

# WHOLE DOG JOURNAL'S APPROVED DRY DOG FOODS FOR 2018

COMPANIES IN RED ARE NEW TO THIS LIST

PRODUCT NAME Company Information	Average Price/lb.	# Varieties, # Grain-Free	Meat, Meal, or Both?	Range of Protein Content Range of Fat Content	Notes
<b>CARNA4</b> Toronto, Ontario (855) 422-7624; carna4.com	\$5.78	2, 1 GF	Meat	Min. 28% - 29% protein Min. 15% - 17% fat	Carna4 uses fresh muscle meat, liver, eggs, and fish, whole produce, and certified organic sprouted seeds to make this baked food, and in small batches.
<b>LOTUS</b> Lotus Natural Food, Torrance, CA (888) 995-6887; lotuspetfoods.com	\$3.73	7, 4 GF	Some both, some meat	Min. 18% - 27% protein Min. 8% - 14% fat	Lotus foods are baked, not extruded. Grain-free varieties cost as much as \$4.49/pound; the life stage foods (puppy, adult, senior) contain grain and average \$2.99/lb.
<b>GATHER GO! NOW FRESH SUMMIT</b> Petcurean, Abbotsford, Canada (866) 864-6112; petcurean.com	\$3.71  C\$1.83	31, 14 GF	Some meat, some both, some meal	Min. 21% - 36% protein Min. 8% - 18% fat	Gather line is made with certified free-run and/or wild-caught meat (except for vegan food). Its price (\$4.99/lb) drags company average way up. Some Go! foods (\$2.91/lb) are made with meat; some with meat and meat meal. Now Fresh line (\$3.24/lb) is made with meat. Summit line is made with meat meals and sold only in Canada.
<b>ACANA ORIJEN</b> Champion Petfoods, Morinville, Alberta (877) 939-0006; acana.com, orijen.ca	\$3.70	19, 12 GF	Acana uses both; Orijen uses meat	Min. 27% - 42% protein Min. 13% - 20% fat	Acana has three sub-lines: Acana Heritage (60% meat/meat meal inclusion), Acana Regionals (70% meat/meat meal inclusion), and Acana Singles (50% inclusion of one animal protein per variety). Orijen foods use only fresh and dehydrated meats (no meat meals), no grains, and are higher in protein and fat than the Acana foods.
<b>TIKI DOG</b> Tiki Pets, Chesterfield, MO (866) 821-8562; tikipets.com	\$3.60	4 GF	Both	Min. 26% - 28% protein Min. 16% fat	Baked foods formulated for small dogs. Comes in a small kibble size and in small bags – the largest bag size available is 10 pounds.
<b>CASTOR &amp; POLLUX ORGANIX PRISTINE ULTRAMIX</b> Merrick Pet Foods (a div. of Nestlé Purina) Hereford, TX (800) 875-7518; castorpolluxpet.com	\$3.46	19, 15 GF	Both	Min. 21% - 38% protein Min. 10% - 17% fat	All C&P foods have fresh meat 1st and meat meal 2nd. Organix foods are certified USDA Organic (>95% or more organic). Ultramix line contains many whole ingredients. New line Pristine uses wild-caught fish, grass-fed and/or free-range animals, and many organic ingredients.
<b>STELLA AND CHEWY'S</b> Oak Creek, WI (888) 477-8977 X 100; stellaandchewys.com	\$3.40	7 GF	Both	Min. 32% - 36% protein Min. 14.5% - 16% fat	Raw Coated Kibble is a grain-free baked food coated with freeze-dried raw meat. Raw Blend Kibble is the same, with freeze-dried meat nuggets mixed in. Company claims "responsibly sourced" animal proteins are used.
<b>OPEN FARM</b> Toronto, ON (833) 399-3403; openfarmpet.com	\$3.36	5 GF		Min. 30% - 31% protein Min. 14% fat	Company says all food-source animals are humanely raised, grass-fed/free-range, and all fish is wild-caught – and backs this up with certification from Humane Farm Animal Care (HFAC). The (farm) sources of each ingredient are listed on website. Packaging is recyclable.
