



Natural Food for Domestic Animals: Mini Review at International Level

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During the second half of the twentieth century, as in all other scientific subjects, significant advances related to the domestic animal sector occurred especially. The significant developments in socioeconomic rates of individuals and their lifestyle have resulted in noticeable increases in the interest in pets. With the production of nutritious and advanced foods the domestic animal sector shows innovations. Lifetime pet foods must be nutritionally balanced and healthy [1,2]. Knowing the nutritional benefits of foods currently available is critically important in ensuring a balanced diet for dogs and cats to keep them safe [3]. In 2016, there were 89.7 million dogs in the United States, and 94.2 million cats [2]. While some government agencies have official definitions for the term natural, the natural pet food market has grown as demand for this sector is increasing, driven by the consumer's perception that these products are of high quality and nutritious and have practical health benefits, although there is little evidence for the impact of natural food on pet health [4]. The use of diet for health promotion and prevention of disease is not new but in recent years it has gained some attention. Interesting methods exist about the importance of functional foods in domestic animals [5-10]. Nevertheless, the effect of these foods on dogs and cats needs to be studied in order to better understand their metabolism and thus to improve the nutritional status and health of the domestic animal [3].

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