

# The Burgess Guide to Feeding Happy Rabbits

**NASTURTIUM**  
Bright flowers which are safe for rabbits to eat, as well as the leaves

**STINGING NETTLE**  
(dried) An excellent source of protein. Many rabbits prefer to eat dried nettles rather than fresh nettles

**DANDELION**  
Very palatable to rabbits and often used to encourage inappetent rabbits to eat

**SAVOY CABBAGE**  
Feed in small amounts once or twice a week

**PEAR TWIGGS & LEAVES**  
Twigs of fruit trees make great chew toys and provide environmental enrichment

**YARROW**  
Has feathery leaves and flowers and is high in fibre

**ROSE**  
Flower petals can be high in sugar so should be fed in moderation

**BUTTERNUT SQUASH**  
This one divides rabbits' opinion with some loving it and some hating it!

**CLOVER**  
This is a soft, flavourful plant that rabbits love. Varieties include red, white and shamrock

**CAVOLO NERO**  
Dark green Italian cabbage

**CLEAVERS**  
Also known as goosegrass. Be careful it doesn't stick to rabbits' fur

**PLANTAIN**  
Safe and palatable for rabbits

**GREEN BEANS**  
Feed in moderation to provide variety in the diet

**PARSLEY**  
Fragrant herb popular with rabbits

**STRAWBERRY PLANT LEAVES**  
Rabbits are naturally drawn to the leaves of strawberry plants, as well as raspberry and blackberry

**COLTSFOOT**  
Is naturally high in fibre so helps maintain digestive health; and is known for its respiratory health support

**HAZEL**  
Clean branches and twigs beforehand to ensure it is free from insects, and always ensure that they have not been sprayed with any chemicals

**GRASS**  
There are lots of varieties! Access to grazing on a daily basis is ideal. However, grass clippings should never be fed as they ferment quickly in the gut causing bloat

**CAULIFLOWER**  
Green leafy portions low in energy and high in fibre

**WILLOW**  
Can be used to make balls and other shapes that can be stuffed with hay to provide environmental enrichment through play

**SPRING GREENS**  
Closely related to kale and rich in fibre and vitamin C

**CABBAGE (white)**  
Introduce gradually

**MINT**  
There are different types of mint including spearmint and peppermint. Mint grows profusely so grow in pots or window boxes

**BLACKBERRY LEAVES & STEMS**  
Take care with the thorns on brambles

**BROCCOLI**  
Green leafy portions low in energy and high in fibre

**LEMON BALM**  
Delicious citrus aroma and known for its calming properties

**APPLE TWIGGS & LEAVES**  
Twigs provide great environmental enrichment and something to chew on

**HAWTHORN**  
Provides great environmental enrichment for rabbits

**KALE**  
Rich in vitamin C

**1cm OF APPLE**  
Remove the skin, stem and pips before feeding

**CELERY**  
Rabbits with dental issues may struggle due to stringy nature

**CORIANDER**  
Powerful flavours of herbs may take a little time to get used to

**ARUM**  
Causes burning and irritation to the lips, mouth and throat resulting in excessive salivation and difficulty swallowing

**DEADLY NIGHTSHADE**  
Also called belladonna. There are many signs of poisoning including weakness, gastrointestinal signs, slow heart rate, dilated pupils and behavioural changes

**ANY PLANT THAT GROWS FROM A BULB**  
Like daffodils also includes tulips, hyacinths, and crocuses

**RHUBARB**  
All parts of this plant can be an irritant and are potentially poisonous when eaten raw

**BLUEBELL**  
Can cause similar issues to foxglove resulting in diarrhoea, lower pulse rate, and in more severe cases cardiac arrhythmias. The bulb may be accidentally consumed.

**FOXGLOVE**  
Despite their beautiful flowers any part of this plant can cause poisoning. Signs include diarrhoea, weakness and irregular heart beat

## DAILY

Aim to feed 5-6 greens a day.  
Mix and match - remember that the bulk of the diet should be hay/grass!

## TREATS

Limit to 1-2 tablespoons per day. Grow herbs in a window box for all year round supply.

## TOXIC

If you suspect your rabbit has eaten a toxic plant, seek veterinary advice immediately.

**HEMLOCK**  
Signs of poisoning include loss of appetite, abdominal pain, bloat, muscle tremors and incoordination

**BRYONY**  
Produces a strong laxative effect

**GARLIC, ONION, SHALLOTS & CHIVES**  
Result in damage to red blood cells

**BASIL**  
Different types of basil exist with varying levels of aroma. Sweet basil often has a softer aroma

**OREGANO**  
Known for its benefits to digestive health

**1cm OF CARROT**  
Feed the carrot in moderation due to the sugar levels. However, carrot tops are very palatable and can be fed more freely

**1cm SWEDE**  
Feed in small amounts occasionally due to sugar content

### RAW Supporters:



### FEEDING GUIDELINES

Never make sudden changes to your guinea pigs' diet and introduce new foods gradually.

Ensure all plants are carefully washed and keep your guinea pigs' vaccinations up to date.

This is not an exhaustive list so check with your vet if you are unsure about any plants not included on this poster.

For more information and advice visit [burgesspetcare.co.uk](http://burgesspetcare.co.uk)

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### THE EXCEL FEEDING PLAN



The complete diet for fibrevores

Burgess  
**Excel**

**RAW**  
RABBIT AWARENESS WEEK