

Passover Foods for Your Pets

The following is a list of pet foods approved for Passover 2009. Make sure to check all labels. There should be no *chametz* such as wheat, wheat starch, wheat gluten, barley, oats, oat fiber, pasta, or rye listed. A product listing both meat and dairy ingredients may not be used any time during the year. Feed available at zoos is often *chametz* and should not be purchased or fed to the animals on Pesach. After Pesach, pet food with *chametz* may be purchased only from stores which are non-Jewish owned (e.g. PetSmart, Petco) or Jewish owned but have sold their *chametz*.

NOTE: Mixes sold in stores often contain *chametz*. It is advisable to mix regular and Pesach food together one to two weeks before Pesach before switching completely to Pesach food. The ratio of regular and Pesach food should be changed slowly to get the animal used to the new diet. Check with your veterinarian before changing diet.

One may feed his pet any of the following items:

CATS: Evanger's: 100% Buffalo, 100% Duck, 100% Organic Chicken, 100% Pheasant, Whole Mackerel with Gravy;

Friskies: (canned) Special Diet Ocean White Fish Dinner, Special Diet Beef & Chicken Entrée, Special Diet Turkey & Giblets, Special Diet with Salmon, Special Diet Beef & Liver Entrée, Senior Pacific Salmon in Sauce, Turkey & Giblets Dinner;

Prescription Diet: a/d, c/d (dry only), d/d (except duck), g/d (dry only), i/d (dry only), k/d (dry only), m/d, r/d, s/d, t/d, w/d (dry only).

Science Diet: (dry) Adult Optimal Care Ocean Fish & Rice Recipe, Adult Optimal Care Original, Adult Indoor, Indoor Mature Adult, Adult Hairball Control, Adult Hairball Control Light, Hairball Control Mature Adult, Adult Light, Adult Oral Care, Adult Sensitive Skin, Mature Adult Active Longevity Original, Kitten Indoor, Kitten Healthy Development Original, Kitten Healthy Development Ocean Fish & Rice.

DOGS: Evanger's: 100% Venison for Dogs, 100% Beef for Dogs (6 oz), 100% Chicken for Dogs, 100% Buffalo, 100% Duck, 100% Organic Chicken, 100% Pheasant, A Hunk of Beef, Beef, Chicken, & Liver for Dogs, Beef with Liver for Dogs; Senior Dinner for Dogs, Whole Mackerel with Gravy;

Mighty Dog: (canned) Classic Chicken Egg & Bacon Dinner, Classic Gourmet Dinner, Senior Beef & Rice Dinner, Senior Chicken & Rice Dinner, Senior Turkey & Rice Dinner, Classic Turkey & Bacon;

Prescription Diet: a/d, c/d, d/d g/d, h/d, i/d, j/d (dry only), k/d, n/d, r/d, s/d, t/d, u/d, w/d (dry only), z/d Low Allergen.

Science Diet: (dry) Adult Active, Adult Large Breed, Adult Light, Adult Light Large Breed, Adult Light Small Bites, Adult Oral Care, Puppy Healthy Development Original, Puppy Small Bites, Puppy Large Breed, Mature Adult Large Breed, Mature Adult Active Longevity, Mature Adult Small Bites, Sensitive Skin Adult (canned), Adult Light;

Nutro: Natural Choice Lamb & Rice Formula, Natural Choice Lite.

FISH: 3-Day Pyramid Fish Feeder, manufactured by Aquarium Pharmaceuticals is *chametz*-free. Fish food and vacation blocks often have *chametz*. Goldfish and Tropical fish can be given tubular worms, frozen brine shrimp, and freeze dried worms (if they do not contain fillers).

BIRDS (PARROTS, PARAKEETS, COCKATIELS, MACAWS):

- Millet, sorghum, wild bird food (check for *chametz* ingredients) as main diet.
- Peanuts, sunflower seeds, and safflower seeds can be given.
- Larger birds, such as parrots, can eat pure alfalfa pellets (make sure it is pure alfalfa since it is common to add grains) or dry dog food (see above for list).
- Smaller birds can also eat pure alfalfa pellets – crush before feeding.
- Can supplement with sliced grapes, cottage cheese, rice cakes (birds like these), small pieces of lean meat, matzah, berries, eggs, canned baby fruits. All large food should be shredded before serving. These items should be given sparingly.
- For minerals, can have oyster shells (calcium) or mineral block such as Kaytee Tropical Fruit Mineral Block Treat.
- The greater the variety, the better.

HAMSTERS, GUINEA PIGS, GERBILS & RABBITS:

- Best to feed pure alfalfa pellets. Make sure it is pure alfalfa since it is common to add grains. Dried alfalfa may also be given.
- Can supplement with mixture of cut-up fruits and vegetables - carrots, grapes, apples, melon, kale, parsley, oranges, celery, dry corn, sunflower seeds, cabbage. Can also give some *matzah*. If not accustomed to these items, give sparingly.
- Guinea pigs especially will benefit from kale, parsley, and oranges.
- Hamsters especially will benefit from apples.
- Guinea pigs need vitamin C added to diet.

The cRc would like to thank [Dr. Aaron Weissberg](#) and the Star-K for researching the pet food information in this section.