<b>TENDER AND TRUE</b> Omaha, NE (877) 616-4455; tenderandtruepet.com	\$3.28	5, 3 GF	Both	Min. 26% - 30% protein Min. 16% - 17% fat	Foods are USDA Organic and contain either Global Animal Partnership (GAP)-certified Step 2 or 3 humanely raised chicken, GAP-Certified Step 1 turkey, or fish with Marine Stewardship Council (MSC)-certification as Sustainable Seafood. Each variety has fresh meat first and meat meal second on the ingredients list.
<b>WERUVA</b> Natick, MA (800) 776-5262; weruva.com	\$3.26	6, 4 GF	Both	Min. 34% - 39% protein Min. 13% - 14% fat	All six varieties are potato-free, four are also grain-free. "Noble grains" used in two. Company says Caloric Melody line is made using 70% animal ingredients; Caloric Harmony line 80%.
<b>WILD CALLING</b> Greeley, CO (855) 628-7387; wildcalling.com	\$3.18	9 GF	Both, except for 1 with meat	Min. 23% - 32% protein Min. 14% - 18% fat	Wild Calling has three lines with three foods each; the products in each line are meant to be rotational. All foods (save one) have a meat first, meat meal second.
<b>INSTINCT</b> Nature's Variety, St. Louis, MO (888) 519-7387; instinctpetfood.com	\$3.15	26 GF	Most both, some meat	Min. 23.5% - 47% protein Min. 11% - 22.5% fat	Instinct Original is tumbled with raw, freeze-dried meat. Each Limited Ingredient food has one animal species. Ultimate Protein line uses only meat (no meat meal). Raw Boost has added freeze-dried nuggets mixed in.



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<b>FARMINA N&amp;D</b> Colts Neck, NJ (888) 292-9965; usa.farmina.com	\$3.02	49, 24 GF	Meat, dehydrated meat	Min. 23% - 42% protein Min. 8% - 22% fat	All the Farmina lines (N&D Grain-Free, Quinoa Functional, Pumpkin Grain-Free, and Ancestral Grain lines) contain fresh and dehydrated meats (no meat meals).
<b>ADDITION</b> Kent, WA (425) 251-0330; addictionfoods.com	\$2.84	6 GF	Meal, w/ one exception	Min. 20% - 26% protein Min. 6% - 14% fat	Addiction makes its own foods in New Zealand. Formulas include probiotics and phytonutrient sources such as berries, kelp, herbs. Kangaroo variety contains dry meat.
<b>HALO</b> Halo, Purely for Pets, Tampa, FL (800) 426-4256; halopets.com	\$2.83	13, 4 GF	Meat	Min. 20% - 27% protein Min. 10% - 18% fat	Halo has always eschewed meat meals in favor of meat. It recently reformulated all its foods and now uses only meats that are GAP 3-certified (comprehensive welfare and care standards) and MSC-certified fish.
<b>NULO</b> Austin, TX (512) 476-6856; nulo.com	\$2.79	14 GF	Both	Min. 30% - 33% protein Min. 7% - 18% fat	Nulo formulated all of its foods for high protein and low-carb levels and a low glycemic index. Medal Series foods are sold exclusively at PetSmart. Freestyle recipes sold through independent retailers and online.
<b>GRANDMA MAE'S</b> New York, NY (888) 653-8021; grandmamaes.com	\$2.78	15, 10 GF	Some both, some meal	Min. 23% - 32% protein Min. 7% - 16% fat	Nine of these have a single animal protein source, with meat 1st and the corresponding meat meal 2nd on ingredients list. Company says no GMOs are used.
<b>PINNACLE</b> Central Garden & Pet, Walnut Creek, CA (866) 500-6286; pinnaclepet.com	\$2.70	5 GF	Both	Min. 25% - 27% protein Min. 10% - 15% fat	Four varieties start with fresh meat and have a meat meal second (5th has fresh eat first and meat meal 5th). Sold only in independent pet supply stores.
