

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution

**Date:** June 03, 2022

**Report Number:** CH2022-0063

**Report Name:** Complete Pet Food Standards

**Country:** China - People's Republic of

**Post:** Beijing

**Report Category:** FAIRS Subject Report, MISC-Commodity

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**Report Highlights:**

On April 24, 2022, China’s National Feed Industry Standardization Technical Committee issued a notice to collect industry input and suggestions on the establishment or amendment of national pet food standards. The notice covers pet food related national and industry standards such as product standards, production technical requirements, additive and raw material standards, and pet food evaluation and testing methods. Currently, China has established national pet food standards for “complete dog food” (GB/T 31216 -2014) and “complete cat food” (GB/T 31217-2014). This report provides unofficial translations of both standards.

## **Executive Summary**

On April 24, 2022, China's National Feed Industry Standardization Technical Committee issued a notice entitled "[Proposal on Establishment or Amendment Projects for National or Industry Standards for Pet Food](#)" (link in Chinese). The notice covers pet food related national and industry standards such as product standards, production technical requirements, additive and raw material standards, and pet food evaluation and testing methods. The Committee is asking local organizations and companies to complete a form with relevant formulation or amendment suggestions before May 31, 2022.

Currently, China has only established national pet food standards for "Complete dog food" (GB/T 31216-2014) and "Complete cat food" (GB/T 31217-2014). These standards were issued in September 2014 by the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ) and the China National Standardization Administration. The standards entered into force on March 08, 2015. This report provides unofficial translations of both standards.

For additional information on the China's market for pet food, please see USDA GAIN Report CH2022-0051 - [US Pet Food is Poised to Expand in the China Market](#)

Attachment 1: GB/T 31216 - 2014 Complete pet food - Dog food

Attachment 2: GB/T 31217 - 2014 Complete pet food - Cat food

**Begin Unofficial Translation**

## **Attachment 1)**

### **GB/T 31216 - 2014 Complete pet food - Dog food**

National Standards of People's Republic of China

GB/T 31216—2014 Complete pet food—Dog food

2014.09.03 Posted

2015.03.08 Implemented

By the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China and China National Standardization Administration

Forward

This standard was drafted in accordance with the rules given in GB/T 1.1-2009.

This standard is proposed and managed by the National Standardization Technical Committee of Feed Industry (SAC/TC 76).

This standard was drafted by: China Feed Industry Association, Mars Foods (China) Co., Ltd.

The main drafters of this standard: Wang Liwen, Ding Jian, Meng Xiaoli, Mei Jianxun, Su Shenglan, Wu Yubo, Wang Fang.

Complete pet food—dog food

#### 1 Scope

This standard specifies the terms and definitions, requirements, test methods, inspection rules, labelling, and packaging, transportation, storage and shelf life of complete pet food - dog food.

This standard applies to industrially processed and produced complete pet food - dog food, except for prescription dog food.

#### 2 Normative references

The following documents are essential for the application of this document. For dated references, only the dated version applies to this document. For undated references, the latest edition (including all amendments) applies to this document.

GB 4789.26 National Food Safety Standard Food Microbiological Test Commercial Sterility Test

GB/T 6432 Determination of Crude Protein in Feed

GB/T 6433 Determination of Crude Fat in Feed

GB/T 6434 Determination of Crude Fiber Content in Feed by Filtration Method

GB/T 6435 Determination of Moisture and Other Volatile Matter Content in Feed

GB/T 6436 Determination of Calcium in Feed

GB/T 6437 Determination of Total Phosphorus in Feed Spectrophotometric

GB/T 6438 Determination of Crude Ash in Feed

GB/T 6439 Determination of Water-soluble Chlorides in Feed

GB/T 13079-2006 Determination of Total Arsenic in Feed

GB/T 13080 Determination of Lead in Feed by Atomic Absorption Spectrometry

GB/T 13081 Determination of Mercury in Feed

GB/T 13082 Determination of Cadmium in Feed

GB/T 13083 Determination of Fluoride in Feed by Ion-selective Electrode Method

GB/T 13091 Determination of Salmonella in Feed

GB/T 13093 Determination of Total Bacteria in Feed

GB/T 18246 Determination of Amino Acid in Feed

GB/T 23372 Determination of Inorganic Arsenic in Food by Liquid Chromatography-Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry

