

The definitive book you are looking for is ***The History of the Belgian Strains: Part I*** written by the legendary pigeon racing authority **Jules Gallez**. Originally published in **1976**, this authoritative work explores the foundational bloodlines and master breeders who established Belgium as the historic epicenter of the global pigeon racing sport.

Book Overview

- **Author:** Jules Gallez, a highly revered Belgian racing expert and prolific author on avian strain development.
- **Core Topic:** Detailed lineage profiles, historical chronologies, and genetic foundations of early Belgian racing pigeon strains.
- **Page Count:** Approximately 376 pages, heavily supplemented with rare vintage photographs.
- **Content Focus:** The book takes readers on a comprehensive journey through foundational 19th and early 20th-century lofts, tracking how early regional breeds were systematically crossbred to maximize speed, endurance, and navigation.

Key Master Breeders Covered

Part One serves as an encyclopedia for classic lineages, detailing the histories of prominent master flyers, including:

- **The Pioneers:** Historic foundation lines such as Ulens, Vekemans, Grooters, Wegge, Hansenne, and Bricoux.
- **The Modern Strains:** Essential building blocks of modern racing history, including Fabry, Huyskens-Van Riel, Hermans, Horemans, Stichelbaut, Vander Espt, Devriendt, Delbar, and the foundational Janssen strain. [