

Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.



"The high level of innovation centring on high-quality, health-boosting and all-natural ingredients is making it difficult for products to stand out in the increasingly crowded premium pet food space. Greater transparency, for example through spotlighting ingredient provenance, will help build trust and create compelling points of difference."

- Max Grünefeld, Research Analyst

# This report looks at the following areas:

- Opportunity for meal kits for making pet food at home
- The pet food market can do more to tap into the buzz around digestive health
- Environmentally friendly packaging warrants further attention

Expected to reach £2.8 billion by the end of 2019, the value of cat and dog food has risen 17% over the last five years. This has been fuelled by inflation and premiumisation, with modest volume growth of just 3% over the period to 1,056 million kg.

Humanisation continues be a core driver behind NPD and the category is delving further into added value across health and wellness, as well as indulgence and the fun factor. Naturalness is key for pet owners; all-natural ingredients are the top factor looked for when buying pet food. However, operators must go beyond this claim to stand out in this space. Greater transparency, for example in terms of ingredient provenance and manufacturing processes, will be pivotal in building trust in pet food products.

Greener packaging, meal kits for making pet food at home, all-British ingredients and recipes featuring 'good bacteria' are all areas that offer ripe opportunities for pet food manufacturers.

# BUY THIS REPORT NOW

**VISIT:** store.mintel.com

**CALL:**EMEA
+44 (0) 20 7606 4533

Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250

+86 (21) 6032 7300

+61 (0) 2 8284 8100

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com

**DID YOU KNOW?** 

This report is part of a series of reports, produced to provide you with a more holistic view of this market



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Overview**

What you need to know

Products covered in this Report

#### **Executive Summary**

The market

More strong growth in value, modest volume growth continues

Figure 1: Total UK retail value sales of cat and dog food, 2014-24

Further lacklustre growth ahead for volume sales

Snacks and treats lead growth in dog food in 2018

Figure 2: UK retail value sales of dog food, by type, 2017-19

Wet food maintains majority share of cat food sales

Figure 3: UK retail value sales of cat food, by type, 2017-19

Pet ownership remains stable

Impact of Brexit remains largely unknown

Industry reacts to the spotlight on plastic packaging

Companies and brands

Sales continue to fall for top three dog food brands

Figure 4: Leading brands' sales in the UK retail wet and dry dog food market, by value, 2017/18 and 2018/19

Felix returns to growth, Whiskas remains in decline

Figure 5: Leading brands' sales in the UK retail wet and dry cat food market, by value, 2017/18 and 2018/19

Ethical positioning gains ground in launches

37% of launches call out textures

'Plus' claims grow in treats launches, functional claims remain rarer

Advertising sees three years of decline

The consumer

Dry food remains favourite for feeding dogs, gap closes for cats

Figure 6: Types of pet food bought, by type of pet, May 2019

Most see digestive health as essential to overall health

Figure 7: Attitudes towards pet food, May 2019

All-natural ingredients are cat/dog food buyers' top consideration

Figure 8: Choice factors when purchasing pet food, May 2019

Transparency fuels trust

Figure 9: Behaviours related to pet food, May 2019

What we think

**Issues and Insights** 

Opportunity for meal kits for making pet food at home

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300 APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 |

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

The facts

The implications

The pet food market can do more to tap into the buzz around digestive health

The facts

The implications

Environmentally friendly packaging warrants further attention

The facts

The implications

#### The Market - What You Need to Know

More strong growth in value, modest volume growth continues

Further lacklustre growth ahead for volume sales

Snacks and treats lead growth in dog food in 2018

Wet food maintains majority share of cat food sales

Pet ownership remains stable

Impact of Brexit remains largely unknown

#### **Market Size and Forecast**

# More strong growth in value sales; modest volume performance continues

Figure 10: UK retail value and volume sales of cat and dog food, 2014-24

#### Further lacklustre growth ahead for volume sales

Figure 11: Total UK retail volume sales of cat and dog food, 2014-24

### Strong value sales forecast on the back of rising prices

Figure 12: Total UK retail value sales of cat and dog food, 2014-24

Forecast methodology

#### **Market Segmentation**

#### Snacks and treats continue to lead growth in dog food in 2018

Figure 13: UK retail value and volume sales of dog food, by type, 2017-19

#### Wet food maintains majority share of cat food sales

Figure 14: UK retail value and volume sales of cat food, by type, 2017-19

#### **Market Drivers**

#### Pet ownership remains stable

Figure 15: Pet ownership, by type of pet, April 2015-May 2019

#### An ageing population continues to threaten pet ownership

Figure 16: Cat and dog ownership, by age, April 2019

#### Marked slowing in growth of child population will dampen pet ownership

Figure 17: Cat and dog ownership, by presence of children in the household, April 2019

