

Baby Skunk Information

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*The most comprehensive and up to date information regarding skunks
and skunk care on the web!*

Compiled by Mary Vice Copeland

If you are a first time skunk owner you may soon wonder where the manual is. Good news! There is now such a manual called "Domestic Skunks, Book 1 – Babies" from which this pamphlet is based. There are also several websites with all kinds of advice and tips on taking care of your baby skunk. In fact there is a whole network of people who share information, pictures and stories about pet skunks. There are even live chats where you can speak to other skunk owners. If you do not have internet access, the contact people listed here will get information printed out for you. The "how to" is constantly evolving. Even if you were to read everything, you may still have questions or run into situations that you could use some help with. More good news - there are fellow skunk owners who have gone through the learning curves and are happy to be of assistance. You will find listed a website and contact people so that you can educate yourself and make informed decisions. In the mean time here is some basic information to get you started.

Before Your Baby Comes Home

Permits. Please check the laws in your state regarding owning a domestic skunk. In Florida, you should have at a minimum the Personal Use Permit, which is free. However, if you will have your baby in public at any time, you need to have the Class III Exhibition Permit. You can go to website for more information. Also know that most states mandate that if a bite is reported, your skunk must be tested for rabies. This is a death sentence for your skunk. Never let anyone have the chance to be bitten by your skunk.

Vet care. Find a vet who can and will take care of your skunk. There are only a few in this area. Your skunk has already been de-scented, but you will need to have your new baby neutered/spayed before it is six months old. Estrus in particular can be very dangerous and young females can develop pyrometria if not spayed. Your baby will need to be vaccinated against canine distemper. Only the ferret canine distemper vaccine Purevax by Merial is safe for skunks. There is no approved rabies vaccine for skunks. Your skunk will also need to be protected from roundworms. Skunks are treated with a de-wormer such as Strongid, Panacur or Evict. Evict is available from a pet store. Use only products with the active ingredient pyrantel pamoate. Dosage is based on weight. It's a good idea to have a vet you feel comfortable with selected before you bring a baby home. It is also important to know what your vet's policy is if your skunk were to bite him or a staff member.

Skunk proofing. Skunks are very curious animals and, just like a human toddler, will be compelled to explore their entire environment. This means you will need to secure all low drawers and cabinets. Even many baby locks leave a gap large enough for a determined skunk to get opened. Sometimes it's best just to secure the doors with packing tape until your skunk is bigger. You'll be surprised where this little ball of fur can go. Not only will he/she climb on all of the furniture, he/she may try to climb into the refrigerator or dishwasher when you open them, so be prepared. Try to find a way to keep her from getting behind the fridge, stove or washing machine. Block up any holes or crawl spaces as well as your

dryer hose. Potted plants are sure to be dug in and may be eaten. Many plants are poisonous to pets. Get anything that might be harmful off the floor and out of reach. If you have floor vents, they must be screwed down tightly. Skunks can and will tear through a window screen. Recliners can crush a small animal like a skunk. Any food for other animals or people should not be left out where the baby skunk can get to it.

The following tips may save you some headaches. You may want to protect the underside of your box spring and your sofa or block off access. Skunks love to tear at the cloth and climb in and nest and sometimes potty in there. If you have a fireplace, make sure to secure it so your skunk can not get to it. Make your garbage can inaccessible either by putting it up on a cabinet or getting one with a lid and a pedal to open it. Be extremely careful with doors leading to outside. A skunk can easily sneak out without you being aware. Once a skunk gets outside, if it is not found immediately the chances of getting it back become slim. Skunks are not like cats and dogs that find their way home eventually. "Domestic Skunks, Book 1 – Babies" goes into greater detail about skunk proofing.



Providing a Safe Area

Protect your baby skunk from other animals and don't leave them unsupervised with children. You may want to set up a safe area in your home for when you are away. Baby skunks can climb and this is a factor if you are considering a gate or a pen. Don't overwhelm baby with too much area in the beginning. Start with one room and introduce new rooms as baby gets more comfortable with its surroundings.

If you must confine to a crate or cage make sure there is enough room for a litter area. As they get older, try not to keep them in there for more than a few hours. They really need free run of as much of the house as you can give them.

First Aid Kit

You should have your first aid kit assembled before baby's arrival. The following items should help you get started. Thermometer, Colloidal Silver for wounds, Eye Dropper and syringes for giving meds, Corn syrup, molasses, karo syrup - helps with seizures, Children's Benadryl liquid form for allergic reactions, Pedialyte or Smart Water - replaces electrolytes and helps with dehydration, Activated Charcoal - for accidental poisoning,

Rubbing alcohol - sterilization of wounds, Cotton balls, Q Tips, gauze and bandages, Quick Stop - stops bleeding, KY Jelly, Vaseline, Preparation H - helps with rectal prolapse, Bachs Rescue Remedy - reduces stress.

