

# Canadian Old Bird Record

## 18:00 Hours

### 5 Old Cocks - June 19, 2005

### Oskar Zovich

It would seem that my visits to Oskar's loft are becoming a habit. Well, if he keeps breaking those records, I suppose I can continue with the visits to get the inside scoop. And so, here's the inside scoop.



On June 19, 2005 Oskar became only the second Tippler flyer in the history of North American Tippler competitions to successfully fly his Tiplers 18 hours for the new Canadian Old Bird Record. As we all know the other gentleman, and still the NA record holder, would be Michael Beat. Here are a few words on the day, the kit, the flyer and some of Oskar's thoughts.

The kit was made up of 5 cocks all from different nests but closely related. Actually 6 cocks were being prepared for the fly and given the feed-up but only 5 used. Oskar felt the 6<sup>th</sup> bird was a bit too nervous after the feed-up and therefore kept in. You may recall last year Oskar did the same – got to have instinct and know your birds. Once again his intuition paid off.

He was also training 4 other hens that went on to fly 16:32 on the Spring 2 Fly – a record as well for that fly I believe. And so, 10 birds being trained from 10 separate nests – how's that for a breeding program?

The kit (cocks) missed their second to last workout and the last training fly was on Monday not Tuesday, as he would have preferred – dropped at 10:45pm. The fact that he had to go with a five-day feed up didn't sit too well with Oskar. But those were the circumstances and nothing he could do.

The kit was released at 4:36am in darkness with an overcast sky lasting until about noon. When the sun came out all the clouds disappeared and it remained so the rest of the day and night. They flew throughout the day at a low medium to a high medium level and very tight. Branko (timer) mentioned how nice they carried on all day with style and never looking for the loft.

Well, the night approached with no clouds to speak of but a full moon was shining bright. Unfortunately with these conditions the birds could only be seen going away from the moon, but Oskar has trees in that direction and so it was still tough to locate the birds. For those that have not seen his flying position I can only say it is one heck of a challenge. Trees, with only the southeast corner clear, surround his yard. It's no wonder he can stick any Tiplers never mind flying them in the dark. It did help however that there were 3 other members present to spot the kit in the night. Harpreet Bal, Mladen Stojanovic and Branko Trninic all witnessed the conclusion of the fly.

Once again the conclusion came from an unexpected mishap.



*Indigo Cock – Oskar's Picasso, against which all other breeders are measured. At least four of his offspring have held Canadian records. A masterpiece of a Tippler.*

At 10:30pm the kit was flying very tight and low enough to be seen. Things looked great for the North American record...but then it happened. A Blue Herron split the kit at 10:35pm and one bird came low forcing Oskar to release the droppers at 10:36pm. The low bird came down immediately, somewhat startled, and the remaining four followed shortly after. The last bird dropped at 10:42pm and trapped at 10:46pm.

The Zovich Tippler is a force to be reckoned with.

Oskar has broken 3 Canadian OB records in the last 4 years – talk about consistency. To see his birds you can understand why.

No doubt he will break a few more.

Here are some of Oskar's thoughts on training:  
He believes that many people over train their birds and they don't need to. This record-breaking kit was flown on average 8 hours in training each time. The average total per week was roughly 15-16 hours.  
The cocks flew on 22 grams of training feed while the hens on 20 grams. He feels a bird in training should eat an average of 130 grams per week – more for cocks and perhaps less for hens.

After the training fly the hens get 12 grams of protein mix and the cocks 15 grams of the same. It also depends on the size of the bird and it's metabolism.  
He also believes proper breeding is the key to a loft's success. This is where one should really put the effort in - at the starting blocks. When Oskar started building this family of birds he didn't have a lot to work with.  
Thus, it is his hope now, that other members of the *CNTU* continue to build on what he has done and advance the family even further. Speaking for the rest...it's pretty hard to improve on this. *Luka*

***Congratulations Oskar!***

**Canadian Champions**  
**18:00 hours**