#### Impact of Brexit on pet food remains largely unknown

# Industry reacts to the spotlight on plastic packaging

Figure 18: Share of new products in the UK pet food market carrying an environmentally friendly package claim, 2015-19

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 | **EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

#### Raw pet food is further linked to risk to owners

#### Companies and Brands - What You Need to Know

Sales continue to fall for top three dog food brands

Felix returns to growth, Whiskas remains in decline

Ethical positioning gains ground in launches

37% of launches call out textures

'Plus' claims grow in treats launches, functional claims remain rarer

Advertising sees three years of decline

#### **Market Share**

# Sales keep falling for majority of leading dog food brands

Figure 19: Leading brands' sales in the UK retail wet and dry dog food market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

#### Good Boy and Pedigree continue to lead dog snacks & treats

Figure 20: Leading brands' sales in the UK retail dog snacks and treats market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

#### Felix returns to growth while Whiskas remains in decline

Figure 21: Leading brands' sales in the UK retail wet and dry cat food market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

#### Dreamies returns to growth; Webbox closing in on Felix

Figure 22: Leading brands' sales in the UK retail cat snacks and treats market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

#### Start-ups and Disruptors Case Study - Yora

#### Company Overview

What is it?

Figure 23: Sample of Yora product, 2019

Founded

Founder's story

Financial metrics:

Sources of funding and support

Mintel Analyst Verdict

Mintel Trends

Why it could succeed

Why it could fail

The verdict

Product details

Figure 24: Yora product range, 2019

Stockists

# **Launch Activity and Innovation**

#### Own-label grows share of launches while leading brands' activity slows

Figure 25: Share of new product launches in the UK pet food market, by company, 2015-19

Ethical positioning gains ground

Yora launches 'the world's most sustainable pet food'

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094

Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300 APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 |

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

Figure 26: Yora pet food, 2019

#### Beco Pets launches MSC-certified dog food

#### Whiskas undertakes brand overhaul with a spotlight on natural and sustainable credentials

Figure 27: Whiskas 11+ range highlighting naturalness and sustainability, March 2019

Figure 28: Beco MSC-certified cod & haddock natural dog food, Jan 2019

#### Environmentally friendly package claims are in the minority

Figure 29: Share of new product launches in the UK pet food market, by environmentally friendly packaging and recycling claims, 2015-19

# Some brands explore less common approaches from materials to tie-ups

Figure 30: Environmentally friendly packaging examples, 2018-19

#### Mars ups the game on naturalness with 'clean' and 'ancestral' diets

Mars launches 'ancestral' dog food brand Crave...

Figure 31: Mars Petcare UK's new Crave brand, February 2019

#### ...and brings clean eating trend to pet food with 'Nutro'

Figure 32: Nutro Wild Frontier, Germany, 2018

Textures take centre stage in selected launches

Sheba launches 'Craft' collection, focusing on textures

Felix soup targets any time occasions

Figure 33: Sheba Craft Collection, Yakers Crunchy Bites and Felix Soups, 2018-19

New entrants put superfoods and functional benefits at the heart of treats

#### Denzel's launches dog chew range, Miss Purfect puts functionality front and centre in cat treats

Figure 34: Denzel's dog chews and Miss Purfect cat treats, January 2019 and December 2018

#### Selected launches find associations to emotional wellbeing

#### Wagg overhauls brand identity, highlighting wagging tails

Figure 35: Wagg overhauls brand identity, 2017-19

# Naturediet launches 'Feel Good' variant to cover all bases

Figure 36: Naturediet's Feel Good range, January 2019

# Felix Play Tubes aim to combine play and snacking

Figure 37: Felix Play Tubes, March 2019

Baking kits appear in dog snacks and treats

Smoofl launches DIY treats for dogs

PawBakes releases Bakies Doggy Baking Gift Kit

# Webbox launches 'Decorate Your Own' festive Gingerbread Bones

Figure 38: Examples of pet baking and meal kits, 2018-19

## Mackle Petfoods adds Chef's Selection range to Naturo brand

Figure 39: Naturo's chef's selection range, February 2019

#### Paul O'Grady and Burgess Pet Care launch dog food range

#### Pooch & Mutt launches sister brand Purr & Miaow

Figure 40: Purr & Miaow wet cat food, April 2019

**Advertising and Marketing Activity** 

BUY THIS REPORT NOW VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 | **EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

