

DOG EATS GRASS: WHAT, WHEN, WHY AND HOW MUCH ?

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Summary. Behaviour of two dogs was investigated. In most cases dogs eat six species of grass: 1. Orchard-grass (*Dactylis glomerata* L.), 2. Dog-grass (*Agropyron (Triticum) caninum* L.), 3. Couch-grass (*Agropyron (Triticum) repens* L.), 4. (*Poa pratensis* L.), 5. Meadow timothy grass (*Phleum pratense* L.), 6. Fescue-grass (*Festula pratensis* Huds.). Eaten and vomited grass weighs - from 20 to 46 grammes. More frequently they ate grass when they were hungry - were fed one time a day (tested dogs were fed three, two and one times a day). The grass was eaten to relieve an excess of digestive juices which accumulated in the stomach when it was empty. The grass was vomited after 6-20 minutes. Cereal grass comparing with other plants has got a little more alkaline elements (Ca, K, Na, Mg). They are able to neutralize sour digestive juices in the stomach.

Keywords: ethnographical veterinary, grass eating and vomiting, frequency of feeding, digestive juices, favourite grass species.