

檔 號：  
保存年限：

## 行政院農業委員會 函

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受文者：臺中市動物保護防疫處

發文日期：中華民國108年7月10日  
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密等及解密條件或保密期限：  
附件：如文（紐時報導.pdf、駐美國代表處經濟組來函.pdf）

主旨：有關美國媒體報導該國食品藥物管理署(FDA)更新犬飼料  
與擴張性心肌病關聯性之調查報告案，請查參。

說明：

- 一、依據駐美國代表處經濟組108年7月1日經美字第1080000700號函辦理。
- 二、本案FDA尚未要求業者回收相關犬飼料產品，惟請該國業者協助該署調查，並請其提供內部調查報告，以利揭示造成問題之配方或成分。
- 三、檢附來函及附件影本各1份供參。

正本：臺北市動物保護處、高雄市動物保護處、新北市政府動物保護防疫處、桃園市政府動物保護處、臺中市動物保護防疫處、臺南市動物防疫保護處、新竹縣家畜疾病防治所、苗栗縣動物保護防疫所、彰化縣動物防疫所、南投縣家畜疾病防治所、雲林縣動植物防疫所、嘉義縣家畜疾病防治所、屏東縣動物防疫所、宜蘭縣動植物防疫所、花蓮縣動植物防疫所、臺東縣動物防疫所、澎湖縣家畜疾病防治所、金門縣政府、連江縣政府、基隆市動物保護防疫所、新竹市動物保護及防疫所、嘉義市政府建設處

副本：



動物保護稽查隊文:108/07/10



E11080005993 有附件

檔 號：  
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附件：如文

主旨：媒體報導美國食品藥物管理署(FDA)更新犬飼料與擴張性心肌病關聯性之調查報告案，詳如說明，請查參。

說明：

- 一、紐約時報本(2019)年6月29日報導，美FDA網站更新犬隻罹患擴張性心肌病(dilated cardiomyopathy, DCM)與其飼料之間關連性報告，報告首度揭露相關飼料品牌名單，包括Acana, Zignature, Taste of the Wild等16家廠商。
- 二、報導說明，DCM據信與遺傳有關，病徵為左心室變薄，心臟收縮力變弱無法順利送出血流，致使液體進入肺臟，造成咳嗽等不適症狀，最終導致心臟衰竭。若早期發現，服藥可控制DCM病情。
- 三、報導指出，2014年迄本年4月底，FDA共接獲通報515件病例，其中119犬隻死亡，絕大部分病例通報時間為2018及本年，DCM好發犬種為中、老年之黃金獵犬及拉不拉多等大型犬。FDA刻正調查新興DCM病例之原因以及DCM與飼料或其原料成分間之關聯性。
- 四、查FDA網頁資訊 (<https://www.fda.gov/animal-veterinary/news-events/fda-investigation-potential-link-between-certain-diets-and-canine-dilated-cardiomyopathy>)，該署尚未要求業者回收相關犬飼料產品，惟請業者協助該署調查，並請其提供內部調查報告，以利揭示造成問題之配方或成分。FDA並鼓勵畜主變更寵物飼料前徵詢獸醫師，以獲得專業意見。
- 五、檢附媒體資訊共3頁，併請查參。

行政院農業委員會總收文



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正本：行政院農業委員會畜牧處

副本：行政院農業委員會國際處、行政院農業委員會動植物防疫檢疫局、經濟部國際貿易局

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## ***F.D.A. Names 16 Brands of Dog Food That May Be Linked to Canine Heart Disease***

By **Sandra E. Garcia**

June 29, 2019

The Food and Drug Administration identified 16 brands of dog food that had been linked to heart disease in dogs, according to a report the agency published on Thursday.

In the report, the F.D.A. named for the first time the pet food brands most frequently associated with adverse events. In descending order of most incidents of heart disease, the brands are Acana, Zignature, Taste of the Wild, 4Health, Earthborn Holistic, Blue Buffalo, Nature's Domain, Fromm, Merrick, California Natural, Natural Balance, Orijen, Nature's Variety, NutriSource, Nutro and Rachael Ray Nutrish.

The heart condition examined in the report, canine dilated cardiomyopathy, often results in heart failure and is believed to have a genetic component, according to the report. The disease usually affects large breeds, but the F.D.A. said it knew of smaller dogs that had also been afflicted.

The disease was most frequently reported to the F.D.A. in golden retrievers, but the report noted that breed-specific social media groups and activities raised awareness of the issue in these communities of golden retriever owners, who perhaps disproportionately notified the F.D.A. of their dogs' diagnoses.

Most of the dog foods listed are usually labeled "grain-free" and contain a large proportion of peas, lentils, legume seeds or potatoes, according to the report. Many of the dogs researched in the investigation did not have a genetic predisposition to the condition, the F.D.A. said.

The Pet Food Institute said in a statement that it was "committed to the health of pets and take seriously the responsibility to make safe, complete and balanced food for our dogs and cats."

“This is a complex issue with many factors requiring scientific evaluation,” the statement said.

Midwestern Pet Foods, which owns the Earthborn Holistic brand, said in a statement that the F.D.A. had not yet provided scientific findings connecting nutrition and canine dilated cardiomyopathy. With the report, the company said, the “F.D.A. is simply attempting to gain more information as part of its evaluation process.”

“The report only touches upon the genetic or congenital prevalence of the disease,” the company said on Sunday, “hinting that the disease may have a nutritional component without suggesting a nutritional solution.”

Using an abbreviation for the disease, the F.D.A. said in its report that it was “using a range of science-based investigative tools as it strives to learn more about this emergence of D.C.M. and its potential link to certain diets or ingredients.” The agency added, “We understand the concern that pet owners have about these reports: The illnesses can be severe, even fatal, and many cases report eating ‘grain-free’ labeled pet food.”

In July 2018, the study began investigating diagnosed cases of the disease that had been reported to the F.D.A. The agency started receiving reports of dilated cardiomyopathy in cats and dogs in 2014. Since that year, 560 dogs with the heart condition have been reported to the F.D.A., of which 119 have died, according to the report.

The American Veterinary Medical Association estimates there are 77 million pet dogs in the United States, most of which are not developing dilated cardiomyopathy, the F.D.A. said in a statement. The number of dogs affected with heart disease may not seem like a lot, John de Jong, president of the veterinary association, said on Saturday, but the F.D.A. found a trend and was informing consumers of it.

“The F.D.A. has a responsibility that if it is more than five or 10 isolated cases, that is something to be reported,” Dr. de Jong said.

“It is not five million dogs; it’s still a small amount,” he added. “I would also caution the consumer not to throw the baby out with the bathwater.”

Cardiomyopathy affects dogs by thinning the left ventricle of the heart, the last place blood rests before the heart pumps it out, Dr. de Jong explained. That weakens the heart, which means fluid can enter a dog’s lungs, causing a cough or illness. The disease can be treated with medication if caught early, he said.

Dr. de Jong said the trend of not having grain in a dog’s diet might be a culprit.

“The whole grain-free thing is a popular myth,” Dr. de Jong said. “If they look at the dogs’ relatives in the wild, like coyotes, wolves and hyenas, they live on their prey. Those animals they prey on are typically herbivores, so they are ingesting grains anyway.”

Over all, the best thing a dog owner can do is consult with a veterinarian, Dr. de Jong said.

“It is not an overwhelming amount of cases out there,” he said. “We do know it exists and we know it is a fully high correlation; some of those diets may suffice.

“If it ain’t broke you don’t have to fix it.”

Mariel Padilla contributed reporting.