



Hatchling Pigeons

Newly hatched pigeons weight about 15 grams, have pink skin, pink beak, and are covered in a butter-yellow down.

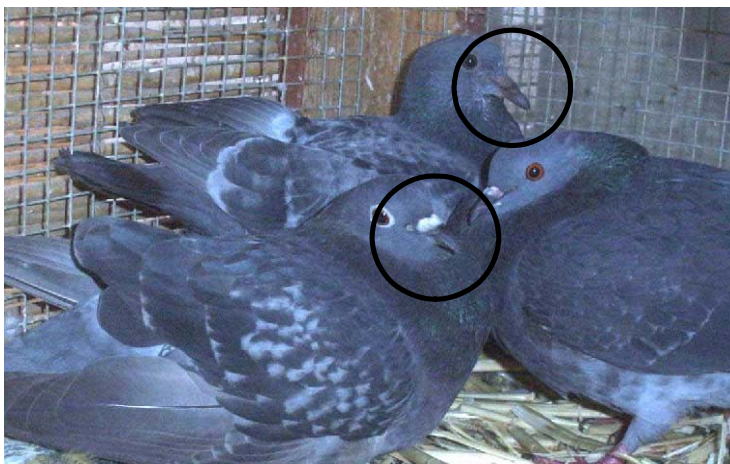
Nestling Pigeons

Within a few days, the beak and feet start to turn gray. The babies make a whistly sound and try to poke their bill through the fingers of an open hand.



Fledgling Pigeons

Wiry yellow hairs/fuzz can be seen through the feathers as the bird gets older.



To tell a juvenile pigeon from an adult, check the cere (fleshy piece at the base of the bill). An adult will have a chalky white cere while the juvenile's will be dark or pink. Juveniles will also still be squeaking and are often referred to as "Squeakers".



A Tribute to Earl and LaVern

Earl and LaVern were two non-releasable pigeons, both with damaged wings, that raised close to a hundred orphaned babies over an 15 year period in captivity.