Emergency phone numbers - You'll be surprised how hard it is to find a number you know by heart when there is an emergency.

The New Arrival

Take the time to be with your baby skunk. He/she will never be this little again. Follow her as she explores the house. The skunk will quickly show you what isn't skunk proofed. Baby skunks have a natural inclination to follow their mother and as it gets older, you may find your little one following you around. There is a lot you can do to be comforting. Give them some time to get use to you. Hold them constantly, take a nap together, carry them around with you while you do chores and **gently** play with them. It will help you bond and keep him/her from being hard to manage later on. Like any infant, your new baby likes toys almost as much as you like giving them. Especially appreciated are stuffed toys about their size that they can wrestle with and drag behind the couch. **NEVER** play rough with your baby skunk. This only teaches them bad habits that will be hard to break later. Most skunks love blankets or something to curl up under. And although not really a toy, crickets are great fun and will get those pouncing instincts going.

Doing the business. Skunks can be fairly easy to litter train. They naturally seek out corners. Very quickly, they will inform you which corners they prefer. There will be several. You may disagree with some of the choices, but this is an argument you are destined to lose. Line the pan with fresh newspaper, puppy pads or paper litter, and try to change it after each use. If you use clay litter, it must be the unscented, non-clumping kind.

Setting the schedule. Skunks are basically nocturnal and will sleep most of the day. Optimally, they will be active for about five hours. Any less and they will tend to become fat, sedentary and eventually, unwell. It's very important that you set aside plenty of time to pay attention to your skunk so that you both get full enjoyment from each other. You also want to establish feeding times. Your skunk thinks this means whenever it sees you, but plan on feeding your baby every four hours for the first several weeks and then gradually less often.

Things to watch out for – Seizures and Prolapse. Even the best-cared for animals can develop problems. Unfortunately, a small percentage of baby skunks sometimes develop seizures. Most outgrow them in their first year. Seizures can usually be treated through diet and occur more frequently in babies that are fed a low protein, high carbohydrate diet. You'll know your baby is having problems if she appears glassy-eyed, groggy, or stumbles. The best thing you can do is remain calm, turn off the lights, and talk to him/her soothingly. Rub Karo syrup on the gums to help get the blood sugar back up. Once the baby has returned to normal, offer easily digestible proteins such as worms, crickets or a few pieces of STOMP. If you become concerned, call your vet. If your vet is not available, call someone on your contact list for advice.

Prolapse can occur for a few reasons. The most important thing is to safely get the intestine back in where it belongs. Make sure the area is clean, then apply a bit of KY Jelly on the tip of your finger, apply light pressure and slowly push it back in. Hold for a few minutes to give it time to resume its normal form. If that doesn't work, you can try Preparation H the next time.

Worm infestation is a common reason for prolapse. Be sure to give your baby a proper de-worming. Put baby on a soft food diet for a few days and slowly resume back to a normal diet if no other problems occur. If the problem becomes persistent, you should see your veterinarian.



What's for dinner? Skunks are carnivores, but they will eat most anything even if it is not good for them. They thrive on a principally high protein diet with proper fats. NEVER give a skunk cat, ferret or dog food or kibble of any kind. Kibble damages teeth and has no viable nutrient availability usable to a skunk (or any animal).

Remember that chocolate and caffeine can be poisonous and potentially fatal to skunks. Grapes have caused kidney failure and even death for some skunks. Shells and husks (for example sunflower shells and peanut shells) can perforate a skunk's intestines, and onions can cause anemia.

Meals - There is one basic guideline you need to keep in mind when selecting your skunk's food. Keep it NATURAL. Nature will provide your skunk everything it needs to thrive and has been doing so for thousands of years. You need to get the most nutritional value for your dollar and make sure your skunk is getting a well rounded diet that includes enough protein, fats, calcium, taurine, vitamins and minerals.

Grains have been erroneously recommended as a diet staple, but that advice is not only incorrect, it is dangerous to the health of your skunk. Skunks have no dietary need for carbohydrates. In a skunk, carbohydrates convert to fat and lead to inflammation. Inflammation is the number one cause of disease and death in skunks. While some websites will also recommend a diet of mostly vegetables, they are high in carbohydrates and have a slow absorption rate. This is why we recommend sprouts, which is closer to the vegetation a skunk would eat in its natural environment. Sprouts also have higher digestive enzymes for better nutrient absorption.

There is a very good chance your baby will get all the nutrients it needs from its species appropriate diet. If you need to supplement the diet for any reason, please use the following guidelines.