NY/T 2071 Determination of Aflatoxin, Zearalenone and T-2 Toxin in Feed Liquid Chromatography-tandem Mass Spectrometry

SN/T 3561 Entry Port Health Supervision Food Sampling and Sample Delivery Procedures

Catalogue of Feed Additives - 2013 (Ministry of Agriculture Announcement No.2045)

Catalogue of Feed Raw Materials (Ministry of Agriculture Announcement No.1773)

### 3 Terms and Definitions

The following terms and definitions apply to this document.

**Pet**

Dogs and cats kept as companion animals in households, or dogs for work purposes.

**Pet food**

Industrially processed and prepared food for feeding pets, including complete pet food and supplementary pet food; divided into dry (type) pet food, semi-moist (type) pet food and wet (type) pet food according to the moisture content pet food.

**Complete pet food**

A pet food that contains nutrients and energy other than water to meet the daily nutritional needs of pets.

**Complementary pet food**

Pet food is a mixture of two or more pet food raw materials, but due to its incomplete nutrition, it needs to be used in conjunction with other pet food to meet the pet's daily nutritional needs.

Dry (type) pet food

Pet food with a moisture content of less than 14%.

Semi-moist (type) pet food

Pet food with a moisture content of not less than 14% and less than 60%.

Wet (type) pet food

Pet food with a moisture content of not less than 60%.

Prescription pet food - Prescription diet, therapeutic diet, veterinary diet

Special nutritionally designed pet food for pet health problems needs to be used under the guidance of a licensed veterinarian, including complete prescription pet food and supplementary prescription pet food.

#### 4 Definition of juvenile and adulthood

The juvenile and adult periods of dogs are divided according to Table 1.

Table 1 - The juvenile and adult periods of dogs

Adult weight/kg	Juvenile/age in month	Adult/age in month
≤5	< 9	≥9
5 ~ 20	< 12	≥ 12
20 ~ 40	< 18	≥ 18
≥40	< 21	≥21

#### 5 Requirements

##### 5.1 Raw material requirements

The raw materials and additives used in the production of pet food should meet the requirements of the "Catalogue of Feed Raw Materials" and "Catalogue of Feed Additives (2013)" and the corresponding hygiene standards.

##### 5.2 Sensory indicators

No mildew and lumps.

##### 5.3 Physical and chemical indicators

Should comply with the provisions of Table 2 and Table 3.

Table 2 Main physical and chemical indicators

Item	Indicators ( dry matter based ) / %		Test method
	Juvenile dog food, pregnant dog food, lactating dog food	Adult dog food	
Crude protein	≥22.0	≥18.0	GB/T 6432
Crude fat	≥8.0	≥5.0	GB/T 6433
Crude ash	≤10.0	≤10.0	GB/T 6438
Crude fiber	≤9.0	≤9.0	GB/T 6434
Calcium	≥1.0	≥0.6	GB/T 6436
Total phosphorus	≥0.8	≥0.5	GB/T 6437
Water-soluble chloride (as Cl <sup>-</sup> )	≥0.45	≥0.09	GB/T 6439
Lysine	≥0.77	≥0.63	GB/T 18246

Table 3 Moisture

Product type	Indicator (x) / %	Test method
Dry (type) dog food	$x < 14.0$	GB/T 6435
Semi-moist (type) dog food	$14.0 \leq x < 60.0$	
Wet (type) dog food	$x \geq 60.0$	

#### 5.4 Hygiene indicators

Should comply with the provisions of Table 4.

