**Get to Know Champion Petfoods** 



## At Champion we know that good nutrition is always a factor in good health. How do we know that?



We have more than **35 years of experience** making premium-branded pet food in our purpose-built and custom-designed kitchens

We analyze every formula according to the **most rigorous industry standards.** 





We have an **internal team of qualified pet health and nutrition experts** who guide our formulation, validation, food safety, and research programs, and substantiate the nutritional adequacy of our diets.



We have **research partnerships globally**, and **conduct and publish research** in peer-reviewed, respected scientific journals.

Food made by Champion is available to pet lovers in **more than 90 countries worldwide**.







Our Pet Nutrition Experts – including PhD-level nutritionists, food scientists, and in-house and external veterinarians – continually pursue the advancement of nutrition and wellness for pets. By leading and implementing the latest developments in science, our experts create nutritious food dogs and cats need to thrive. Pets are members of our families and we want to support their long-term health with the most advanced ingredients and optimal recipes possible. Beyond meeting all applicable international pet nutrition guidelines, ORIJEN<sup>®</sup> and ACANA<sup>®</sup> recipes go through an additional validation process to meet our superior standards— the Champion standard.

The Champion standard ensures our recipes push the boundaries of what optimal nutrition for dogs and cats can be. By working with academic institutions around the world, our team of experts have access to the best researchers and diversified thinking to support the most advanced pet nutrition possible.

**V** 

**20 PET NUTRITION** & FOOD EXPERTS ON STAFF

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine | PhD - Animal Nutrition PhD - Food Science | MSc - Animal Nutrition | BSc - Animal Science



# **Get to Know Champion Petfoods**

We work with several different academic institutes to conduct companion animal research. These different academic institutes provide expertise and different worldwide perspectives on companion animal nutrition research. Champion Petfoods believes it is important to have these institutes do third party research to validate our philosophies through those different perspectives.

### **Champion Nutrition Institute**

As part of Champion Petfoods commitment to advancing companion animal nutrition, we also have a scientific advisory board that meets quarterly to discuss a variety of nutrition subjects. The scientific committee includes a boarded Veterinary Internist, a Veterinary Nutritionist, and four doctorates in Animal Nutrition that are all heavily published and internationally known in their field of specialty.

#### The Future of Pet Food: Champion's Historic University Partnership is Set to Drive Pet Nutrition Innovation for Years to Come

In 2021, with the assistance of a research grant provided by Champion for a five-year period, Champion established the "Champion Petfoods Endowed Chair in Canine and Feline Nutrition" at one of the world's leading institutions in the field of veterinary science, University of Guelph. The goal: to advance the study of pet food nutrition and train the next generation of scientific leaders in the pet food industry.

Associate Professions Dr. Anna Kate Shoveller from the Department of Animal Biosciences was named as the inaugural chairholder. A veteran academic leader, Dr. Shoveller has spent eight years advancing the industry's understanding of protein and energy in regard to pet nutrition and is a past chair of the American Society of Animal Sciences' Companion Animal Committee.

"Diet is part of a complex environment that helps determine a pet's well-being," says Dr. Shoveller. "The research we will pursue with Champion's support will help us learn more about nutrition and the ways it interacts with other factors."

This new partnership will support foundational research into pet nutrition and provide opportunities for training students for roles in the pet food and nutrition industry.

"This is a commitment to the future of our industry," says Jeff Johnston, Champion's Senior Vice President of Research, Innovation and Product Development. "At Champion we focus exclusively on making the best, most nutritious food to support a pet's long-term health. The science that is being done at the University of Guelph will benefit the entire pet food industry, as well as pets and the humans who love them."



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## **Published Champion Research**

Banton, S., Singh, P., Seymour, D.J., Saunders-Blades, J. and Shoveller, A.K., 2024. **Postprandial plasma and whole blood amino acids are largely indicative of dietary amino acids in adult dogs consuming diets with increasing whole pulse ingredient inclusion**. The Journal of Nutrition, 154(9), pp.2655-2669.

Oba, P.M., De La Guardia Hidrogo, V.M., Kelly, J., Saunders-Blades, J., Steelman, A.J. and Swanson, K.S., 2024. Effects of diets supplemented with bioactive peptides on nutrient digestibility, immune cell responsiveness, and fecal characteristics, microbiota, and metabolites of adult cats. Journal of animal science, 102, p.skae104.

Opetz, D.L., Oba, P.M., Kostiuk, D., Kelly, J. and Swanson, K.S., 2023. Effects of weight loss and feeding specially formulated diets on the body composition, blood metabolite profiles, voluntary physical activity, and fecal metabolites and microbiota of overweight cats. Journal of animal science, 101, p.skad332.

Oba, P.M., Kelly, J., Kostiuk, D. and Swanson, K.S., 2023. Effects of weight loss and feeding specially formulated diets on the body composition, blood metabolite profiles, voluntary physical activity, and fecal metabolites and microbiota of obese dogs. Journal of animal science, 101, p.skad073.

Sieja, K.M., Oba, P.M., Applegate, C.C., Pendlebury, C., Kelly, J. and Swanson, K.S., 2023. **Evaluation of highprotein diets differing in protein source in healthy adult dogs**. Journal of animal science, 101, p.skad057.

Singh, P., Banton, S., Raheb, S., Templeman, J.R., Saunders-Blades, J., Kostiuk, D., Kelly, J., Marinangeli, C.P., Verbrugghe, A., Verton-Shaw, S. and Shoveller, A.K., 2023. **The pulse of it: dietary inclusion of up to 45% whole pulse ingredients with chicken meal and pea starch in a complete and balanced diet does not affect cardiac function, fasted sulfur amino acid status, or other gross measures of health in adult dogs**. The Journal of Nutrition, 153(5), pp.1461-1475.

Donadelli, R.A., Pezzali, J.G., Oba, P.M., Swanson, K.S., Coon, C., Varney, J., Pendlebury, C. and Shoveller, A.K., 2020. A commercial grain-free diet does not decrease plasma amino acids and taurine status but increases bile acid excretion when fed to Labrador Retrievers. Translational animal science, 4(3), p.txaa141.

