

Novel Trends in Small Animal Nutrition

A Practical Guide

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TABLE 1. AAFCO DEFINITIONS FOR COMMON PET FOOD INGREDIENTS

Label Ingredient	Definition (AAFCO 2012)
Meat by-products	Nonrendered, nonmeat (not striate muscle) including, but not limited to, lungs, spleen, kidneys, brain, livers, blood, bone, fatty tissue, and stomach and intestines without contents; does not include hair, horns, teeth, or hoofs
Meat meal	Rendered product from mammal tissues exclusive of hair, hoof, horn, hide trimming, manure, and stomach and rumen contents, except in such amounts as may occur unavoidably
Poultry	Combination of flesh and skin with/without accompanying bone; derived from parts of whole carcasses but without feathers, heads, feet, and entrails
Poultry by-product	Nonrendered parts of carcasses, such as heads, feet, and viscera, free from fecal material
Poultry by-product meal	Ground and rendered parts of the carcass, such as necks, feet, undeveloped eggs, and intestines, but without feathers
Poultry meal	Dry rendered product of flesh and skin with/without accompanying bone, derived from parts of whole carcasses but without feathers, heads, feet, and entrails

**Species-specific labels (eg, chicken or beef meal) are used when applicable.*