#### Advertising sees three years of decline

Figure 41: Total above-the-line, online display and direct mail advertising expenditure on pet food, 2015-19

#### The adspend gap between cat and dog food narrows

Figure 42: Total and share of above-the-line, online display and direct mail advertising expenditure on pet food, by type, 2015-19

#### Whiskas continues to be the most heavily advertised brand

Figure 43: Total and share of above-the-line, online display and direct mail advertising expenditure on pet food, by top 10 brands, 2015-19

Tails.com highlights its personalised service in TV ad

Harringtons pushes natural positioning

Dreamies shows its power over cats in playful ad

Butcher's campaign aims to improve affordability of natural food

Sheba continues with 'Resistance is Futile' expressions

Webbox highlights uniqueness of pet ownership

Nielsen Ad Intel coverage

#### The Consumer - What You Need to Know

Dry food remains favourite for feeding dogs, gap closes for cats

Most see digestive health as essential to overall health

All-natural ingredients are cat/dog food buyers' top consideration

Transparency fuels trust

#### **Pet Food Feeding Behaviours**

#### Homemade pet food gathers momentum

Figure 44: Feeding cats and dogs shop-bought and homemade food, May 2019

#### Dry food maintains its lead for dogs

Figure 45: Types of pet food bought, by type of pet, May 2019

#### **Attitudes towards Pet Food**

#### Digestive health warrants focus given consumer interest

Figure 46: Attitudes towards pet food, May 2019

Three in 10 pet food launches reference digestive health...

# ...with a focus on calling out key ingredients

Figure 47: Cat and dog foods calling out digestive functionality, 2018-19

# Need to move the conversation beyond naming ingredients

#### More room to call out good bacteria

Figure 48: Cat and dog treats and food calling out digestive functionality, 2018-19

## Opportunity to further connect diet to emotional wellbeing

Plant-based offerings warrant more attention in dog food

## **Choice Factors in Pet Food Purchasing**

#### All-natural ingredients are cat/dog food buyers' top consideration

Figure 49: Choice factors when purchasing pet food, May 2019

Figure 50: Pet food products showing images of ingredients on-pack, 2019

**BUY THIS REPORT NOW**  VISIT: store.mintel.com

**CALL:** EMEA +44 (0) 20 7606 4533 | Brazil 0800 095 9094 Americas +1 (312) 943 5250 | China +86 (21) 6032 7300

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100

**EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com



Report Price: £1995.00 | \$2693.85 | €2245.17

The above prices are correct at the time of publication, but are subject to change due to currency fluctuations.

#### Functional benefits chime with one in three

#### **Behaviours Related to Pet Food**

#### Transparency fuels trust

Figure 51: Behaviours related to pet food, May 2019

Figure 52: Nineteen 87 dog food highlights ingredient origin and production processes on-pack, 2018

#### British ingredients garner a positive response

Figure 53: Brands featuring references to British provenance on-pack, 2018

#### Interest in calming pet food highest among puppy and kitten owners

Figure 54: Cat and dog treats which claim calming benefits, 2018-19

#### Appendix - Data Sources, Abbreviations and Supporting Information

#### Abbreviations

Consumer research methodology

#### **Appendix - Market Size and Forecast**

Figure 55: Best- and worst-case forecasts for retail sales of cat and dog food, by value, 2019-24

Figure 56: Best- and worst-case forecasts for retail sales of cat and dog food, by volume, 2019-24

#### Forecast methodology

#### **Appendix - Market Share**

Figure 57: Leading manufacturers' sales in the UK retail wet and dry dog food market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

Figure 58: Leading manufacturers' sales in the UK retail wet and dry cat food market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

Figure 59: Leading manufacturers' sales in the UK retail dog snacks & treats market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

Figure 60: Leading manufacturers' sales in the UK retail cat snacks & treats market, by value and volume, 2017/18 and 2018/19

#### **Appendix - Market Drivers**

Figure 61: Trends in the age structure of the UK population, 2014-19 and 2019-24

APAC +61 (0) 2 8284 8100 | **EMAIL:** reports@mintel.com