



NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2007

LINK BETWEEN HUMAN & PET DISEASES?

A study at the University of Missouri is looking at a possible link between bacterial infections in pets and their human companions.

Generally, antibiotic resistant infections are thought to occur in a hospital situation after surgery, or in long term human patients. Researchers are looking at other environmental factors outside of the hospital setting that could possibly be contributors.

Staph infections that can lie dormant on animal or human skin can contribute to pneumonia or blood infections. Researchers are suspecting that pets may play a role in the increase in community infections. It is also possible however that humans can pass the staph infection to their pet according to this study.

So far, researchers have collected 500 nasal swabs from human health care workers, veterinary staff, the general population as well as dogs and cats. Analysis will begin this fall, but the results are not expected until the spring.

BREATHIES & MELLOW MUT

We have introduced two new treats to our line-up. Made by Dogswell, the chicken is cage-free chicken with no hormones, no antibiotics, no filler or by-products.

The Mellow Mut contains chicken breast with the addition of chamomile & lavender and other supplements to promote a peaceful pet. (Great used along with Nature's Herbs for Pets Calming Formula or a flower essence for anxiety)

The Breathies have the same chicken with mint, parsley, chlorophyll & other supplements for fresh breath and healthy teeth. (Great used in conjunction with the Nature's Herbs Dental Care and Petz Life dental spray or gel).

ZUKE'S HIP ACTION FOR DOGS_In addition to the Hip Action for cats, we now have the dog treats containing glucosamine & chondroitin along with blueberries & flax seeds. These healthy moist treats (with glycerine to keep them soft, not chemicals) can help dog with mobility problems. Available in beef or peanut butter flavour.

HALLOWEEN & YOUR PETS_Please remember to keep your pets safe October 30th and 31st when trick or treaters are out and around. Any pet could be at the risk of pranksters, but black cats may be especially targeted during this time. Please keep your pets indoors and safe.

FEW PET FOOD INGREDIENTS RATED AS TOP QUALITY

A report published by the Consumer Wellness Center gave a top ranking of 5 stars to fewer than 60 ingredients out of 570 reviewed ingredients used in pet food.

Carrots, whole brown rice, garlic oil, flax seed, cracked barley, chicken meal, peas, mackerel and others topped the list as 5 star ingredients.

Nearly 200 ingredients were rated as the worst offenders with one star. Some of those were salt, corn syrup, whet gluten, chicken byproduct meal, smoke flavour, and multiple dyes (yellow 5, blue 2, red 40).

FULL MOON & EMERGENCY VISITS_A study at Colorado State University Veterinary Medicine department is examining a possible link between an increase in emergency room visits for dogs & cats during days when the moon is full, or near full.

The data was collected over 10 years from case histories of almost 12,000 dogs & cats treated at the university center. The risk of emergencies during the full moon was found to be almost 23 percent greater in cats, and 28 percent greater in dogs compared with other times during the month. The data is still being interpreted.

CUSTOMERS REQUESTING MORE BOTANICAL PRODUCTS

Pet owners are beginning to appreciate the range of natural grooming products available for their cats & dogs. Pet owners are more likely to read labels now in an effort to avoid chemical in shampoos, conditioners and other skin & coat care product.

The addition of lavender, chamomile, tea tree oil and other botanical ingredients not only smell better and give your pet a nicer coat, but they have medicinal properties as well – calming a pet, reducing fleas and soothing irritated skin included.

PET FOOD RECALLS CONTINUE

In the past few months since the pet food recalls, consumers may have begun to relax and assume that all is well. There have been more recalls, so it pays to continue being vigilant in this issue.

You can be confident knowing that none of our products were, or are affected and we will continue to be on top of this issue.

In good health, Mike, Lee, Jayne & Moxy

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