

CONSTRUINDO SABERES, FORMANDO PESSOAS E TRANSFORMANDO A PRODUÇÃO ANIMAL

NUTRITIONAL EVALUATION OF NATURAL DIETS FOR DOGS IN DIFFERENT GROWTH PHASES

Gabriela Soares Carvalho Pamplona CORTE REAL^{*1}, Humberto Pena COUTO², Ricardo Augusto Mendonça VIEIRA²

*corresponding author: gabrielapamplona@yahoo.com.br

¹Zootechnist, Doctor Animal Science, autonomous, Campos dos Goytacazes, RJ, Brasil

² Associate professor, Universidade Estadual Norte Fluminense – UENF/CCTA/LZO, Campos dos Goytacazes, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil

The objective of this work was to evaluate the metabolizable energy and protein requirement according to the growth curves of different canine races using natural diet (ND). Twenty-one dog breeds were used, considering mini, small, medium, large and giant breeds ranging from <1 to 90kg of live weight. The consumption was estimated in relation to the different values of metabolizable energy, varying from 3000 to 4200 kcal/kg in dry matter (DM) or 1500 to 2100 kcal/kg in as fed. The moisture of the food was considered as 50% and the daily requirement of metabolizable energy (kcal/kg as fed) obtained by the equations of the NRC (2006) referring to puppies in the growth phase and adult equations with different factors considering the postages. The adult stage of mini-sized dogs, such as Chiuaua, was obtained at 10 months of age, while giant-sized dogs, such as St Bernard, reach adulthood at 18 months of age. Dogs such as Chiuaua, who weigh less than 5 kilos, present a 5.28% of their live weight for ND consumption (2000 kcal/kg MN and 50% humidity), in turn, dogs such as St Bernard, which have a weight of up to 90 kg, show a 2.18% of their live weight for the same ND. Medium-sized breeds, such as the Beagle, have a mean ratio of 3.59%. The requirements of metabolizable energy ranged from 129 to 264 kcal/kg from the initial growth phase to the adult stage of mini-sized dogs, and 1030 to 3910 kcal/kg for giant-sized dogs. Protein consumption (g/day) ranged from 5.4 to 24.3 g/day from the initial growth phase to the adult stage of mini-sized dogs, and 37.2 to 355 g/day of giant-sized dogs. The daily ND consumption ranged from 65 to 132 g/day from the initial growth phase to the adult stage of mini - sized dogs, from 177 to 531 g/day of medium - sized dogs and 515 to 1955 g/day of giant - sized dogs. Natural diet provides fresh food with higher digestibility that meets the nutritional requirement of dogs of different breeds, size and may be an ally to improve the health of pets when formulated considering all factors necessary for a good balance of the diet, according to phase of the animal.

Keywords: age, body mass, breed, pet, sex

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