Calcium – It has been suggested that skunks need 250mg of calcium a day. In actuality, 60 – 90 mg is a more accurate estimate. It is important to remember that calcium also needs magnesium, phosphorus

and Vitamin D to absorb properly. Too much calcium or calcium not given properly can lead to problems such as bone calcification, bone spurs & kidney stones. The most common problem improper calcium supplementation leads to is Metabolic Bone Disease which has become quite prevalent in the domestic skunk community feeding a low protein, high carbohydrate diet. There are 3 good options to use as a calcium supplement; crushed egg shell, food grade Diatomaceous Earth (DE), and Pet Skunk Support Factors.

Taurine – It is also suggested that skunks get a minimum of 250mg of taurine a day. Taurine is a water soluble amino acid that occurs naturally in organ meat & muscles. Many vegetation sources and insects have methionine and cysteine that the body uses to synthesize taurine. Heat destroys taurine so it is essential that meats be fed raw.

Protein – Optimal choices of protein include pinkies, meal worms, super worms, crickets and beetles. Lesser forms of protein are nuts, turkey, chicken, eggs, cheese and natural peanut butter in small amounts.

The protein portion of the meal should be fed alone and be the entire meal. You do not want to mix the vegetation portion with the protein because they have different absorption rates. This can create two different problems.

1. Skunks have an acidic gut and a fast digestive system, both which allow raw foods to be consumed safely. The acidity of the gut is not conducive for bacterial growth. The fast digestive tract allows raw food to process through before bacteria has time to grow. Vegetation has a slower digestion rate, which will slow down the process of the raw proteins getting through the digestive tract before bacteria has time to grow.

2. The slower digestive rate of vegetation means less nutrients will be absorbed by competing with the protein at the same time.

Vitamins – It is not known exactly how much of each vitamin is recommended for domestic skunks. If you are feeding the proper diet, your skunk is getting the vitamins it needs. Although carrots and yams convert to Vitamin A in the human body, the same is not true with skunks. Fatty fish and eggs are sources of Vitamin D. Food sources of Vitamin E include nuts, organ meats, seafood and eggs. Sources of Vitamin K include beef liver and cheese. If your skunk is getting a well rounded diet, he is already getting these fat soluble vitamins from his food.

Minerals – Trace minerals can be a bit tricky to know if they are getting enough. Willard Water (dark), Diatomaceous Earth and Sea Salt (NOT regular table salt!) are good sources of trace minerals. You can also get trace mineral drops and add to the drinking water.

Cod liver oil is a source of Vitamin A and D, both which can be over dosed. A better choice that is rich in Omega 3's and good for the heart is Fish Oil. Choose a high quality brand that won't contain heavy levels of mercury, such as Carlson's or Nordic Naturals.



Suggested Feeding Chart

Choose 1 from each category – Babies should be fed 4 times a day

Protein – 1 Serving per day – Should be split between meals

| STOMP! | Insects | Egg | Gizzards/Hearts | Cheese |
|---------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------|
| ½ ounce | 6 – 8 Mealworms | ½ raw | 1 ounce per day - | 1 teaspoon |
| | 2 – 4 Superworms | ½ boiled | not all in one meal | |
| | 4 – 6 Crickets | Twice a week | | |

Fat – Choose 1 serving per day (can be split between meals), except chicken neck

| Raw chicken neck | Nuts | Flax Seed Oil | Coconut Oil | Extra Virgin Olive Oil |
|-------------------------|-------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 neck twice weekly | 2 per day | ¼ teaspoon | ¼ teaspoon | ¼ teaspoon |

Calcium – 1 serving per day except Chicken Neck. Yogurt & Cottage Cheese should be full fat, not low fat or no fat. Full fat gives a serving of Vitamin A. Can be split between meals.

| Yogurt | Cottage Cheese | Cheese | Egg Shells | Raw Chicken Neck |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| ½ teaspoon | ½ teaspoon | ½ ounce | ¼ teaspoon | 1 neck twice a week |

Vegetation (Sprouts) – ¼ cup per day, not to be fed with protein – Choose a variety

Nuts – Raw, salt free and chopped nuts should be given as snacks throughout the day. They are an important source of Omega's and good fats.

This suggested chart is for babies only! No fruits or sugary foods are on here until "seizure season" is over. After the age of approximately 4 months, meals should be cut back to ¾ cup of vegetation a day, split between 3 meals. At around 6 months of age, depending on the metabolism of the skunk, meals can be cut ½ cup vegetation, split between two meals.

Healthy treats, such as nut pieces should be hidden around the house for fun hunting that keeps them active.

