



Rabbit Food Pyramid

*1/4 to 1/3 cup pellets per 5 lbs. of body weight per day.
Dietary changes should be made gradually.

A rabbit's diet should be made up of fresh, good quality pellets, fresh hay (alfalfa, timothy or oat), water and fresh vegetables. Anything beyond that is a "treat" and should be given in limited quantities.

Babies

- Birth to 3 weeks--mother's milk
- 3 to 7 weeks--mother's milk, alfalfa and pellets
- 7 weeks to 7 months--unlimited pellets, unlimited hay
- 12 weeks--introduce vegetables (one at a time, quantities under 1/2 oz.)

Young Adults (7 months to 1 year)

- Introduce timothy hay, grass hay, and oat hays, decrease alfalfa
- Decrease pellets to 1/2 cup per 6 lbs. body weight
- Increase daily vegetables gradually
- Fruit daily ration no more than 1 oz. to 2 oz. per 6 lbs. body weight

Mature Adults (1 to 5 years)

- Unlimited timothy, grass hay, oat hay, straw
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup pellets per 6 lbs. body weight
- Minimum 2 cups chopped vegetables per 6 lbs. body weight
- Fruit daily ration no more than 2 oz. (2 TBL) per 6 lbs. body weight

Senior Rabbits (Over 6 years)

- If sufficient weight is maintained, continue adult diet
- Frail, older rabbits may need unrestricted pellets to keep weight up
- Alfalfa can be given to underweight rabbits, only if calcium levels are normal
- Annual blood workups are highly recommended for geriatric rabbits

Recommended Vegetables

Select at least three kinds of vegetables daily. A variety is necessary in order to obtain the necessary nutrients, with one each day that contains Vitamin A, indicated by an *. Add one vegetable to the diet at a time. Eliminate if it causes soft stools or diarrhea.

Alfalfa, radish & clover sprouts
Basil
Beet greens (tops)*
Bok choy
Broccoli (mostly leaves/stems)*
Brussels sprouts
Carrot & carrot tops*
Celery
Cilantro
Chicory
Clover
Collard greens*
Dandelion greens and flowers (no pesticides)*
Endive*
Escarole
Green peppers

Kale (!)*
Mint
Mustard greens*
Parsley*
Pea pods (the flat edible kind)*
Spear/Peppermint leaves
Radicchio
Radish tops
Raspberry leaves
Red or green leaf lettuce
Romaine lettuce (no iceberg or light colored leaf)*
Spinach (!)*
Turnip greens
Watercress*
Wheat grass

(!)=Use sparingly. High in either oxalates or goitrogens and may be toxic in accumulated quantities over a period of time