

Some Thoughts On The Health of Our Animal Companions

The health of our animal companions is a subject of great interest to animal lovers, frequently more important than our consideration of our own health. We love our animals, we want them to be well and happy, we don't want them to suffer pain they can't tell us about, and we certainly don't like veterinary bills. But we willingly do whatever is necessary to care for them.

Many people don't realize that the nutrition in our animals' diets can be as poor as our own "fast food" inclinations. Some pet food manufacturers do a very good job of delivering a balanced diet, even if vitamin and mineral levels may be minimal. Other manufacturers are inclined to cut corners.

Grains, for example, are often used to boost protein declarations, even though carnivores are unable to digest them well. But grains are less expensive than adding more meat to the recipe. So we see beautiful pictures of wheat stalks and ears of corn in the pet food commercials, and we smile at the wisdom of our choices.

Animal lovers are beginning to realize that raw meat, bones and small amounts of vegetables are better choices for our animals, because that is what their digestive systems are designed to me-

tabolize. Dogs and cats have much higher levels of hydrochloric

acid in their stomachs than humans do, so they are not bothered by any lurking pathogens that would make humans ill if we ate raw beef or chicken.

Whatever diet we choose, it is important to realize that the stresses, pesticides and pollution that interfere with our own peace of mind can affect them as well. They may need the support



of additional nutrients to ensure that digestive and immune systems are up to the task of fully protecting them.

Dogs and cats have the short digestive tract of carnivores, so vitamins and minerals in the form of capsules or tablets are usually eliminated before they can be absorbed. The best way to administer nutrients is in liquid form; they are absorbed and go to work immediately, without having to deal with digestive idiosyncrasies.

Our liquid **Bellyrubs Organic[®] Dietary Supplement** is a good source of important vitamins, minerals, essential fatty acids, trace minerals, amino acids and digestive enzymes. It offers a complete

spectrum of nutrients to support good brain and nerve capacity (and therefore temperament), healthy skin and lustrous coat, good heart function and blood circulation, and proper gland and organ capabilities to maintain nutrient balance in the blood and eliminate toxins.

If we pay close attention to the improvements in the health of our companion animals when we increase their nutrition, some of us might even spend a little time reconsidering our own dietary habits.

DogChannel.com's **Joke of the Week:**

- 1. If I like it, it's mine.
- 2. If it's in my mouth, it's mine.
- 3. If I can take it from you, it's mine.
- 4. If I had it a little while ago, it's mine.
- 5. If I'm chewing something up, all the pieces are mine.
- If it's mine, it must never appear to be yours anyway.

- 7. If it just looks like mine, it's mine.
- 8. If I saw it first, it's mine.
- If you are playing with something and you put it down, it automatically becomes mine.
- 10. If it's broken, it's yours.

Our intention is to offer news and information of general interest to our readers. We do not support the treatment of any specific medical problems or health disorders by anyone other than a trained veterinarian. Any application of the information we put forth is solely at the discretion of the reader. Consult your veterinarian if you are concerned about your animal companion, and you can ask his or her advice about what we offer.



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