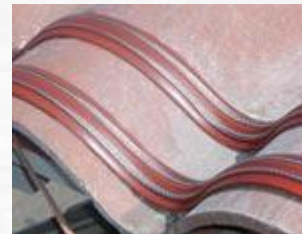
- Long-term

- Ineffective

- Most visual, sound or tactile devices or harassment
 - Trap, shoot, poison

- Effective

- Habitat modification
 - Nets, spikes, electrical strips
 - Contraception







OvoControl[®] P

- ✓ Nicarbazin approved by FDA for use in chickens
- ✓ OvoControl approved by EPA for resident geese, ducks and pigeons
- ✓ Restricted use pesticide
- ✓ Bite size, extruded kibbles





OvoControl Program

- Use automatic feeder
- Establish baiting site(s) – pre-bait birds
- Feed on rooftops or other flat surface
- Evaluate bait acceptance
- Condition birds to the daily feeding routine





Non-Target Species



- All other

- ✓ Mammals, dogs, small children
- ✓ Amphibians
- ✓ Reptiles
- ✓ Fish
- ✓ Insects
- ✓ Worms
- ✓ Plants

- Birds

- ✓ Same effect
- ✓ No secondary effect



Field Efficacy of OvoControl

- OvoControl will interfere with ~95% of eggs if bird consumes the bait¹
- Field data shows 53% population reduction within 12 months^{2, 3}
- Field data shows 88% reduction over 28 months³

