

GUINEA PIG CARE GUIDE: FEEDING

DIET

Hay: A guinea pig's digestive system needs hay in order to function properly. Timothy hay, orchard grass, or meadow hay should be available to your pigs at all times.

Vegetables: Offer about one cup of vegetables per day, per pig. The bulk of this should be leafy greens.

Pellets: Feed 1/8 cup of timothy pellets per day per pig. **Pellets are not a substitute for hay!**

TREATS

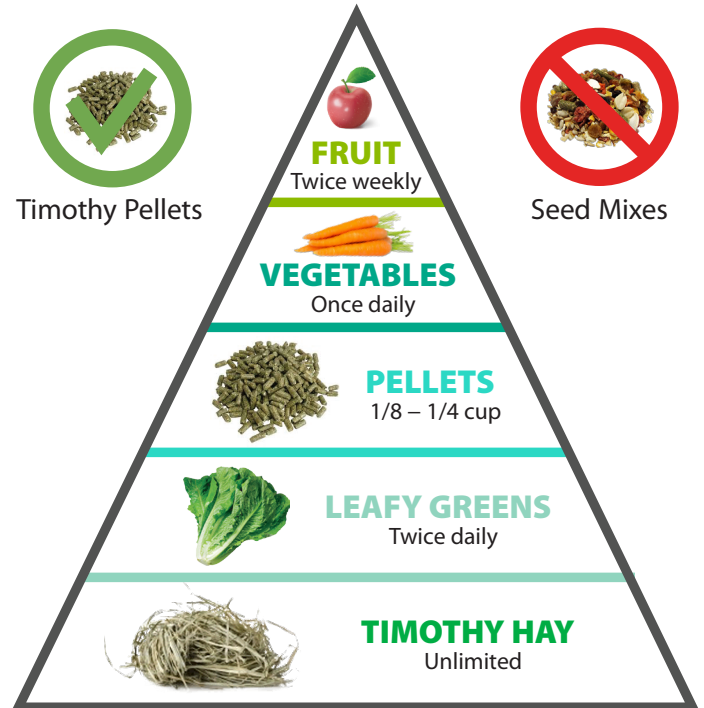
Good

- Kale*
- Parsley*
- Sweet peppers*
- Broccoli*
- Guava*
- Green peppers
- Kiwi
- Strawberry
- Mustard greens
- Cauliflower
- Red cabbage
- Peas
- Cantaloupe
- Oranges
- Snap peas
- Turnip greens
- Papaya
- Collard greens
- Asparagus
- Carrots
- Green leaf lettuce
- Romaine lettuce
- Spinach
- Squash
- Tomatoes
- Sweet potatoes
- Dandelion greens
- Radishes
- Turnips and greens

* Good source of vitamin C

Bad

- Iceberg lettuce
- Avocado
- Apple seeds
- Chilies
- Coconut
- Hot peppers
- Garlic
- Onions
- Peanut butter
- Rhubarb
- Baked goods
- Nuts
- Meat
- Beans (except green)
- Seeds
- Potatoes



Guinea pigs cannot manufacture their own vitamin C and require 10 to 30 mg/kg daily to prevent scurvy. While many guinea pigs receive adequate vitamin C from fresh vegetables and pellets, you may wish to ensure your guinea pig gets adequate vitamin C by giving a quarter of a 100 mg chewable or plain vitamin C tablet.

Do not add vitamin C to the water. Water is vital to good health but because vitamin C changes the flavor, they may drink less. Ascorbic acid degrades rapidly once added to water. Some guinea pigs drink a lot and some very little, so it is impossible to know how much vitamin C your pet is getting.

