

The *real* Nutritional Truths of Pet Food

Human Grade **By products** provide valuable nutrients for your pet:

- AAFCO* defines by products as 'suitable for use in animal food' which is defined as Feed Grade which means it is allowed to be sourced from diseased or non-slaughtered animals.
- By products sourced from diseased or non-slaughtered animals would NOT be considered quality nutrition. By products sourced from USDA inspected and passed animals (Human Grade) would be considered quality nutrition. Unfortunately, the pet owner has NO guarantee if 'By products' listed on a pet food label are sourced from diseased/non-slaughtered animals or healthy animals.
- By products are best to avoid unless a Human Grade guarantee to quality is provided.

Grains can provide some nutrients, BUT they can also be a source of deadly mold:

- Grains such as corn and wheat can provide protein, vitamins, and minerals in your pet's diet...but they can also be a source of deadly molds called mycotoxins.
- Grains contaminated with mycotoxins even at low levels are a proven link to canine and feline disease and have caused numerous deadly recalls.
- Grains are often used as inexpensive protein source in pet food. Commonly found in kibble pet foods, used as a starch/glue to hold the kibble shape.

Wheat Gluten:

- Wheat Gluten is an inexpensive protein source used in some pet foods.
- Wikipedia defines Wheat Gluten as: a food made from gluten, the main protein of wheat. It is made by washing wheat flour dough with water until all the starch granules have been removed, leaving the sticky insoluble gluten as an elastic mass which is then cooked before being eaten. Wheat gluten is often used in kibble pet foods to aid in holding the kibble shape.
- The USDA Nutrient Database states Wheat Gluten provides little to no nutrition.

Chicken Meal:

- There are currently two AAFCO* definitions for Chicken Meal; one allows Chicken Meal to be sourced from non-slaughtered chickens, the other requires Chicken Meal to be sourced from slaughtered chickens. But, neither Chicken Meal definition requires the ingredient to be sourced from USDA inspected and passed chicken.
- Chicken Meal is a animal protein ingredient, but it has been highly processed before your pet consumes it leaving minimal nutritional benefits to your pet.

Organic:

- In the paper "*Human health implications of organic food and organic agriculture: a comprehensive review*" scientists found "*The few human studies that have directly investigated the effects of organic food on human health have so far yielded some observations, including indications of a lower risk of childhood allergies, adult overweight/obesity and non-Hodgkin lymphoma (but not for total cancer) in consumers of organic food. Overall, this review emphasises several documented and likely human health benefits associated with organic food production.*"
- Organic ingredients in pet food are a scientifically proven benefit to you and your pet.

Raw Pet Food:

- FDA is not a fan of raw pet food, in fact evidence suggests that FDA is trying to destroy the raw pet food industry. FDA's lack of understanding of the significance of minimally processed pet food has not deterred pet owners. Raw Pet Food has remained the fastest growing segment of pet food for several years.
- Statistically, Raw Pet Food poses a significantly lesser risk of contamination than kibble pet foods.

Natural:

- Natural really doesn't mean anything. Ignore it when stated on pet food labels and websites.
- The claim Natural is a marketing scam.

Human Grade & Holistic:

- Human Grade stated on a pet food label is THE MOST significant nutritional advancement in commercial pet food since commercial pet food began in the late 1800's. Human Grade was officially defined by AAFCO* in 2016.
- Most pet foods are Feed Grade, which are allowed by all regulatory authorities (FDA and each State) to include ingredients sourced from diseased and non-slaughtered dead, decomposing animals. Human Grade offers pet owners a ingredient quality guarantee. Human Grade stated on a pet food label means that 100% of ingredients are human edible (feed grade can be 100% condemned), 100% of supplements are human edible, and manufacturing requirements are the same safety standards of human food (feed grade is not held to this food safety requirement).
- Pet owners must be aware that regulatory authorities do NOT scrutinize pet food websites, claims of human grade on a pet food website could be a false claim. Only trust the Human Grade claim when it is stated on a pet food label.
- Holistic is not a defined term, it provides a pet owner with no validated meaning.

*AAFCO - American Association of Feed Control Officials - is a private corporation that writes law. In all other areas of law in the United States, the law writing is restricted to government authorities. But not in pet food. In pet food - a private corporation writes law. AAFCO also writes and owns all of the legal definitions of pet food ingredients. In all other areas of law, legal definitions are required by US Freedom of Information rights to be provided free to the public. But not with pet food. Pet Food legal definitions are the property of AAFCO - a private corporation. In other words, because of AAFCO - pet food consumers are denied access to law which is required to be provided to all US citizens.

This document is provided by AssociationforTruthinPetFood.com
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