

Your visual guide to rabbit food

When it comes to feeding bunnies, knowing what proportions to give can be daunting. Our tips can help to simplify rabbit food, and ensure your bunnies are bouncing with good health

GRASS IS GOOD

Grass is high in fibre (at least 20%), moderate in protein (12-15%) and low in fat, starch and sugar. Let your bunnies graze the lawn whenever practical. For rabbits without a lawn run, kiln-dried grass or hay is the next best thing.



TAKE IT SLOW

2 weeks

This is how long you should take to gradually introduce new food to your rabbits' diet. Never change their feed suddenly, as it can cause serious tummy upsets.

SWEET TREATS



As herbivores, rabbits wouldn't naturally eat lots of fruit, so feed it only as an occasional treat (no more than two or three times a week), and keep it to these amounts...

Dried pineapple: a pea-sized amount

Banana: a one-inch chunk

Grapes: just the one!

FIVE A DAY



Aim to feed five or six different greens and veggies each day. Good greens include leafy herbs, weeds, and vegetables such as cabbage, broccoli, cress, sprouts and radish tops.

WEIGHING IT UP

A good general rule for pellets is no more than one eggcup per kilo of your rabbits' weight, so an average rabbit weighing 2kg would need a maximum of two eggcups of pellets a day. Don't give them all at once.



DO THE RAISIN CHECK!

A well-fed bunny at a healthy weight will produce evenly sized, dark, plump droppings that look like raisins.



CARROTS



Whatever Bugs Bunny might say, carrots aren't ideal fodder for rabbits because they're high in sugar. Treat them as a treat – just one or two slices every now and then.

GOING GREEN



Some types of lettuce (such as Iceberg) contain laudanum, which can be harmful to bunnies. Overall, remember that lighter-coloured varieties have little nutritional value, and darker ones (like Romaine) are much better options.

CEREALS WARNING



Muesli-style foods with dried fruit, seeds and nuts aren't recommended as they're high in sugar and rabbits tend to pick and choose the bits they like, so they don't get the full range of nutrients.

H2O

24/7

That's how often you should provide access to fresh, clean water – that is, at all times.



THE RIGHT PROPORTIONS

80-85% of your bunnies' diet should be hay and/ or grass (feed an amount about the same size as your rabbit's body, daily)

10-15% should be dark green leafy veg such as kale or spring greens

5% should be fresh pellet food (not more than six weeks old)



CHEW ON THIS

Good twigs for wearing down teeth can come from hazel, willow, hawthorn and apple trees. Avoid cherry, plum or peach twigs as stone fruit trees are poisonous to rabbits.