<b>VERUS</b> Abingdon, MD (888) 828-3787; veruspetfoods.com	\$2.65	8, 3 GF	Some both, some meal	Min. 22% - 26% protein Min. 8% - 15% fat	Verus discloses ingredient sources, such as chicken from cage-free birds in West Virginia, and uses EU-certified manufacturing.
<b>WELLNESS COMPLETE HEALTH CORE SIMPLE TRUFOODS</b> Wellpet, Tewksbury, MA (800) 225-0904; wellpet.com	\$2.62	38, 22 GF	Both, except for Trufoods, which has meat only	Min. 21% - 36% protein Min. 8% - 18% fat	Complete Health foods provide "whole food nutrition." Core foods are "protein focused, grain free." Simple is a limited-ingredient line. Trufoods are baked and contain meats (no meat meals). Wide range of protein, fat levels.
<b>MERRICK</b> A div. of Nestlé Purina, Amarillo, TX (800) 664-7387; merrickpetcare.com	\$2.56	35 GF	Most both, some meat	Min. 25% - 38% protein Min. 8% - 17% fat	Only grain-free varieties are offered. First ingredient is always meat. Backcountry line mixes in freeze-dried nuggets. All made in Merrick's own plant.
<b>ANNA MAET</b> Telford, PA (888) 723-0367; annamaet.com	\$2.47	11, 5 GF	Most meal, 2 both	Min. 23% - 33% protein Min. 7% - 20% fat	Nine out of Annamaet's 11 foods are made with meat meal; two of its five grain-free foods are made with meat <i>and</i> meal. All of its foods now contain a sustainable algae source of omega-3 fatty acids.
<b>CLOUDSTAR WELLMADE</b> St. Louis, MO (800) 361-9079; cloudstar.com	\$2.46	5 GF	Meal	Min. 24% - 26% protein Min. 8% - 15% fat	Wellmade foods are grain-free baked foods; each is made with a single animal protein (helpful for dogs with food allergies). Peas and lentils are the main carb sources.
<b>FRESHMIX, OSOPURE</b> Artemis Company, Gardena, CA (310) 965-1933; artemiscompany.com	\$2.44	7, 4 GF	Both	Min. 20% - 28% protein Min. 6% - 17% fat	Osopure line is grain-free, and each variety contains a single animal protein source. Freshmix varieties contain several animal protein sources.
<b>ZIGNATURE</b> Pets Global, Valencia, CA (888) 897-7207; zignature.com	\$2.35	11 GF	Both	Min. 25% - 32% protein Min. 14% - 18% fat	The offerings from Zignature are particularly helpful for feeding dogs with known food allergies, since 10 of its 11 foods contain a single novel species of animal protein (the 11th, Zessential, contains four animal species). Also, all of its foods are free of grain, potato, and chicken.
<b>TUSCAN NATURAL</b> Pyramid Pet Products, Las Vegas, NV (888) 408-0895; tuscanatural.com	\$2.34	5, 2 GF	Some both, some meal	Min. 24% - 35% protein Min. 12% - 20% fat	Simply Pure line has one animal protein source each (chicken, fish, or lamb). Harvest uses turkey & chicken. Carne is a grain-free food with a high meat inclusion.
<b>FROMM</b> Fromm Family Pet Food, Mequon, WI (800) 325-6331; frommfamily.com	\$2.30	27, 13 GF	Both	Min. 21% - 30% protein Min. 10% - 19% fat	This family-owned company makes its own foods in its own plants. Fromm has three lines: Four-Star Nutritionals, Gold, and Classic (economy line).

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<b>EVO</b> Natura Pet (a div. of Mars Petcare) Santa Clara, CA (800) 532-7261; evopet.com	\$2.27	3 GF	Both	Min. 42% protein Min. 18% - 22% fat	Evo was one of the first dry dog foods to contain high animal-protein and fat levels. These products have performed well enough to survive – intact – multiple changes of company ownership.
<b>AZMIRA</b> Tucson, AZ; (520) 886-1727; azmira.com	\$2.25	2	Meal	Min. 22% protein Min. 8% fat	Azmira makes just two foods, a lamb and a turkey variety, both made with whole brown rice, milo, and barley.
