

**Voluntary Report** – Voluntary - Public Distribution  
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**Report Name:** Draft Pet Food Hygiene Standard Open for Domestic  
Comments

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

**Post:** Beijing

**Report Category:** FAIRS Subject Report, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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**Report Highlights:**

On August 11, 2025, China announced a new draft national hygienic standard for pet feed (food) soliciting public comments until October 10, 2025. At the time of the report, the standard has not been notified to WTO. This report provides an unofficial translation of the draft standard. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the regulations to assess any market or regulatory effect on their business.

FAS China provides this analysis and reporting as a service to the United States agricultural community, and to our farmers, ranchers, rural communities, and agribusiness operations in support of a worldwide agricultural information system and a level playing field for U.S. agriculture.

## **Report Summary:**

On August 11, 2025, China's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA) published a draft [Hygienic Standard for Pet Feed \(Food\)](#) (link in Chinese). This is the first mandatory national standard for hygiene requirements specifically for pet foods produced or sold in China. The draft standard stipulates maximum levels of limits for contaminants, mycotoxins, and microorganisms, and the testing guidance. The draft standard applies to formula pet feeds, pet feed additive premixes, and other pet foods.

The comments can be submitted through [China's National Public Service Platform for Standards Information](#) (link in Chinese) until October 10, 2025. At the time of the report, China has not notified the draft standards to the WTO.

This report contains unofficial translation of the draft standard soliciting domestic comments. Stakeholders should conduct their own review of the regulations to assess any market or regulatory effect on their business.

## **BEGIN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION**

### **Hygienic Standard for Pet Feed (Food) (Draft for Comments)**

Jointly issued by:  
State Administration for Market Regulation  
National Standardization Administration

### **Foreword**

This document is drafted in accordance with GB/T 1.1-2020 "Guidelines for Standardization Part 1: Structure and Drafting of Standardization Documents."

Some elements of this document may be subject to patent rights. The issuing authority shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document is proposed and under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

## **1 Scope**

This document defines the terms and definitions for the hygienic standard for pet feed (food). It stipulates requirements for raw materials used in the production of pet feed (food), and maximum levels of limits and test methods for inorganic contaminants and nitrogenous

compounds, mycotoxins, natural plant toxins, organochlorine contaminants, and microbial contaminants in pet feed (food).

This document applies to formula pet feed, pet additive premixes, and other pet foods.

## 2 Normative References

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

- GB 4789.26 National Food Safety Standard Food Microbiological Examination Commercial Sterility Test
- GB 5009.11 National Food Safety Standard Determination of Total Arsenic and Inorganic Arsenic in Foods
- GB 7300 (All Parts) Feed Additives
- GB 13078 Feed Hygiene Standard
- GB/T 13079 Determination of Total Arsenic in Feeds
- GB/T 13080 Determination of Lead in Feeds Atomic Absorption Spectrometry
- GB/T 13081 Determination of Mercury in Feeds
- GB/T 13082 Determination of Cadmium in Feeds
- GB/T 13083 Determination of Fluoride in Feeds Ion Selective Electrode Method
- GB/T 13084 Determination of Cyanide in Feeds
- GB/T 13085 Determination of Nitrite in Feeds Colorimetric Method
- GB/T 13088 Determination of Chromium in Feeds
- GB/T 13090 Determination of HCH and DDT in Feeds
- GB/T 13091 Determination of Salmonella in Feeds
- GB/T 13093 Determination of Total Bacterial Count in Feeds
- GB/T 19540 Determination of Zearalenone in Feeds
- GB/T 30955 Determination of Aflatoxins B<sub>1</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>, G<sub>1</sub>, and G<sub>2</sub> in Feeds High Performance Liquid Chromatography with Immunoaffinity Column Cleanup
- GB/T 30956 Determination of Deoxynivalenol in Feeds High Performance Liquid Chromatography with Immunoaffinity Column Cleanup
- GB/T 30957 Determination of Ochratoxin A in Feeds High Performance Liquid Chromatography with Immunoaffinity Column Cleanup
- GB/T 34270 Determination of Polychlorinated Biphenyls and Hexachlorobenzene in Feeds Gas Chromatography
- GB/T 40850 Test Method for Enterobacteriaceae in Feeds
- NY/T 1372 Determination of Melamine in Feeds
- NY/T 1970 Determination of Fumonisin in Feeds
- NY/T 2071 Determination of Aflatoxins, Zearalenone, and T-2 Toxin in Feeds Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry
- NY/T 4124 Determination of T-2 and HT-2 Toxins in Feeds Liquid Chromatography Tandem Mass Spectrometry

### **3 Terms and Definitions**

The following terms and definitions apply to this standard.

#### **3.1 Pet feed, pet food**

Industrially processed and manufactured products intended for direct consumption by pets.

Note: Includes formula pet feed (3.2), pet feed additive premix (3.3), and other pet feed (3.4).

#### **3.2 Formula pet feed, complete pet feed, complete pet food**

Feed formulated from a variety of feed raw materials and feed additives in a certain proportion to meet the nutritional needs of pets at different stages of life or under specific physiological or pathological conditions. When used alone, it can satisfy the complete nutritional needs of pets.

Note: These include solid, semi-solid, and liquid formula pet feed.

#### **3.3 Pet feed additive premix, complementary pet food, pet nutritional supplement**

Feed prepared by mixing nutritional feed additives that satisfy pets' needs such as amino acids, vitamins, mineral trace elements, enzymes, etc. and carriers or diluents in certain proportions.

Note: These include solid, semi-solid, and liquid pet feed additive premixes.