Table 4 Hygiene Indicators <sup>a</sup>

Item	Indicator	Test method
Fluorine/(mg/kg)	≤150	GB/T 13083
Cadmium/(mg/kg)	≤2	GB/T 13082
Mercury/(mg/kg)	≤0.3	GB/T 13081—2006 (Atomic fluorescence spectrometry)

Lead/(mg/kg)	≤5	GB/T 13080
Total Arsenic ( based on As) /(mg/kg)	≤10 <sup>b</sup> (The content of inorganic arsenic should not exceed 2 mg/kg)	Total Arsenic: GB/T 13079 - 2006 (Erbium salt method)
	≤2 <sup>c</sup>	Inorganic arsenic: GB/T 23372
Aflatoxin B1/(μg/kg)	≤10	NY/T 2071
Total number of bacteria /(CFU/g)	< 1 × 10 <sup>4</sup> <sup>d</sup>	GB/T 13093
Salmonella (25g medium)	Not found	GB/T 13091
Microorganism	Complies with commercial sterility requirements <sup>e</sup>	GB 4789.26
<p><sup>a</sup> The allowable amounts listed in the table are calculated as 88% dry matter content unless otherwise specified (except for microbial pollutant indicators).</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Complete pet food - dog food containing aquatic animals and their products or algae and their products.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> Other complete pet food - dog food.</p> <p><sup>d</sup> Except complete pet food - dog food with moisture of 60% or more.</p> <p><sup>e</sup> Complete pet food - dog food with 60% moisture or more.</p>		

## 6 Inspection rules

### 6.1 Batch

A batch refers to products produced with the same material, the same process and the same shift.

### 6.2 Sampling

Comply with SN/T 3561 regulations.

### 6.3 Factory inspection

Each batch of products should be inspected before leaving the factory, and only qualified products can leave the factory. The factory inspection items are sensory indicators, crude protein, crude fat, crude ash, calcium, total phosphorus, and moisture.

### 6.4 Type inspection

Type inspection shall be carried out in one of the following situations:

- a) When the product is put into production
- b) When there is a major change in the process, formula or source of raw materials, which may affect the quality of the product
- c) In normal production, at least once a year

- d) When production resumes after a long-term shutdown
- e) When there is a big difference between the factory inspection results and the last type of inspection
- f) When the national feed management department puts forward the requirements for type inspection

## 6.5 Judgment Rules

If there are unqualified items during the inspection, it is allowed to re-sample from the packaging of twice the amount of the same batch of products for re-inspection; if there are still unqualified items in the re-inspection results, the batch of products will be judged as unqualified products.

If one of the results of the microbiological index test fails, it is judged to be unqualified and cannot be re-inspected.

## 7 Labels

A label should be attached to the package, indicating the product name, raw material composition, guaranteed value of product composition analysis, net weight or net content, storage conditions, instructions for use, precautions, production date, shelf life, production company name and address, license document number and product quality standard number, etc.

## 8 Packaging, transportation, storage and shelf life

### 8.1 Packaging

The packaging should be sealed, moisture-proof, waterproof, and not easily damaged. Packaging materials should be non-toxic and harmless.

### 8.2 Transportation

The means of transport should be clean, dry, and protected from rain and pollution. Do not mix or transport with poisonous or harmful substances.

### 8.3 Storage

The product should be stored in a cool, ventilated and dry place, pay attention to waterproof, mildew-proof, rodent-proof and insect-proof, and should not be mixed with toxic and harmful items.

### 8.4 Shelf life

The shelf life of the product should be determined according to the characteristics of the product, and the product within the shelf life should meet the requirements of the product quality standard.



## **Attachment 2)**

### **GB/T 31217 - 2014 Complete pet food - Cat food**

BEGIN TRANSLATION

National Standards of People's Republic of China

GB/T 31217-2014 Complete pet food—Cat food

2014.09.03 Posted

2015.03.08 Implemented

By the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China and China National Standardization Administration

Forward

This standard was drafted in accordance with the rules given in GB/T 1.1-2009.

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The main drafters of this standard: Wang Liwen, Su Shenglan, Mei Jianxun, Meng Xiaoli, Ding Jian, Wang Fang.

Complete pet food - Cat food

#### 1 Scope

This standard specifies the terms and definitions, requirements, test methods, inspection rules, labelling, and packaging, transportation, storage and shelf life of complete pet food - cat food.