<b>PARTY ANIMAL</b> West Hollywood, CA (855) 727-8926; partyanimalpetfood.com	\$2.25	1	Both	Min. 23% protein Min. 14% fat	Organic chicken is the first ingredient, followed by chicken meal, then several organic whole grains.
<b>THREE DOG BAKERY</b> Kansas City, MO (800) 487-3287; threedog.com	\$2.25	4	Both	Min. 18% - 26% protein Min. 5% - 15% fat	Baked foods, all of which feature a meat as the first ingredient; meat meals follow in all but the “healthy weight” variety.
<b>NATURAL BALANCE</b> A div. of J.M. Smuckers, Burbank, CA (800) 829-4493; naturalbalanceinc.com	\$2.24	28, 15 GF	Some meal, some both	Min. 18% - 32% protein Min. 8% - 17% fat	Super-high-protein, limited ingredient, reduced calorie, and even vegetarian products available. Company makes test results of each batch available online.
<b>HOLISTIC SELECT</b> Wellpet, Tewksbury, MA (800) 225-0904; holisticselect.com	\$2.23	16, 12 GF	Meal	Min. 23% - 35% protein Min. 8% - 17% fat	Company regards digestive health and support as foremost in importance, and adds probiotics and digestive enzymes. Made in company's own mfg. plant.
<b>SOLID GOLD</b> Greenville, SC (800) 364-4863; solidgoldpet.com	\$2.23	25, 6 GF	Both	Min. 18% - 41% protein Min. 6% - 20% fat	A wide variety of foods offered: there are foods with and without grains, potato and potato-free, and products that offer very high protein and moderate protein levels.
<b>NATURAL PLANET, NUTRISOURCE, PURE VITA</b> NutriSource (a div of KLN Family Brands) Perham, MN; (800) 525-9155; klnfamilybrands.com	\$2.18	41, 25 GF	Both	Min. 20% - 32% protein Min. 8% - 16% fat	Natural Planet foods made with free-range organic chicken and some other organic ingredients. NutriSource line has large number of animal protein combinations in grain-containing and grain-free varieties. Each PureVita food contains a single source of animal protein.
<b>PRAIRIE</b> Nature's Variety, St. Louis, MO (888) 519-7387; naturevariety.com	\$2.15	4	Both	Min. 23% - 27% protein Min. 14% fat	Ingredients start with meat, then meat meal, whole grains, fruits, and vegetables, and even more meat meals.
<b>LIFE'S ABUNDANCE</b> Jupiter, FL (877) 387-4564; lifesabundance.com	\$2.14	5, 1 GF	Meal	Min. 25% - 30% protein Min. 11.5% - 19% fat	Multi-level marketing: Buy food from a local rep (or become a rep!) or have it autoshipped. (Prices used for average are autoship prices.)
<b>NUTRAM</b> Elmira, ON; (844) 234-2464; nutram.com	\$2.12	15, 6 GF	Some meal, some both	Min. 22.5% - 36% protein Min. 9% - 17% fat	Optimum absorption is Nutram's goal. Foods are formulated with moderate, not high, levels of quality protein.
<b>DR. TIM'S PET FOOD</b> Marquette, MI (906) 249-8486; drtims.com	\$2.11	10, 2 GF	Meal	Min. 26% - 32% protein Min. 18% - 25% fat	Low-ash meat meals are used, chosen to provide a proper amino acid profile. Auto-, direct-ship available. Note: Some varieties contain porcine plasma or porcine blood meal (a source of protein we don't approve of).
<b>HEALTH EXTENSION</b> Melville, NY (800) 992-9738; healthextension.com	\$1.99	13, 5 GF	Both	Min. 24% - 27% protein Min. 9% - 18% fat	Made in small batches, never recalled, uses non-GMO produce, and other “responsibly sourced” ingredients. Company is family-owned and operated.
<b>CANIDAE</b> San Luis Obispo, CA (800) 398-1600; canidae.com	\$1.98	25, 19 GF	Some both; some meal only	Min. 20% - 32% protein Min. 8.5% - 18% fat	“Pure” line (all GF) starts with fresh meat, follows with meat meal. Under the Sun line (single protein, GF, no potato) starts with meal, follows with fresh meat in about the 6th spot. All Life Stages line = meal only.
