
Golden Retriever Rescue of Wisconsin, Inc.

WDJ Top Ten Dry Foods – About Quality Dog Foods

GRRoW Hotline: 888-655-4753

Quality Foods Should Contain:

- Superior protein sources, either whole fresh meats or single source meat meal (example: *chicken* meal rather than *poultry* meal)
- A whole-meat source, as one of the first two ingredients.
- Whole, unprocessed grains, vegetables, and other foods.
- Nutrients and enzymes. (more likely to be found in unprocessed foods)

**Quality Foods Should Contain a MINIMUM of the Following:**

- Food fragments - lower-cost by-products of another food manufacturing process, such as brewer's rice and wheat bran. Manufacturers usually include at least one fragment to help lower costs. Beware *any* food that includes *several* fragments.
- Meat by-products (not handled as carefully as whole meat) - any food that contains meat by-products as the MAJOR protein source indicates a low-quality product.

High Quality Foods Should NOT Contain:

- Fats or proteins named generically (example: *animal* fat/poultry fat instead of *beef* fat / *lamb* meal)
- Artificial preservatives (BHA, BHT, ethoxyquin)
- Artificial colors.
- Sweeteners (corn syrup, sucrose, ammoniated glycyrrhizin) to improve unappealing food
- **Propylene glycol (a toxic substance when consumed in large amounts; added to some "chewy" foods to keep them moist)**