This standard applies to industrially processed and produced complete pet food - cat food, excluding prescription cat food.

#### 2 Normative references

The following documents are essential for the application of this document. For dated references, only the dated version applies to this document. For undated references, the latest edition (including all amendments) applies to this document.

GB 4789.26 National Food Safety Standard Food Microbiological Test Commercial Sterility Test

GB/T 6432 Determination of Crude Protein in Feed

GB/T 6433 Determination of Crude Fat in Feed

GB/T 6434 Determination of crude fiber content in feed by filtration method

GB/T 6435 Determination of moisture and other volatile matter content in feed

GB/T 6436 Determination of calcium in feed

GB/T 6437 Determination of total phosphorus in feed Spectrophotometric

GB/T 6138 Determination of crude ash in feed

GB/T 6139 Determination of water-soluble chlorides in feed

GB/T 13079-2006 Determination of total arsenic in feed

GB/T 13080 Determination of lead in feed by atomic absorption spectrometry

GB/T 13081 Determination of mercury in feed

GB/T 13082 Determination of cadmium in feed

GB/T 13083 Determination of fluoride in feed by ion-selective electrode method

GB/T 13091 Determination of salmonella in feed

GB/T 13093 Determination of total bacteria in feed

GB/T 18246 Determination of amino acid in feed

GB/T 23372 Determination of inorganic arsenic in food by liquid chromatography-inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry

NY/T 2071 Determination of aflatoxin, zearalenone and T-2 toxin in feed liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry

SN/T 3561 Entry port health supervision food sampling and sample delivery procedures )

Catalogue of Feed Additives (Ministry of Agriculture Announcement No. 2045)

Catalogue of Feed Raw Materials (Ministry of Agriculture Announcement No. 1773)

### 3 Terms and Definitions

The following terms and definitions apply to this document.

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Complete pet food

A pet food that contains nutrients and energy other than water to meet the daily nutritional needs of pets.

Complementary pet food

Pet food that is a mixture of two or more pet food raw materials, but due to its nutritional insufficiency, it needs to be used in conjunction with other pet food to meet the pet's daily nutritional needs.

Dry (type) pet food

Pet food with a moisture content of less than 14 %.

Semi-moist (type) pet food

Pet food with a moisture content of not less than 14% and less than 60%.

Wet (type) pet food

Pet food with a moisture content of not less than 60%.

Prescription pet food - prescription diet, or therapeutic diet, or veterinary diet

Special nutritionally designed pet food for pet health problems, which needs to be used under the guidance of a licensed veterinarian, including complete prescription pet food and supplementary prescription pet food.

3.9 Kitten

Cats under 12 months of age.

3.10

Adult cat

Cats over 12 months of age, except during pregnancy and lactation

4 Requirements

4.1 Raw material requirements

The raw materials and additives used in the production of pet food shall meet the requirements of the "Catalogue of Feed Raw Materials" and "Catalogue of Feed Additives (2013)" and the corresponding hygiene standards.

4.2 Sensory indicators

No mildew and lumps.

4.3 Physical and chemical indicators

Should comply with the provisions of Table 1 and Table 2.

Table 1 Main physical and chemical indicators

Item	Indicators ( dry matter based ) /%		Test method
	Juvenile cat food, Pregnant cat food, Lactating cat food	Adult cat food	
Crude protein	≥28.0	≥25.0	GB/T 6132
Crude fat	≥9.0	≥9.0	GB/T 6433
Crude ash	≤10.0	≤10.0	GB/T 6438
Crude fiber	≤9.0	≤9.0	GB/T 6431
Calcium	≥1.0	≥0.6	GB/T 6436
Total phosphorus	≥0.8	≥0.5	GB/T 6437
Water-soluble chloride (as Cl <sup>-</sup> )	≥0.3	≥0.3	GB/T 6439
Taurine	≥0.1	≥0.1	GB/T 18246
	≥0.2 (wet food)	≥0.2 (wet food)	

Table 2 Moisture

Product type	Indicator (x) / %	Test method
Dry (type) cat food	$x < 14, 0$	GB/T 6435
Semi-moist (type) cat food	$14.0 \leq x < 60.0$	
Wet (type) cat food	$x \geq 60.0$	

#### 4.4 Hygiene indicators

Should comply with the provisions of Table 3.

