



Thai sweet potato pellets: natural, healthy & grain-free

Following the growing demand in grain-free ingredients in human food, pet parents are increasingly targeting pet food without wheat, rice, corn, and other grains for their four-legged companions. Of the various replacements available on the market, sweet potato has rapidly grown popular both for human consumption and pet food. Answering to this trend, IQI offers Thai sweet potato pellets: a grain-free alternative pet food ingredient low in iron, low in ash and negligible pesticide residues.

Why sweet potato in grain-free pet food

Ever since sweet potato is used in pet food, it has proven to be a popular, healthy, and natural ingredient with a range of health benefits, especially for dogs. Next to its high vitamin and mineral content, especially vitamins A, C and B6 as well as potassium and calcium, it supports a healthy digestive system thanks to its starch content of at least 55%. Both for humans and dogs, sweet potatoes are generally regarded as a very high quality carbohydrate source.

Multiple harvests per year

While China historically dominates the worldwide sweet potato market and currently accounts for more than half of the total global output, alternative supply chains have recently been developed from South America and Thailand. Thai farmers are growing the crop on an increasing scale – both for human consumption and as a pet food ingredient. In Thailand, sweet potato is primarily grown in the central farming region of the country, where climate conditions result in impressive yields and allow for multiple harvests per year.

Proven alternative

As sweet potato is sold for competitive prices, the crop has become a proven alternative to the similar tapioca (cassava), which Thailand is most renowned for. Being one of the greatest exporting countries of tapioca and tapioca starch for food, pet food and feed, Thai farmers meet the highest quality standards that multinationals demand. As the drying and pelleting infrastructure for tapioca and tapioca can also be used to process and dry sweet potato, farmers can easily switch between the crops – making them less dependent on one or the other and keeping their soils healthy.

Sustainable, safe and reliable source

Allowing ourselves strict quality control and transparent reporting on the sourcing and production of this relatively new ingredient, IQI has developed its own vertically integrated supply chain of sweet potato pellets together with its partner. All farmers within this supply chain have the required GMP and HACCP quality certificates for sweet potato production, and will always deliver certain minimum amounts of sweet potato as part of the contracts they signed. This makes Thai sweet potato a sustainable, clean and reliable source that guarantees a consistent sweet potato pellet quality with negligible pesticide residues.

Production process



1. Contracted Thai farmers grow and harvest the most appropriate sweet potato type



2. The harvested sweet potatoes are cleaned to reduce ash content



3. The cleaned sweet potatoes are chipped



4. The chipped pieces are dried and pelleted



5. Experts conduct quality control on the pellets



6. The pellets are packed in big bags

Benefits of Thai sweet potato pellets

- Vertically integrated supply chain
- Controlled and consistent quality
- GMP and HACCP certified
- Low in ash and iron
- Negligible pesticide residues
- Lucrative for Thai farmers

Contact us for help

For further information on labeling, packaging, recommended application and inclusion of our Thai sweet potato pellets as a grain-free alternative pet food ingredient, please contact your IQI sales manager.

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