

Table 15-9. Comparison of key nutritional factors in selected commercial foods for reproducing (gestation and lactation) bitches to recommended levels.*

Dry foods	Energy density (kcal/cup)**	Energy density (kcal ME/g)	Protein (%)	Fat (%)	DHA (%)	Carbohydrate (%)	Ca (%)	P (%)	Ca:P
Recommended levels	-	≥4.0	25-35	≥20	≥0.02	≥23	1.0-1.7	0.7-1.3	1:1-2:1
Hill's Ideal Balance Natural Chicken & Brown Rice Recipe Puppy	436	4.2	30.0	20.0	0.130	41.0	1.41	1.20	1.2:1
Hill's Science Diet Puppy Healthy Development Original	371	4.1	30.4	19.8	0.182	39.8	1.58	1.20	1.3:1
Purina Pro Plan FOCUS Chicken & Rice Formula Puppy	468	4.8	31.5	20.5	na	39.4	1.34	1.17	1.1:1
Purina Puppy Chow Complete & Balanced	399	4.2	30.6	15.5	na	43.9	1.52	1.15	1.3:1
Moist foods	Energy density (kcal/can)**	Energy density (kcal ME/g)	Protein (%)	Fat (%)	DHA (%)	Carbohydrate (%)	Ca (%)	P (%)	Ca:P
Recommended levels	-	≥4.0	25-35	≥20	≥0.02	≥23	1.0-1.7	0.7-1.3	1:1-2:1
Hill's Science Diet Puppy Gourmet Chicken Entrée	459/13 oz.	4.1	28.2	23.6	na	39.2	1.33	1.00	1.4:1
Purina Pro Plan FOCUS Chicken & Rice Entrée for Puppies - Classic	464/13 oz.	4.9	44.0	38.0	na	7.0	1.72	1.48	1.2:1
Royal Canin Veterinary Care Nutrition Development Puppy Formula	413/13.6 oz.	4.5	35.0	22.1	na	33.7	1.33	1.30	1.1:1

Key: ME = metabolizable energy, DHA = docosahexaenoic acid, Ca = calcium, P = phosphorus, Ca:P = calcium-phosphorus ratio, na = information not available from manufacturer, g = grams.

*From manufacturers' published information or calculated from manufacturers' published as-fed values; all values are on a dry matter basis unless otherwise stated. Digestibility: Foods with higher energy density are more likely to have higher digestibility. Foods for most breeding males and females are usually similar to those for young and middle-aged adults (Table 13-4).

**Energy density values are listed on an as fed basis and are useful for determining the amount to feed; cup = 8-oz. measuring cup. To convert to kJ, multiply kcal by 4.184.