Pet Skunk Support Factors are recommended to be the only supplement given. Do not mix with other supplements!

Safe Cleaning

Normal cleaning products are dangerous for skunks. Skunks can not handle chemicals. Try using what your grandmother (or great-grandmother) used, such as vinegar and baking soda. Even some products that say pet safe are not safe for skunks. "Domestic Skunks, Book 1 – Babies" has in depth information, tips and recipes for safe cleaning.

Skunk Sitter

Be prepared for the unexpected. Have a plan if you are called out of town. Know who you can call on to take care of your pet... and make sure that person knows what can happen if a bite is reported. You may need a skunk sitter if you go on vacation. It can be hard to take a skunk along since they are illegal in so many states.

For further information on the care of your skunk, including diet, training, seizures, general care information and a chance to chat with other skunk owners please visit:

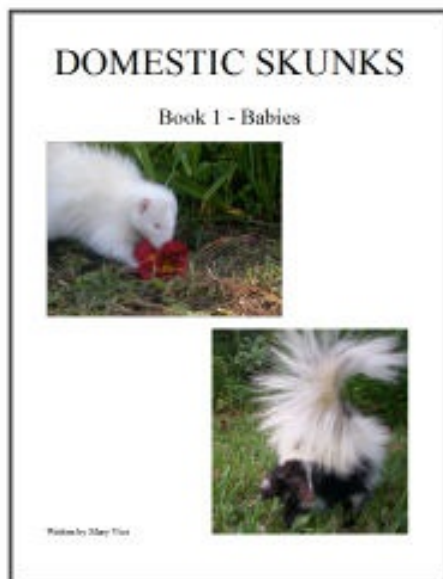
www.StripedBandits.com



If you have any problems accessing the website, you can contact any of the persons below to help you.

Please feel free to contact the following persons if you have a question about your skunk:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <i>Mary Copeland</i> | <i>(843) 821-2221</i> | <i>stripedbandits@yahoo.com</i> |
| <i>Maria Ellis</i> | <i>(954) 876-0806</i> | <i>chunkyskunky@comcast.net</i> |
| <i>Lynnda Butler</i> | <i>(954) 290-6009</i> | <i>lynnadbutler@bellsouth.net</i> |



“Domestic Skunks, Book 1 – Babies” is now available to purchase.

\$15.50 price includes domestic postage

Paypal \$15.50 to stripedbandits@yahoo.com

International orders should email stripedbandits@yahoo.com for shipping rate.



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Blood Normal Ranges

| | Low | High |
|-------------------------|------|------|
| Hemoglobin | 9 | 20.7 |
| Hematocrit | 33 | 60 |
| Leukocytes WBC | 3 | 11.5 |
| Erythrocytes RBC | 4.4 | 10 |
| MCV | 40 | 100 |
| MCH | 15 | 40 |
| MCHC | 29 | 37 |
| Platelet Count | 117 | 428 |
| Platelet Est | | |
| Seg Neutrophils | 1.91 | 3.40 |
| Band Neutrophils | 0 | 0.04 |
| Lymphocytes | 0.64 | 1.7 |
| Monocytes | 0.04 | 0.21 |
| Eosinophils | 0 | 0.8 |
| Basophile | 0 | 0.4 |
| Blood Parasites | | |
| Glucose | 85 | 210 |
| Urea Nitrogen | 9.0 | 30 |
| Creatinine | 0.5 | 1.5 |
| Total Protein | 5.3 | 8.5 |
| Albumin | 2.2 | 4.5 |
| Bilirubin, Total | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| Alk Phosphatase | 0 | 89 |
| ALT (SGPT) | 0 | 250 |
| AST (SGOT) | 0 | 250 |
| Cholesterol | 60 | 250 |
| Calcium | 7.8 | 10.3 |
| Phosphorus | 4.0 | 8.2 |
| Sodium (NA+) | 139 | 157 |
| Potassium (K+) | 4.7 | 6 |
| Chloride (CL-) | 95 | 114 |
| Globulin | 2.2 | 4.9 |
| Creatinine Kinase (CPK) | 200 | 1000 |
| | | |
| Bicarbonate (CO2) | 18 | 30 |
| Anion Gap | 14 | 34 |
| Serum Osmolality | 275 | 325 |
| A/G Ratio | 0.7 | 1.9 |
| Cl/P Ratio | 0 | 35 |
| Bilirubin Direct | 0 | 0.2 |
| Bilirubin Indir | | |
| LDH | 200 | 850 |
| GGT | 0 | 15 |
| Triglycerides | 25 | 190 |
| Amylase | 80 | 230 |
| Lipase | 0 | 45 |
| Total T4 | 1 | 3.5 |

