



Archie's Exotic Pet Rescue

www.archiesrescue.ca

Rabbit Diet

Rabbits have very sensitive digestive tracts and very specific dietary needs. Rabbits do not have the ability to vomit, so they must have a continuous supply of fibrous food (hay!) to keep things moving through. Their primary food source should be an unlimited amount of hay, preferably timothy hay, orchard hay, or some other sort of grass hay. Alfalfa hay is acceptable for baby bunnies (< 7 months old) or when there is a need for an adult rabbit to gain weight (pregnant, nursing, emaciated).

Here are some more tips:

- Rabbit food pellets are the primary source of unhealthy weight gain in rabbits. Only babies should have unlimited access to food pellets. An adult rabbit (> 6 months old) that weighs 3 pounds or more should get a maximum of 1/4 cup per day. The healthiest and best quality brand of pellets for rabbits is Oxbow or Sherwood Pet Health.
- Rabbits can be given up to 1 cup of greens daily (see list below).
- Rabbits should never be given foods with seeds in it.
- Grains, such as corn and oats, should be avoided unless the rabbit is underweight. Thoroughly check pet store treat ingredients prior to purchase. Just because there is a picture of a rabbit on the packaging does not mean that it is suitable for rabbits.



Produce Must Be Free Of Herbicides, Pesticides, and Other Contaminants

FOOD	FREQUENCY	NOTES & COMMENTS
Alfalfa Sprouts	Occasionally	Every 2 to 3 days on rotation.
Apple	Occasionally	1 to 2 times a week. Be sure all seeds and pits are removed.
Arugula	Frequently	Avoid the light-coloured hearts.
Asparagus	Frequently	
Bananas	Occasionally	High in sugar, which can cause diabetes and other issues.
Basil	Frequently	
Beet Greens	Frequently	
Bell Peppers	Frequently	No seeds!
Bibb Lettuce	Frequently	Avoid the light-coloured hearts.
Blackberries	Occasionally	Feed fruits in small amounts, as lots of sugar can cause diabetes and other issues.
Blueberries	Occasionally	Feed fruits in small amounts, as lots of sugar can cause diabetes and other issues.
BokChoy	Frequently	
Boston Lettuce	Frequently	Avoid the light-coloured hearts.
Broccoli	Occasionally	Can cause gas in large amounts.
Brussel Sprouts	Occasionally	Can cause gas in large amounts.
Butter Lettuce	Frequently	Avoid the light-coloured hearts. High in acids.
Butternut Squash	Frequently	
Carrot Tops	Frequently	
Carrots	Occasionally	High in sugar, which can cause diabetes and other issues.
Celery	Occasionally	Remove strings and/or cut into very small pieces.
Cilantro	Frequently	
Clover	Frequently	Ensure it is free of chemicals and animal excrement.
Clover Sprouts	Frequently	Ensure it is free of chemicals and animal excrement.
Collard Greens	Occasionally	High in calcium.
Dandelion Greens	Frequently	Ensure it is free of chemicals and animal excrement.
Dill	Frequently	
Eggplant	Frequently	
Endive	Frequently	
Escarole	Frequently	
Fennel	Occasionally	
Grass	Frequently	Ensure it is free of chemicals and animal excrement.
Green Leaf Lettuce	Frequently	Avoid the light-coloured hearts.
Hibiscus	Occasionally	



Kale	Occasionally	High in oxalates, feed sparingly.
Lavender	Occasionally	
Lemon Balm	Occasionally	
Melon	Occasionally	Ensure all seeds and pits are removed.
Mint	Frequently	
Mustard Greens	Frequently	
Okra Leaves	Frequently	
Papaya	Occasionally	Ensure all seeds and pits are removed.
Parsley	Frequently	
Pea Pods	Frequently	
Peach	Occasionally	Ensure all seeds and pits are removed.
Pears	Occasionally	Ensure all seeds and pits are removed.
Peppermint Leaves	Frequently	
Pineapple	Occasionally	Remove skin.
Plum	Occasionally	Ensure all seeds and pits are removed.
Pumpkin	Occasionally	
Pumpkin Leaves	Frequently	
Radish Sprouts	Frequently	
Raspberries	Occasionally	
Raspberry Leaves	Frequently	
Red Leaf Lettuce	Frequently	
Romaine Lettuce	Frequently	Avoid the light-coloured hearts.
Roses	Occasionally	
Strawberries	Occasionally	
Strawberry Leaves	Frequently	
Swiss Chard	Frequently	
Thyme	Occasionally	
Turnip Greens	Occasionally	
Watercress	Frequently	
Wheat Grass	Frequently	
Yellow Squash	Frequently	
Zucchini	Frequently	

