

## **New MAZURI Small Pack Hamster/Gerbil Diet 5E10 Dishes Up Nutrition**

Hamsters and gerbils have gained a huge following since their somewhat recent introduction. Hamsters were first imported into England during the 19th century and did not arrive in the United States until 1938. Although similar to rodents in appearance, hamsters are actually descended from squirrels located in Europe and Western Asia and digest food very differently.

### **A Nutritional Primer**

Hamsters and gerbils are omnivorous and will eat foods of both plant and animal origin. However they strongly lean toward being plant eaters--which should be reflected in their diet.

Diets of both species should carefully balance proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins and minerals for optimum health.

Proteins, like those found in peanut, pine nut, safflower and sunflower seeds, build body tissue and are essential for animals that are growing and breeding.

Fats insulate the animal against cold weather and are a reserve source of energy. However too much of a good thing is, well, too much. Which is why both the source and amount should be carefully balanced to keep your pet from becoming obese.

Carbohydrates provide daily energy and are commonly derived from grains and seeds.

Vitamins are crucial to good health. Some are synthesized in the body, while others must be provided in the diet. They enable chemical reactions in the body to take place and must be carefully balanced.

Minerals, such as iron, copper magnesium, potassium, phosphorus, selenium and calcium contribute to good cell structure and body function. However excessive amounts of some minerals can affect absorption of others.

So how do you make sure your hamster or gerbil is getting the right amount?

### **Feeding Tips**

There are two basic ways to feed your pet. You could experiment with fruits, vegetables and grains to get the right nutritional mix. Or you could simply pick up a bag of MAZURI Small Pack Hamster/Gerbil, 5E10 from your local dealer.

Formulated by MAZURI researchers, Ph.D. nutritionists and developed with the largest hamster breeder in the United States, MAZURI Small Pack diets are analyzed and tested with the same commitment and precision we devote to developing diets for endangered species...because we know you value your pet just as much.

MAZURI Small Pack Hamster/Gerbil diet contains only premium ingredients, including natural vitamin E, that are carefully balanced to provide optimum nutrition. No vitamin or mineral supplements are needed.

The all vegetable-based diet of pellets, vegetables and grains is highly palatable and perfect for all life stages of hamsters and gerbils...and is backed by the MAZURI guarantee for freshness. Visit our web site at [www.mazuri.com](http://www.mazuri.com) for complete nutritional information and make it MAZURI® Small Pack Hamster/Gerbil, 5E10 for life.