



Pet Food Facts

Guidance for Licensing & Labeling

The statutes that regulate pet food include ORS 616, 619, and 603. The administrative rules under ORS 603 and ORS 619 are Divisions 28 and 13. Both of these reference the retail food code. The administrative rule under ORS 616 is Division 25, which references both the retail food code and the general standards (OAR 603-025-0020).

PET FOOD & TREATS WITH MEAT

ORS 619.031 says that a person may not operate an animal food slaughtering establishment or processing establishment without first obtaining a license.

OAR 603-013-0600 (4) defines “pet or animal food” as any meat, meat food product, carcass, or any part thereof including viscera of a slaughtered animal or poultry that is intended to be used, sold, or offered for sale as pet or animal food.

The definition of “meat,” “animal,” or “poultry” in OAR 613-013-0600 does not include seafood. Therefore, pet food or treats made with fish or other seafood ingredients, but not containing any “meat,” “animal,” or “poultry” ingredients, are not required to be licensed and inspected by the ODA Food Safety Program. In addition, Seafood HACCP does not apply to pet food or treats containing seafood ingredients because Seafood HACCP regulations apply only to food sold for human consumption.

OAR 603-013-0612 states that all packaged pet or animal food shall be labeled and shall include at least the following information:

- The name and address of the establishment.
- The words “Pet Food,” “Animal Food,” or “Dog and Cat Food,” and the additional wording “Not for Human Consumption.” The letters in such wording shall be placed conspicuously on the package and be of such size as to be readily and easily readable to prospective purchasers or users.
- The net weight of the product in the package.
- The contents in order of their predominance.
- Labeling of hermetically sealed, retort processed, conventional retail size containers shall conform with the previous four points except the wording “Not for Human Consumption” need not appear on the label. If the pet food is not in a hermetically sealed, retort processed, conventional retail size container, the product must not only be properly identified, but it must be of such character or so treated (denatured or decharacterized) as to be readily distinguishable from an article of human food.

PET FOOD WITHOUT MEAT

ORS 616.205(8)(a) defines food as articles used for food or drink, including ice, for human consumption or food for dogs and cats. This gives the Department authority to ensure wholesomeness and deal with adulteration or misbranding, but does not include authority to license.

ORS 616.695 – 616.755 regarding “Sanitary Regulations for Food & Food Establishments”, defines food as “for human consumption”. This section gives the Department the authority to license and regulate food establishments handling foods for human consumption. It does not include food for dogs or cats.

ORS 616.250(5) and (10) states that food packages, including pet food, need to include a label with the following information:

- The name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer or distributor.
- An accurate statement of the net quantity of the contents in terms of weight, measure, volume or numerical count. The statement shall be separately and accurately stated upon the principal display panel of the label.
- The common or usual name of the food.
- If the food product is made from two or more ingredients, the common or usual name of each ingredient must be stated.

GENERAL INFORMATION

OAR 603-013-0602 states that a person holding a meat food animal slaughter house license, or a person licensed to slaughter poultry and rabbits, or a person holding a non-slaughtering processing license may, without being required to obtain additional licenses, also sell or dispose of meat or meat products as pet or animal food providing that such licenses also comply with the special provisions of law or regulations thereunder which apply to the operation of an animal food and slaughtering establishment as required by ORS 603.101 and the provisions of OAR 603-013-0600 to 603-013-0616.

Guaranteed Analysis is not required in Oregon for pet food or treats, although it could be required by FDA or by other states receiving the pet food or treats.

If a pet food or treat is making a health claim or has CBD in it, the firm must be registered with the Animal Remedies Program, 503-986-4691.