This list is compiled from skunk owners and their veterinarians of products that have been used successfully on skunks. There is no guarantee a skunk will not have an adverse reaction to any of the products on this list. As always, consult with your veterinarian before using any product on your pet.

| Product Name | Active Ingredient | Used For |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Advantage 9 for cats | Imidacloprid | Flea control. |
| Denamarin | SAMe, Silybin | Liver support and detoxification. |
| Denosyl | S-Adenosylmethionine | Liver support. |
| Depo Medrol | Methylprednisolone acetate | An anti-inflammatory glucocorticoid for intramuscular, intra-articular, soft tissue or intralesional injection. |
| Dexamethasone | Dexamethasone | A potent synthetic member of the glucocorticoid class of steroid hormones. It acts as an anti-inflammatory and immunosuppressant. |
| Lanoxin, Digitek, Lanoxicaps | Digoxin | Is widely used in the treatment of various heart conditions, namely atrial fibrillation, atrial flutter and sometimes heart failure that can not be controlled by other medication. |
| Droncit | Praziquantel | Tapeworms. |
| Duralactin | MicroLactin | Anti-inflammatory. |
| Elavil, Endep, Vanatrip | Amitriptyline | Mild sedative. |
| Enacard | Enalapril maleate | For the treatment of mild, moderate or severe heart failure. Helps the heart beat more efficiently, prevents fluid build-up in the lungs, lowers blood pressure, improves ability to tolerate exercise. |
| Evict | Pyrantel Pamoate | Roundworms and hookworms. |
| Rerretinin | Melatonin | Hormonal related issues. |
| Lasix | Furosemide | Diuretic especially useful with heart patients. |
| Isoflurane gas | | Anesthesia. |
| Nemex 2, Strongid T | Pyrantel Pamoate | Roundworms and hookworms. |
| Panacur | Fenbendazole | Roundworms, hookworms, whipworms, tapeworms, flukes & Giardia. |
| Prednisone | Prednisone | Synthetic corticosteroid. |
| Soloxin | Levothyroxine Sodium | Useful for the thyroid. Stimulates metabolism, growth, development & differentiation of tissues. |
| Valium | Diazepam | Used to relieve anxiety, muscle spasms and seizures. |
| Vetmedin | Pimobendan | Helps the heart to pump more efficiently. |

Antibiotics

| | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|
| Albon | Sulfadimethoxine | Coccidia. |
| Antirobe | Clindamycin hydrochloride | Dental and soft tissue infections. |
| Chloramphenicol Chloromycetin palmitate | | Chloramphenicol should only be used for serious infections in which other medicines do not work. |
| Clavamox drops | Amoxicillin + Clavulanate | Amoxicillin + clavulanate is a combination of two drugs that act together synergistically to treat or prevent bacterial infections in animals. Amoxicillin is an antibiotic related to penicillin except that it has a broader spectrum of antibacterial action. |
| Convenia | Cefovecin sodium | Injection that lasts for two weeks. |
| Keflex (cefa) | Cephalexin | Broad spectrum antibiotic used to treat bacterial infections of the skin, urinary tract, respiratory tract, bones and joints. |
| Bactrim, Septra, Tribissen | Sulfisoxazole/trimethoprim | Sulfa antibiotics to treat eye infections and staph that has minimal effect on the normal flora of the GI tract of the patient meaning less potential for antibiotic induced diarrheas and less resistant bacteria in the home. |

Vitamins/Minerals/Amino Acids**Used For**

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Calcium | Mineral | Supplemental calcium can do more harm than good and should only be done under veterinary supervision. |
| Chromium | Trace Mineral | Serum sugar regulator. |
| Gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) | Amino Acid | Reduces anxiety. |
| L-Carnitine | Amino Acid | Heart health. |
| L-Glutamin | Amino Acid | Used for gastrointestinal disorders, leaky gut and promotes wound healing. |
| L-Theanine | Amino Acid | Anxiety and stress. |
| Methylsulfonylmethane (MSM) | Mineral | Anti-inflammatory. |
| N-Acetyl-Cysteine (NAC) | Amino Acid derivative | Helps the body neutralize toxins, helps to prevent liver damage caused from overuse of acetaminophen (Tylenol). Useful in leaky gut. |
| Pet Tinic | Iron Supplement | Anemia. |
| Taurine | Amino Acid | Heart and neurological health. |
| Vitamin B6 | Vitamin | Needed for assimilation of free form amino acids. |
| Vitamin B12 | Vitamin | Appetite stimulant, energy booster. |
| Vitamin K | Vitamin | A true antidote for poisoning by coumarins such as bromadiolone, commonly found in rodenticides. |
| Zinc | Mineral | |