Table 3 Hygiene indicators <sup>a</sup>

Item	Indicators	Test method
Fluorine/(mg/kg)	≤150	GB/T 13083
Cadmium/(mg/kg)	≤2	GB/T 13082
Mercury/(mg/kg)	≤0.3	GB/T 13081- 2006 (Atomic fluorescence spectrometry)

Lead/(mg/kg)	$\leq 5$	GB/T 13080
Total Arsenic ( based on As) /(mg/kg)	$\leq 10$ <sup>b</sup> (The content of inorganic arsenic should not exceed 2 mg/kg)	Total Arsenic: GB/T 13079 – 2006 (Erbium salt method)
	$\leq 2$ <sup>c</sup>	Inorganic arsenic: GB/T 23372
Aflatoxin B <sub>1</sub> /( $\mu$ g/kg)	$\leq 10$	NY/T 2071
Total number of bacteria /(CFU/g)	$< 1 \times 10^4$ <sup>d</sup>	GB/T 13093
Salmonella (25g medium)	Not found	GB/T 13091
Microorganism	Complies with commercial sterility requirements <sup>e</sup>	GB 4789.26
<p><sup>a</sup> The allowable amounts listed in the table are calculated as 88% dry matter content unless otherwise specified (except for microbial pollutant indicators).</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Complete pet food - cat food containing aquatic animals and their products or algae and their products.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> Other complete pet food - cat food.</p> <p><sup>d</sup> Except complete pet food - cat food with moisture of 60% or more.</p> <p><sup>e</sup> Complete pet food - cat food with 60% or more moisture.</p>		

## 5 Inspection Rules

### 5.1 Batch

A batch of products produced with the same material, the same process and the same shift.

### 5.2 Sampling

Comply with SNIT 3561.

### 5.3 Factory inspection

Each batch of products should be inspected before leaving the factory, and only qualified products can leave the factory. The factory inspection items are sensory indicators, crude protein, crude fat, crude ash, crude fiber, calcium, total phosphorus, and moisture.

### 5.4 Type inspection

Type inspection shall be carried out under one of the following circumstances:

- a) When the product is put into production;
- b) When there are major changes in the process, formula or source of raw materials, which may affect the quality of the product;

- c) During normal production, at least once a year;
- d) When production is resumed after a long-term shutdown;
- e) When there is a big difference between the factory inspection results and the last type of inspection;
- f) When the national feed management department puts forward the requirements for type inspection.

## 5.5 Judgement rules

If there are unqualified items during the inspection, it is allowed to re-sample from the packaging of twice the amount of the same batch of products for re-inspection; if there are still unqualified items in the re-inspection results, the batch of products will be judged as unqualified products.

If one of the results of the microbiological index test fails, it is judged to be unqualified and cannot be re-inspected.

## 6 Labels

A label should be attached to the package, indicating the product name, raw material composition, guaranteed value of product composition analysis, net weight or net content, storage conditions, instructions for use, precautions, production date, shelf life, production enterprise name and address, and license document number and product quality standard number etc.

## 7 Packaging, transportation, storage and shelf life

### 7.1 Packaging

The packaging should be sealed, moisture-proof, waterproof, and not easily damaged. Packaging materials should be non-toxic and harmless.

### 7.2 Transportation

The means of transport should be clean, dry, and protected from rain and pollution. Do not mix or transport with poisonous or harmful substances.

### 7.3 Storage

The product should be stored in a cool, ventilated and dry place, pay attention to waterproof, mildew-proof, rodent-proof and insect-proof, and should not be mixed with toxic and harmful items.

### 7.4 Shelf life

The shelf life of the product should be determined according to the characteristics of the product, and the product within the shelf life should meet the requirements of the product quality standard.

## **End Unofficial Translation**

### **Attachments:**

No Attachments.