

*Director's
Digest*



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ADDED LARD AND PALATABILITY OF DOG FOOD

Dog Palatability Study
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OBJECT: To determine the effect of 4%, 8%, and 12% added lard on the acceptability of dog food.

Fresh rendered lard was purchased for this study. It was added to the outside commercial dog food prior to the start of the trail. Rations were fed moistened at the rate of 50 grams of water for each 100 grams of food. Adult Pointers were used in this comparison.

Comparisons:

Animal Fat, %		<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>12</u>
Trial 1	kg intake	4.834	33.067	-	-
	Dogs Preferring	1	9	-	-
Trial 2	kg intake	-	13.434	22.501	-
	Dogs Preferring	-	1	9	-
Trial 3	kg intake	-	-	9.015	44.059
	Dogs Preferring	-	-	0	10

SUMMARY: A preliminary trial to determine if there was a relationship between total food intake and added lard was made to determine if added studies with animal fats and acceptability were warranted. These test indicated that a commercial extrude dry dog food containing 6.36% ether extract could be improved in acceptability by the addition of lard.

The addition of 4% lard improve acceptability significantly ($P < .05$) over the commercial diet without added fat; dogs consumed 6.8 times more of the added fat diet than the straight commercial diet.

A comparison of the 4% vs. 8% added fat demonstrated more added fat improved palatability with 9 dogs preferring the 8% level as compared with 1 preferring the 4% added level.

The 8% vs. 12% added fat also produced an improved acceptance with increased fat. All 10 Pointers preferred the 12% added fat diet to the 8% added fat diet and consumed almost 5 times as much of the 12% fat diet.

This series of comparisons demonstrated that a huge quantity of fat can be used in dry pet foods if the criteria is acceptability.