Herbs/ Homeopathics/ Nutraceuticals**Used For**

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---|
| Arnica Montana | Homeopathic | Anti-inflammatory, Pain. |
| Bioplasma Cell Salts | Homeopathic | Helps maintain an appropriate balance within the cells of the body. |
| COq10 | Nutraceutical | Heart support. |
| Dandelion Leaf | Herbal | Detoxifier, improves health, mobility & stiffness in joints. Strengthens liver, builds up blood & helps anemia. Rich in potassium. Ideally balanced diuretic & prevents potassium deficiency with pharmaceutical diuretics. Good for water retention with heart problems. Restores gastric balance. |
| Dimethylglycine (DMG) | Nutraceutical | Anti-inflammatory. |
| DGL | Nutraceutical | Licorice derivative with glycyrrhiza (component that can cause high blood pressure) removed. Good for digestive issues, upset stomach and liver issues. |
| DL-Phenylalanine (DLPA) | Nutraceutical | Pain, inflammation. |
| Ginger | Herbal | An herbal remedy for asthma and coughs related to inflammation or allergies. Ginger has been used to treat nausea, indigestion, cramps, migraine headaches and to lower blood cholesterol & as a cleanser. |
| Hawthorn Berry Drops | Herbal | Heart support. |
| Hydraplenish | Nutraceutical | Hyaluronic Acid – Joint lubricant. Useful for disc problems. |
| Milk Thistle | Herbal | Protects and regenerates the liver. Not for long term use. |
| Nopal | Herbal | Helps maintain healthy blood sugar levels. |
| Olive Leaf Extract | Herbal | Natural antibacterial, antifungal, and anti-inflammatory. |
| Oreganol p73 | Oil of Oregano | Natural antibiotic, anti-viral. |
| Rose Hips | Herbal | High in Vitamin C, good for adrenal glands, arteriosclerosis, blood purifier, cancer, circulation, contagious diseases. |
| Serrapeptase | Proteolytic Enzyme | Serrapeptase from silk worms – Inflammation, heart health, pain. |
| Sovereign Silver | Silver Hydrosol | A natural antibiotic and healing agent. Also used for its anti-fungal & anti-viral properties. |
| Traumeel | Homeopathic | Pain inflammation. |
| Turmeric | Herbal/Spice | Inflammation, digestive issues. |
| Valerian Root | Herbal | A powerful nervine, stimulant, calmate and antispasmodic. Allays pain and promotes sleep. |

Miscellaneous Supplements**Used For**

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Acidophilus | Probiotic | Helps restore a healthy digestive tract, especially when antibiotics are given. |
| Bee Pollen | Considered a super food | Bee pollen contains an incredible array of vitamins, minerals, amino acids, enzymes, co-enzymes, and hormones. It is especially rich in B vitamins and antioxidants, vitamins C & E and several flavanoids. |
| Beta Glucan | Beta 1, 3-D Glucans | Beta 1, 3-D glucans seem to make the immune system work better without becoming overactive. |
| Bromelain Posder | Proteolytic Enzyme | Anti-inflammatory. |
| Carlson for Kids DHA | Dietary Supplement | Omega 3 Fatty Acid. |
| Chondroitin Sulfate | Dietary Supplement | Bone and joints. Treatment for osteoarthritis. |
| Dr. Goodpet | Digestive Enzymes | Plant based digestive enzymes. |
| Glucosamine Sulfate | Dietary Supplement | Bone and joints. Treatment for osteoarthritis. |
| Prozyme | Digestive enzymes | Plant based digestive enzymes. |
| Pancreatin, Viokase | Porcine Enzymes | Porcine based digestive enzyme. |
| Diatomaceous Earth (Food Grade DE) | Fossil Shell Flour | Safe, natural way to get rid of internal and external parasites. |
| Flax Seed Oil | Nutritional Supplement | Omega-6 and Omega-3 fatty acids. |
| Liver Support Factors | Liver Support & Detoxifyer | Use when animal is on a steroid or other treatment that affects the liver. Use twice a year for liver support. |
| PetSpan | Nutritional Supplement | Chlorella supplement for organ support and as a detoxifier. |
| Rescue Remedy | Bach's Flower Essence | Stress relief & shock. |
| Royal Jelly | Considered the perfect food | |
| Synovi | Supplement | Joint and arthritis. |
| Whey Protein | Nutritional Supplement | Highly digestible protein supplement. |

Not Safe For Skunks

Metacam (Meloxicam)

Skunks have died after taking Metacam from ruptured stomachs

Baytril

Skunks have died after taking Baytril from liver failure

NSAIDS

NSAIDS (including aspirin) cause liver failure in skunks

Normal Temperature Range

95 – 98.6

Case Report Template for National Skunk Census

Skunk's Name (optional):

Veterinarian's Name/Clinic Name (optional):

State:

Date of Birth (estimate if needed):

Date of Death (if deceased):

Breeder:

Coloration:

Age at time of presentation:

Sex:

Was the animal spayed/neutered:

Weight (at time of presentation):

Diet (including any supplements):

Vaccination history:

Has the animal ever been administered meloxicam (Metacam@), and for how long?

