

IQI bacon fat





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Bacon fat: a palatable, sustainable ingredient for pet food

Pork is an important part of the human diet in many European, American, and Asian countries. In recent years, the widespread appreciation for (pre-cooked) convenience bacon in particular has strongly driven the global demand production of for bacon fat as a pet food ingredient as well. Answering to this trendUsing leftovers from this product from its sister company OSI, IQI offers bacon fat as a sustainable, high-quality solution pet food ingredientwith high-quality bacon fat from its sister company OSI.

OSI is a major and renowned producer of pre-cooked bacon in the USA (IA, IL) and in Europe (NL). Their strict compliance to the highest quality standards for human consumption allows them to supply bacon to the world's most renowned fast-food chains and retailers. During OSI's bacon cooking process, a fat is produced which is gently processed thereafter. The product that remains is a so-called purified and stabilized bacon fat: an essential raw material for pets' diets as a source of energy and palatability but above all a great marketing claim.

Prevention

Re-use for human consumption

Re-use in pet food

Re-use in feed for production animals

Recycling in anaerobic digestion

Waste composted

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Figure 1: Waste hierarchy

Retaining value

Just like the European Pet Food Industry Federation (FEDIAF), IQI firmly believes that surplus food – such as (category 3) animal fats and including bacon fat – which is not intended for human consumption, should be purposed to the food waste hierarchy. As a member of the OSI group, IQI has therefore worked together with OSI to turn leftover bacon fat from their plants

into a suitable ingredient for applications in premium pet food instead of selling it to sectors such as renewable fuel, which are much lower in terms of waste hierarchy (Figure 1). Combined with OSI's enormous production capacity, the result is a high-quality, palatable and sustainable ingredient. This fits perfectly fits in IQI's portfolio of specialty pork-based ingredients for pet food.

Palatability scientifically confirmed

Bacon fat is not only a great 'claim' pet food ingredient: science has also confirmed it is highly palatable for both dogs and cats. In a trial conducted in 2019 by AFB International, 20 dogs or cats were given economy dog or cat food which was topically coated with a 3% or 9% dose of 5 different types of fat (bacon, beef tallow, herring, chicken, canola). The results clearly showed that bacon fat was the number one preference for pets. (Table 1)

Preference Ranking	Dog Trials: Fat Source/ Fat Concentration	Cat Trials: Fat Source / Fat Concentration
1	Bacon / 9% ^E	Bacon / 3% ^{cd}
2	Beef Tallow / 9% ^D	Chicken / 3% ^D
3	Herring / 9% ^c	Canola / 9% ^{ECD}
4	Chicken / 9% ^c	Herring / 3% ^{BCD}
5	Bacon / 3% ^c	Canola / 3% ^{ECD}
6	Beef Tallow / 3% ^D	Beef Tallow / 9% ^{ECD}
7	Canola / 3% ^{AD}	Chicken / 9% ^{ECD}
8	Chicken / 3% ^{AB}	Beef Talllow / 3%DC
9	Herring / 3%AB	Bacon / 9%⁵
10	Canola / 9% ^A	Herring / 9% ^A

Table 1: Fat type and amount: It's impact on palatability (AFB international, 2019)

Applications

The outstanding palatability of IQI's bacon fat makes it an excellent choice for a flavored coating on extruded kibbles – creating a mouth-watering appeal which turns mealtime into a joy with the enticing aroma and flavor of bacon. The ingredient also serves perfectly as a palatability enhancer on treats for cats and dogs.



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