<b>PETGUARD</b> Green Cove Springs, FL (800)874-3221; petguard.com	\$1.98	2	One both, one none	Min. 27% protein Min. 15% fat	Lifespan variety starts with fresh chicken and then chicken meal, whole brown rice, and oatmeal. Petguard Organics is a vegetarian diet (we recommend this only for dogs who are allergic to animal proteins).
<b>PET CHEF EXPRESS</b> New Westminster, BC (604) 916-2433; petchefexpress.ca	\$1.96	1	Meal	Min. 25% protein Min. 10% fat	Just one variety of food is offered, “salmon and potato” (also contains oats, millet, and barley). Company offers home delivery in BC and retail sales in BC and ON.

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<b>BORÉAL</b> Beamsville, ON (800) 253-8128; borealpetfood.com	\$1.95	10, 4 GF	Some both; some meal	Min. 24% - 29% protein Min. 12% - 18% fat	All foods formulated for a low glycemic index and to be affordable and sustainable. Original line contains both meat and meals; Proper and Vital lines contain only meals.
<b>NEWMAN'S OWN</b> Westport, CT (203) 222-0136; newmansown.com	\$1.92	2	Both	Min. 21% - 24% protein Min. 10% - 12% fat	Ingredients start with fresh meat; meat meal appears a few ingredients lower on the labels. Many organic ingredients used.
<b>EARTHBORN HOLISTIC</b> Midwestern Pet Foods, Evansville, IN (800) 474-4163 x 450 earthbornholisticpetfood.com	\$1.91	16, 12 GF	Meal	Min. 22% - 38% protein Min. 7% - 20% fat	Venture grain-free line offers novel proteins (including squid!). Earthborn's "holistic" line uses meat meals and whole grains. Earthborn recycles its bags and offers a "UPCs for Trees" program.
<b>PRECISE</b> Precise Pet Products, St. Helena, CA (888) 477-3247; precisepet.com	\$1.90	17, 4 GF	Some meal, some both	Min. 22% - 30% protein Min. 7% - 20% fat	Precise has three lines: (economy line) Precise Naturals, Precise Naturals Grain-Free, and Precise Holistic (our favorite of the three, these contain meat and meat meals).
<b>DOGSWELL</b> Los Angeles, CA (888) 559-8833; dogswell.com	\$1.87	10, 8 GF	Some both, some meal	Min. 24% - 32% protein Min. 12% - 18% fat	Dogswell and Nutrisca lines are grain-, potato-free and contain meat and meat meals 1st and 2nd. Vitality and Happy Hips contain grain; latter has joint supplements.
<b>DR. GARY'S BEST BREED</b> Findlay, OH (800) 500-5999; bestbreed.com	\$1.86	15, 2 GF	Meal	Min. 21% - 32% protein Min. 7% - 17% fat	Dr. Gary's emphasizes the use of healthy, balanced fats for healthy skin, coat, energy, and stamina. Fiber sources are chosen for their pre- and pro-biotic characteristics. All formulas meet EU standards.
<b>AVODERM</b> Breeder's Choice (a div. of Central Garden & Pet), Walnut Creek, CA (866) 500-6286; avodermnatural.com	\$1.85	22, 13 GF	Some meal, some both	Min. 20% - 30% protein Min. 8% - 16% fat	Avocado and avocado oil are featured in all Avoderm foods. Revolving Menu grain-free line uses both meat and meal; the 7 varieties are formulated with similar nutrient levels so an owner can rotate among them.
<b>BLACKWOOD</b> Blackwood Pet Food, Lisbon, OH (888) 843-1738; blackwoodpetfood.com	\$1.84	14, 6 GF	Meal	Min. 20.5 - 28% protein Min. 9% - 15% fat	Blackwood is the "house brand" at Ohio Pet Foods, so they can make their products in small batches (for fresher food). "Sensitive Diet" line offers novel protein sources.
