

Reason to NOT Hatch First Year layer Eggs

The primary reason to not hatch first year layer eggs is the strain on gosling development and hatchability.

While the eggs shown here do not look drastically different, there are noticeable reasons to not hatch eggs from a first year layer (this is her very first egg).

- The egg on the left is longer, but far more narrow – this restricts a gosling's ability to develop and ability to move.
- The first year egg is only $\frac{3}{4}$ the weight of the experienced layer. Smaller/lighter eggs are less likely to develop normally and ultimately hatch.
 - Eggs should weigh roughly 190 grams or higher. First year eggs average $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ lighter (130-150 grams)
- Eggs should have a nice wide oval shape and wide base for air sack development.

First Year Layer

Seven Year Layer