¹ Barbato, 2006

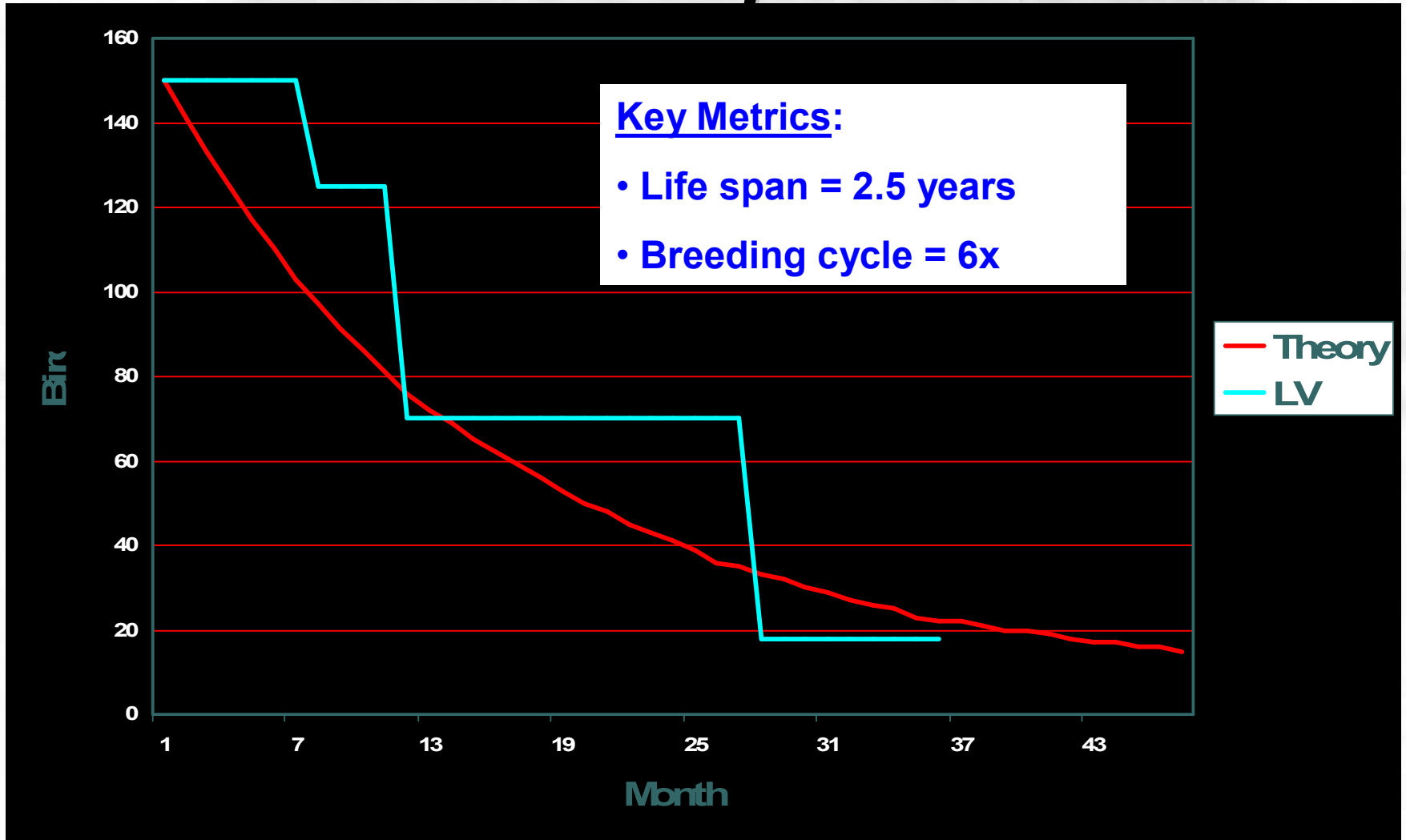
² Freedom Co, Spl., Rimini, Italy, 2006

³ San Diego field study, 2010





Population Attrition of Pigeons With Contraception





Representative Sites and Users

- City of Santa Monica, CA – Pier
- Hollywood, CA – ACA
- Walla Walla, WA – BID
- University of Arizona, Tucson (new)
- San Diego, Linda Vista – MAD
- St. Paul, MN – Downtown
- Florence, SC – Medical Center
- San Francisco, DPW – Downtown (pending)
- Pala Hotel and Casino, Pala, CA



Costs

- ✓ Cost of bait = \$6.25/lb
- ✓ 1lb of bait = 80 birds
- ✓ Average site with 160 birds = \$12.50/day
- ✓ Feeder = \$153/unit



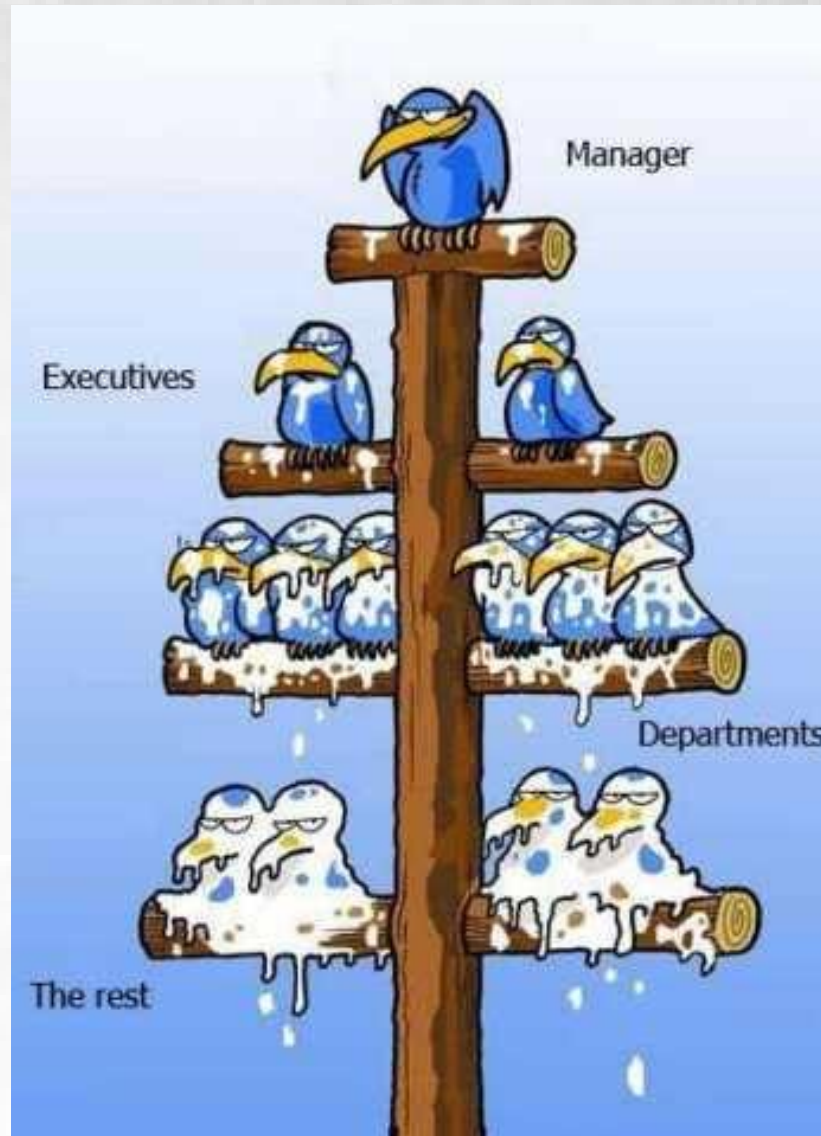


Further Reading & Education

- http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/pigeons/tips/solving_problems_pigeons.html
- www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/ipm.htm
- www.ipminstitute.org/
- www.ovocontrol.com



Academic Hierarchy



Chancellor

Dean

Administrators

Professors

Students



?? Questions ??

www.OvoControl.com

