



Grassland Tortoise Food Diet

Grassland Tortoise Food is a high-fiber, low-protein diet perfect for desert tortoises. This formula contains the proper balance of protein and fiber a tortoise needs, along with all the vitamins and minerals. Serve this diet to tortoises large and small in a juicy mash that tortoises find very tasty.

Keep a supply of fresh water handy in the habitat.

Grassland Tortoise Food is available in a 15-ounce Regular Jar, or a 60-ounce Jumbo Jar (almost 4 lbs.)!



Preparation

- ⚙ Soften pellets with water for 2-3 minutes, making a juicy mash. Do not feed dry pellets.
- ⚙ About 1 part Grassland Tortoise Food to 1½ parts water.
- ⚙ Pellets puff up quickly as water is absorbed
- ⚙ Place Grassland Tortoise Food on something flat like a tile or heavy plate without a high lip. The plate shouldn't tip when the tortoise steps on it or have a high lip so that the tortoise has trouble reaching the food.
- ⚙ Form the mash into a wedge so that the tortoise can take bites without clogging its nostrils.
- ⚙ Pick up food when the tortoise has finished.
- ⚙ Do not leave for the tortoise to eat dry.



Grassland Tortoise Food softened with water into a juicy mash is formed into a wedge for easy biting. Yummy!!

Changing food

A reluctant tortoise can be encouraged to eat the new food by mixing some of the previous food into it.

Slowly reduce the amount of the previous food until your tortoise is eating Grassland Tortoise Food alone.

Changing diets quickly can cause painful gas.

How much?

Feed as much as the tortoise wants to eat at one time. You'll know after a few feedings how much your tortoise wants to eat.

Store prepared Grassland Tortoise Food in a container in the refrigerator for several days.

When to feed?

Let your tortoise warm up and browse before giving Grassland Tortoise Food.

How often?

Feed the same amount every day for a healthy tortoise gut. Hand feeding causes the tortoise to wait for its food rather than browse.

[Click here to see the Grassland Tortoise Food page on our website, which includes a video on preparing Grassland Tortoise Food](#)

How about hatchlings?

Hatchlings eat Grassland Tortoise Food as eagerly as their brothers and sisters!

Storage

Store dry Grasslands Tortoise Food in a cool, dry place. No refrigeration needed. **Do not freeze.**

Pigeons and dogs do not care for Grassland Tortoise Food

Cockroaches and ants do! Pick up the food right after your tortoise finishes, when possible. Do not leave out over night.

Where do I get Grassland Tortoise Food?

You can purchase Grassland Tortoise Food from our website, www.tortoisegroup.org or from one of our [Satellite Sellers](#), which you can also find online.

What else can I give my tortoise?

Ideal tortoise diet: The tortoise browses on plants in its habitat and eats Grassland Tortoise Food daily. However, we know that folks want to give their tortoises treats. It's easy to spoil a tortoise and upset the scientifically formulated balance of Grassland Tortoise Food. Please use care.

Offer any time: Dandelion flowers, roses (grown without pesticides), other ornamental flowers like petunias, new spineless cactus pads, and other garden plants. Check our [Plants to Grow for Tortoises](#) sheet.

Use sparingly:

Broccoli, kale, collard and mustard greens, and other kinds of cabbage can depress the thyroid. They also have relatively high protein (not good).

Avoid completely:

- All kinds of lettuce, including Romaine. They contain only water, sugar, and very little fiber.
- Spinach, beet greens, and Swiss chard contain oxalic acid that binds calcium making it unavailable to the tortoise's system (for making a hard shell, for instance).
- Sweet fruit and corn. Tortoises do not have the enzyme to digest sugar, which produces painful gas.
- Dog and cat food contain meat products. Tortoises are vegetarians.
- No frozen vegetables. Some nutrients are lost when foods are frozen. Foods are often rubbery and have added sodium.
- Canned and frozen vegetables, dairy products, breads, and celery all contain high sodium amounts.

Grassland Tortoise Food Ingredients

Suncured Oat Hay, Suncured Timothy Hay, Soybean Hulls, Wheat Middlings, Suncured Alfalfa Meal, Whole Ground Wheat, Escarole, Endive, Calcium Carbonate, Monocalcium Phosphate, Dicalcium Phosphate, Yeast Culture, Dandelion Greens (dried), Sodium Bicarbonate, Soy Lecithin, Direct-Fed Microorganisms (heat stable cultures of *Lactobacillus acidophilus*, *Lactobacillus casei*, *Bifidobacterium bifidum*, *Enterococcus faecium*, *Aspergillus oryzae*), Yeast Extract, Hydrated Sodium Calcium Aluminosilicate, Garlic Extract, Anise Extract, Cassia Extract (Chinese), Ginger Extract, Horseradish Extract, Juniper Extract, Natural Flavoring, Marigold (petal extract), *Yucca schidigera* (whole plant powder), L-Ascorbyl-2-Polyphosphate (source of stabilized Vitamin C), Zinc Methionine Complex, Selenium Yeast, Vitamin E Supplement, Mixed Tocopherols, Rosemary Extract, Ascorbic Acid, Citric Acid, Lecithin, Silicon Dioxide, Choline Chloride, Vitamin A Supplement (Retinyl Acetate), Vitamin D3 Supplement, Niacin Supplement, d-Calcium Pantothenate (source of Vitamin B5), Menadione Sodium Bisulfite Complex (source of Vitamin K activity), Riboflavin Supplement (source of Vitamin B2), Thiamine Mononitrate (source of Vitamin B1), Pyridoxine Hydrochloride (source of Vitamin B6), Biotin, Folic Acid, Vitamin B12 Supplement, Zinc Oxide, Manganous Oxide, Ferrous Sulfate, Tribasic Copper Chloride, Calcium Iodate, Sodium Selenite.

Guaranteed Analysis:

Crude Protein (Min) 9.0% Crude Fat (Min) 2.0% Crude Fiber (Max) 26.0% Moisture (Max) 13.0%
Ash (Max) 10.0% Calcium (Min) 0.9% Calcium (Max) 1.3% Phosphorus (Min) 0.4% Sodium (Max) 0.3%