<b>NATURE'S SELECT</b> Anaheim, CA; (714) 993-5500; naturalpetfooddelivery.com	\$1.84	9, 3 GF	Meal, with one exception	Min. 22% - 33% protein Min. 10% - 17% fat	Buy from a local rep for home-delivery or sell food yourself. Made with animal protein meals and whole foods.
<b>BENCH &amp; FIELD</b> Grand Rapids, MI (800) 525-4802; benchandfield.com	\$1.81	1	Meal	Min. 24% protein Min. 15% fat	Bench and Field offers only one dry food, made with chicken meal. Food is sold in upscale grocery (Trader Joe's, Whole Foods) and direct-shipped (free shipping).
<b>EVANGER'S</b> Wheeling, IL (847) 537-0102; evangersdogfood.com	\$1.80	6, 3 GF	Both	Min. 24% - 33% protein Min. 6% - 15% fat	Varieties include pheasant & brown rice, whitefish & sweet potato. Evanger's dry dog foods are made by an independent contract manufacturer.
<b>WHOLE EARTH FARMS</b> Merrick Pet Care, a div. of Nestlé Purina, Amarillo, TX (800) 323-3353; feedgoodness.com	\$1.72	8, 6 GF	Both	Min. 26% protein Min. 8% - 13% fat	These foods all have meat meals as the first one or two ingredients, and a meat appearing 5th or 6th on the label. They are all formulated to provide 26% protein, and contain probiotics and prebiotics.
<b>SPORT DOG FOOD</b> Ronkonkoma, NY (631) 662-2185; sportdogfood.com	\$1.70	11, 7 GF	Meal	Min. 20% - 31.5% protein Min. 10% - 22.8% fat	Baked foods, coated with "proprietary blend of salmon oil, herring oil, probiotics and freeze-dried proteins, fruits, and vegetables." Direct shipping available.
<b>TASTE OF THE WILD</b> Diamond Pet Products, Meta, MO (800) 442-0402; tasteofthewildpetfood.com	\$1.70	12 GF	Both	Min. 25% - 32% protein Min. 13% - 18% fat	Most varieties have meat as first ingredient and meat meal second. New line, Taste of the Wild Prey, are limited-ingredient foods.
<b>ULTRA HOLISTIC</b> Nutro (a div. of Mars), Franklin, TN (800) 833-5330; ultraholistic.com	\$1.62	11	Both	Min. 23% - 29% protein Min. 10% - 16% fat	Ultraholistic foods all contain chicken, chicken meal, lamb meal, and salmon meal. They also contain some grain fractions (rice bran, brewers rice) and plant proteins.

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<b>FIRSTMATE, KASIKS, SKOKI</b> FirstMate Pet Foods, North Vancouver, BC (800) 658-1166; firstmate.com	\$1.58	15, 9 GF	Meal	Min. 18% - 32% protein Min. 8% - 20% fat	FirstMate makes its own foods in British Columbia. Each FirstMate and Kasiks food includes a single animal-protein source – helpful for feeding food-allergic dogs. Company claims free-run chicken and lamb are used. Skoki is FirstMate's economy product (\$1.12/pound).
<b>CHICKEN SOUP FOR THE SOUL</b> Cos Cob, CT (800) 658-0624; chickensouppets.com	\$1.39	11, 4 GF	Both	Min. 21 - 30% protein Min. 8% - 18% fat	Ingredients lists for all formulas start with fresh meat, immediately followed by meat meals, then whole grains.
<b>PROFESSIONAL+</b> Diamond Pet Foods, Meta, MO (800) 342-4808; professionalpetfood.com	\$1.33	4 GF	Both	Min. 21% - 26% protein Min. 10% - 15% fat	All varieties start with meat, then meat meal, then grain-free carb sources: peas, lentils, sweet potatoes, fava beans.
<b>EAGLE PACK</b> Wellpet, Tewksbury, MA (800) 225-0904; eaglepack.com	\$1.27	7	Meal	Min. 23% - 27% protein Min. 6% - 14% fat	Eagle Pack's foods are made with meat meals and whole grains. Guaranteed Analyses include omega-3 and -6, calcium, phosphorus, and probiotic levels.