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## ***Carbohydrates in the dog's diet.***

It is said that a small percentage of carbohydrates add to your dog's energy and for fibre needs with normal digestion.

**But for dogs carbohydrates are not really nutritionally required to sustain life.**

The fact that a dog diet doesn't need to contain any "carbs" at all seems hard to believe for "some".

But it's true >>> According to the National Research Council ... and compared to two other major nutrients — protein and fat — no carbs are considered essential for a healthy canine diet.

Narrowed down it relates that dogs don't need corn or maize products.

And they don't need wheat, barley rice or potatoes, either.

**Dogs simply don't need any carbohydrate ingredients — at all.**

Yet surprisingly – if you look at “brand dry dog feed”, “carbs” represent the dominant ingredient found in most dry dog foods ... up to 40% and even more.

**Then why commercial dog's foods contain so much carbohydrates?**

Since the early 1950s, dog food manufacturers everywhere utilize carbohydrates in commercial dry dog feeds – why? - because it was abundant, cheaper per calorie than protein or fat, most essential durable and ideal for their dog food products long shelf life.

Please notice that not one of these reasons has anything to do with needed nutrition for the canine carnivore— not one.

**Knowing this ... are carbohydrates then safe for our dogs?**

In reasonable amounts carbohydrates can actually provide fibre and a practical source of energy.

However, the problem lies in their quantity and type **absorbability.**

Accepting and using a dog's ancestral species appropriate diet as a model, the total amount of carbs consumed by a dog's evolutionary predecessor is dramatically less or non-existent in other forms but what the content of the natural species appropriate “whole prey diet carcass” provided – raw meat, blood, organs and bone diet as whole prey.

No surprise then if you know (or come to know) that our commercial carbohydrate loaded dog feeds are quite the opposite and become the norm for what we feed our dogs today.

**This is the guideline.**

Accepted natural carbohydrate consumption for our dog's ancestors proven to be around 14 % of total diet.

Yet on average, today's commercial dry dog foods contain somewhere between 40 and 74 % carbohydrates. **This should be the Red light.**

For concerned, knowledgeable and then informed APBT dog owners be aware that today's dry feeds contain as much as four times the carbohydrate content historically found in the canine ancestral canine diet.

Nutrient Content Compared		
Nutrient	Ancestral Diet	Dry Dog Food
Protein	56%	18-32%
Fat	25-30%	8-22%
Carbohydrates	14%	46-74%

Then the argument **that it a proven fact** that the dog food industry may have taken advantage of the dog's remarkable ability to **adapt** to just about eating anything ... because wolves and wild dogs also "was said" to be accepted as scavenger in the wild.

### **If you then know the truth why settle for less?**

Doesn't it then make sense for the dog's food to be more like the species ancestral raw diet? ... With more protein bone and fat? ... And fewer carbs?

### **The bottom line.**

Now that you know and then when choosing your APBT's dog food, it's reasonable then to expect and will make sense for you **to favour** products lower in carbohydrates and higher in protein fat and bone. However, since most dog food manufacturers **fail to disclose the % of carbohydrates contained in their products**, the Dog Food Advisor websites provides an estimate of this important figure inside every review.

So, look for dog foods rich in **meat-based protein** (don't be fooled by "protein rich").

You could be adding years of better health and performance to your APBT dog's life.

**Also true!** That carbohydrates are a major source of energy for humans – it account for 50% to 60% of calories consumed each day. But then ... also true ... the canine dog is an animal and not human – and do not **need** carbohydrates.

I just love this quote - A dog is not "almost human," and I know of no greater insult to the canine race than to describe it as such — John Holmes

**Looking at carbohydrate sources that usually form part of your dog's diet.**

Then in such quantities within what is normal for the canine a species.

Then found in:

**Fruits** (sucrose, glucose, fructose, pentose)

**Milk products** and yogurt (lactose)

**Fresh vegetables & some seeds and** legumes - brown rice, oats, legumes.

**Healthy high carbohydrate foods include** vegetables fruits, legumes (beans), and yogurt.