

FEEDING THE *Cat*

Over the years we have inappropriately fed our cats as if they were dogs. Dogs are omnivores, eating a mix of plant and animal material, but cats are true carnivores, eating only meat. Almost all dry pet foods contain a high percentage of plant carbohydrate and plant protein from sources like corn, wheat, and rice. The optimal feline diet contains high amount of moisture, animal protein, and a low level of carbohydrates.



Benefits of an all Canned Diet

Increased Hydration

An all canned diet improves the health of your cat on a rudimentary level by contributing water. You might think this is a moot point because there is always plenty of fresh water available, but cats have a very weak thirst drive. It has been shown that a cat who is on a canned diet will consume twice the amount of total water (from food and drinking) of a cat on a dry diet.

Hydration is critical for bladder and kidney health.

Lowers Diabetic Risk

Diabetes is a serious and difficult to manage health concern for many cats. The classic diabetic is a fat middle aged cat, and owners commonly notice the disease when the cat starts to urinate more frequently. Insulin is the drug of choice to regulate blood sugar, but can have serious side effects. Many diabetic cats that are moved onto a canned diet require less insulin, and over time may not need any medication at all.

Decreased Obesity

Obesity is far too common place in our domestic cats, and dry food shares a load of the blame. Cats in the wild eat high protein, low carbohydrate diets. Only three to five percent of a wild cat's diet is compromised of carbohydrates while most dry diets can contain forty percent. This daily overload of carbohydrates is converted to fat and contributes to a feline population that is morbidly obese.