Has the animal ever been administered enrofloxacin (Baytril@), and for how long?

What was the owner's reason for presenting the skunk to you?

What abnormalities were noted on physical exam?

What diagnostics were performed?

What, if any, abnormalities were found in the diagnostic testing (list normals for lab if possible)?

Was a diagnosis made, if yes, what was it?

What if any medications were prescribed for the condition?

Were there any negative responses to the medications used (list, and describe)?

Were diet modifications made? Describe.

Was the condition resolved?

If not, what was the outcome (long-term therapy, natural death, euthanasia, other)?

If deceased was a necropsy done?

Summarize findings of the necropsy:

May we contact you for more information (and what is the best way)?

May we publish this case on the website?

Is there anything that you learned from this case that you would like to share with skunk owners and colleagues?

Please attach any images, and results (in their entirety) that can be published on the website.

Fax filled out form to Dr. Renata Schneider at 1-866-924-5818 or e-mail to schneidervet@yahoo.com.

Pet Skunk SUPPORT FACTORS



Guaranteed Analysis Represents Minimum Levels

Per 4 Tablets:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Methionine | 10 mg |
| Cystine | 5 mg |
| Linoleic Acid (min) | 25 mg |
| Calcium (10.6%) | 50 mg |
| Phosphorus (5.3%) | 25 mg |
| Potassium (0.05%) | 0.25 mg |
| Magnesium (0.32%) | 1.5 mg |
| Iron (3190 ppm) | 1.5 mg |
| Copper (63 ppm) | 0.30 mg |
| Zinc (2128 ppm) | 1 mg |
| Iodine (85 ppm) | 0.040 mg |
| Selenium (7.5 ppm) | 0.0035 mg |
| Vitamin A | 900 IU |
| Vitamin D3 | 50 IU |
| Vitamin E | 5 IU |
| Thiamine (Vitamin B1) | 2 mg |
| Riboflavin (Vitamin B2) | 2 mg |
| Pantothenic Acid | 5 mg |
| Niacin | 5 mg |
| Pyridoxine (Vitamin B6) | 2 mg |
| Folic Acid | 0.002 mg |
| Biotin | 0.002 mg |
| Vitamin B12 | 0.002 mg |
| Choline | 5 mg |
| Taurine | 200 mg |
| *Ascorbic Acid (Vitamin C) | 20 mg |
| *Inositol | 2 mg |
| *P-aminobenzoic Acid | 2 mg |
| *Betaine Hydrochloride | 10 mg |
| *Lecithin | 5 mg |
| *Lipase (A. oryzae) | 0.23 FIP Units1 |
| *Pepsin (Pork) | 4091 FCC Units2 |
| *Papain (Papaya) | 2727 USP Units3 |
| *Bromelain (Pineapple) | 0.82 GD Units4 |
| *Protease (A. oryzae) | 0.136 HUT Units5 |

*Not recognized as an essential nutrient by the AAFCO.

One FIP unit of lipase activity will liberate the equivalent of 1umol fatty acid from olive oil per min of enzyme at 37 C and pH 9.0.

One FCC Unit of pepsin activity digests 3000 times its own weight of coagulated egg albumen under standard conditions.

One USP unit of protease activity will liberate 3.0 mg amino acids (from egg albumin)/min/mg of the enzyme under standard conditions.

One GD unit of protease activity will liberate approximately 8.4 mg amino acids (from gelatin)/20 min/mg of enzyme at 45 C and pH 4.5.

One HUT (Hemoglobin Unit on the Tyrosine basis) unit of papain activity will liberate in 1 minute at 40 C and pH 4.7 a hydrolysate whose absorbance at 275 nm is the same as that of a solution containing 1.10 ug/ML of tyrosine n 0.006 N hydrochloric acid.

This product contains sources of Pepsin, Papain, Bromelain and Protease (hydrolyzes proteins) and Lipase (hydrolyzes triglycerides).

¹GlycOmega™ brand of Aroma New Zealand Ltd

A complete multi-vitamin/mineral supplement with digestive enzymes for pet skunks of all ages.