#### **3.4 Other pet food, pet treats**

Feed prepared by mixing several raw materials and additives in a certain proportion for purposes such as rewarding pets, interacting with pets, or stimulating chewing and tearing of pets,

### **4 Requirements**

#### **4.1 Raw materials**

Feed raw materials and feed additives used in the production of pet feed (food) are listed in Feed Ingredients Catalog and Feed Additives Catalog. Hygienic requirements for raw materials must comply with GB 13078, and those for feed additives must comply with GB 7300 (all parts) or relevant standards.

#### **4.2 Hygiene indicators and test methods**

Hygiene indicators and test methods should comply with the requirements of Table 1.

**Table 1: Hygiene Indicators and Test Methods**

Category	No.	Item	Product Name	Limits <sup>a</sup>	Test Method	Remark
Inorganic contaminants and nitrogenous compounds	1	Fluorine mg/kg	Formula pet feed	$\leq 150$	GB/T 13083	--
			Pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 500$ (when phosphorus content $\leq 4\%$ )		--
				$\leq 125/1\%$ (when phosphorus content $> 4\%$ ) <sup>b</sup>		--
	2	Cadmium mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 2$	GB/T 13082	--
	3	Chromium mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 5$	GB/T 13088	--
	4	Mercury mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 0.3$	GB/T 13081	--
	5	Lead mg/kg	Formula pet feed	$\leq 5$	GB/T 13080	--
			Pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 10$		
	6	Total arsenic mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix and other pet food containing aquatic animals and their products or algae and their products	$\leq 10$ (inorganic arsenic $\leq 2$ )	Total arsenic: GB/T 13079; Inorganic arsenic: GB 5009.11	--
			Formula pet food not containing aquatic and their products or algae and products	$\leq 2$		

			Pet feed additive premix and other pet food not containing aquatic and their products or algae and products	$\leq 4$		
	7	Melamine mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 2.5$	NY/T 1372	Canned pet food with a water content of 60% or more is calculated on an as-is basis
	8	Nitrite (as NaNO <sub>2</sub> ) mg/kg	Formula pet feed with water content less than 20%	$\leq 15$	GB/T 13085	--
			Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, and other pet food with water content not less than 20%	$\leq 100$		
Mycotoxins	9	Aflatoxin B <sub>1</sub> µg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 10$	NY/T 2071 (applicable to pet food with a water content of less than 60%); GB/T 30955 (applicable to pet food with a water content of not less than 60%)	--
	10	Fumonisin (B <sub>1</sub> + B <sub>2</sub> ) mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 5$	NY/T 1970	--

	11	Deoxynivalenol (DON) mg/kg	Formula pet feed (cat), pet feed additive premix (cat), other pet food (cat)	$\leq 5$	GB/T 30956	--
			Formula pet feed (dog), pet feed additive premix (dog), other pet food (dog)	$\leq 2$		
	12	Zearalenone mg/kg	Formula pet feed (young, pregnant, and lactating periods), pet feed additive premix (young, pregnant, and lactating periods), other pet food (young, pregnant, and lactating periods)	$\leq 0.15$	GB/T 19540	--
			Formula pet feed (adult), pet feed additive premix (adult), other pet food (adult)	$\leq 0.25$		--
	13	Ochratoxin A mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 0.01$	GB/T 30957	--
	14	T-2 和 HT-2 mg/kg	Formula pet feed (cat), pet feed additive premix (cat), other pet food (cat)	$\leq 0.05$	NY/T 4124	--
Natural plant toxins	15	Cyanide (as HCN) mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 50$	GB/T 13084	--
Organochlorine contaminants	16	DDT mg/kg	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 0.05$	GB/T 13090	--

	17	Polychlorinated biphenyls (calculated as the sum of PCB28, PCB52, PCB101, PCB138, PCB153, and PCB180) $\mu\text{g/kg}$		Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 40$	GB/T 34270	--
	18	HCH $\text{mg/kg}$	$\alpha$ -HCH	Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 0.02$	GB/T 13090	--
			$\beta$ -HCH		$\leq 0.01$		
			$\gamma$ -HCH		$\leq 0.2$		
	19	HCB $\text{mg/kg}$		Formula pet feed, pet feed additive premix, other pet food	$\leq 0.01$	GB/T 34270	--
Microbial contaminants	20	Enterobacteriaceae CFU/g		Formula pet feed (excluding canned food)	$\leq 100$	GB/T 40850	--
	21	Salmonella (in 25g)		Formula pet feed (excluding canned food)	Not detectable	GB/T 13091	--
				Pet feed additive premix (excluding canned food), other pet food (excluding canned food)	Not detectable		
	22	Microorganism		Formula pet feed (canned), pet feed additive premix (canned), other pet food (canned)	Commercial sterilization	GB 4789.26	--

<sup>a</sup> Unless otherwise specified, the limits listed in the table are based on an 88% dry matter content (excluding microbial contaminants).

<sup>b</sup> For pet feed additive premixes and other pet feed products with a phosphorus content greater than 4%, the fluorine limit for each 1% increase in phosphorus, based on 500 mg/kg, shall be increased by 125 mg/kg. See example below:

**Example:**

For pet feed additive premix and other pet feed with a phosphorus content of 5%, the fluorine limit is 625 mg/kg; for a phosphorus content of 5.5%, the fluorine limit is increased proportionally to 687.5 mg/kg.



## **References**

[1] Feed Ingredients Catalog (Announcement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China)

[2] Feed Additives Catalog (Announcement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of the People's Republic of China)

**END TRANSLATION**

## **Attachments:**

No Attachments.