SUPPORT FACTORS is specifically formulated with

a full spectrum of balanced vitamins, minerals, amino acids, fatty acids, digestive enzymes, antioxidants, and other nutrients that work synergistically to maintain optimal, physical well-being.

• Provides over 40 nutrients including:

- A complete and balanced B complex including all 11 B Vitamins which are in their proper ratios.
- Enteric coated digestive enzymes to support absorption and utilization of nutrients from the skunk's diet.
- Amino Acids (Taurine, Methionine, and Cystine). Taurine supports eye, neurological, kidney, liver and cardiovascular health. Methionine and Cystine, sulfur containing amino acids for healthy skin, coat, bones and connective tissue. Cystine is a precursor to glutathione, an anti-oxidant that fights free radical damage. Methionine protects the kidneys and acidifies the urine.
- Omega 3 and 6 fatty acids to support healthy skin and coat; joint health, immune system function, and regulate metabolic functions.
- New Zealand Green Mussel, a rich source of glycosaminoglycans (chondroitin 4 & 6 sulfates and hyaluronic acid) to support joint flexibility and mobility.
- Minerals to maintain healthy bones, and support normal functioning of muscles and nerves.
- Antioxidants (A, C, E, and Selenium) help support proper immune system function.

SUPPORT FACTORS incorporates vital nutrients essential for the health of pet skunks. Available in a pleasantly flavored chewable tablet in both 100 ct and 240 ct bottles. **SUPPORT FACTORS** is meant to be given as part of a species appropriate diet.

Directions For Use:

Adult Skunk (5 lbs and up): Give 4 tablets daily, divided between AM and PM.

Skunk Kit (under 5lbs): Give 2 tablets daily, divided between AM and PM.

Ingredients: dehydrated beef liver, taurine, calcium carbonate, monosodium phosphate, dried whole New Zealand green mussel¹, cellulose, vegetable stearate, linoleic acid, ascorbic acid, d-alpha tocopheryl acetate, choline bitartrate, dried kelp (source of iodine), iron proteinate, magnesium gluconate, betaine hydrochloride, dl-methionine, silicon dioxide, zinc amino acid chelate, d-calcium pantothenate, niacinamide, cystine, lecithin, sodium carboxymethyl-cellulose, lipase (from aspergillus oryzae), thiamine mononitrate, riboflavin, pyridoxine hydrochloride, p-aminobenzoic acid, inositol, vitamin A acetate, pepsin (pork stomach), papain (from papaya), bromelain (pineapple stem), protease (from aspergillus oryzae), potassium citrate, vitamin D3 supplement, copper gluconate, biotin, vitamin B12 supplement, sodium selenite, folic acid.

Order at www.petskunksupplements.com or 866-814-5554

STOMP

Pet Skunk Food

Freeze Dried Chicken Entrée

Hasn't your skunk waited long enough? Introducing STOMP, a species appropriate food designed to meet the dietary needs of the pet skunk. For years, skunk owners have had the time consuming task of putting together a wholesome, balanced diet for their skunk. This was no easy chore with mostly outdated and conflicting information available about the nutritional needs of pet skunks. Now, STOMP takes the guesswork out of meal planning. STOMP is made from fresh, minimally processed ground chicken including organs and bones, enriched with Vitamin D and omega 3 fatty acids from herring oil and naturally preserved with Vitamin E. Next, it is freeze dried for maximum nutrient availability. The tasty nugget is perfectly sized for pet skunks and helps maintain clean, healthy teeth. The nutrient dense formula is cost effective due to the small portion size which also helps promote weight control. The exceptional quality is exactly what skunk owners have demanded, USDA inspected chicken with absolutely no added fillers, grains, colorings, antibiotics, hormones, or steroids.

STOMP is a perfectly balanced food recommended as part of a varied diet for pet skunks. Suggested portion for an adult skunk, 4 to 6 pounds is .60 oz. or approximately 1/3 cup per day. Suggested portion for an adult skunk, 6 to 10 pounds is 1 oz. or approximately 1/2 cup per day. Adult skunk's portion may be split into 2 meals. Portion for a skunk kit is 1 oz. per day divided into 3 meals. Portions may need to be adjusted for the age and activity level of the skunk.

STOMP is available in convenient 6 oz., resealable packaging. Proudly made in the USA.

Wholesale pricing available for breeders, Veterinarians, pet stores, and other qualified businesses.



Ingredients

Ground chicken with Bone, chicken heart, Chicken liver, herring oil, Mixed tocopherols, d-Alpha-tocopherol.

Guaranteed Analysis

Crude Protein, min....41%
Crude Fat, min.....35.5%
Crude Fiber, max.....1.2%
Moisture, max.....8.5%

Order at www.petskunkfood.com or 866-814-5554

