








AVACTA ALLERGY+ COMPLETE ENVIRONMENTAL & FOOD TEST RESULTS









OUTDOOR ALLERGENS (POLLENS) IgE

IgE Level (AU)









Grasses

Meadow grass	1		
Meadow fescue	0		
Orchard grass	2		
Perennial rye	1		
Redtop	2		
Sweet vernal	2		
Timothy grass	0		

Weeds

Dandelion	2		
Dock	1		
Lamb's quarters	1		
Mugwort	1		
Nettle	2		
Ox-eye daisy	1		
Plantain	3		
Ragweed	0		
Red clover	1		

Trees & Shrubs

Alder	3		
Ash	18		
Beech	1		
Birch	3		
Hazelnut	3		
Oak	1		
Privet	2		
Willow	3		

INDOOR ALLERGENS IgE

Storage Mites

Acarus siro	11		
Lepidoglyphus destructor	56		

House Dust Mites

Dermatophagoides farinae	9		
Dermatophagoides pteronyssinus	20		

Epithelia

Cat epithelia	27		
Human epithelia	31		

Fleas

Ctenocephalides spp.	1		
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Results must be interpreted in the light of clinical and environmental considerations.

Results are reported as an AU (Arbitrary Units) value between 0 and 100. Allergens highlighted in green have test values higher than the vertical cut-off line and should be considered for allergen-specific immunotherapy (ASIT) and allergen avoidance, providing the correct diagnostic work-up has been followed and relevant clinical signs are present.

Following selection of relevant allergens for inclusion in the treatment, ASIT can be ordered via Avacta Animal Health. Guidance on allergen avoidance is provided later within these results.



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INDOOR ALLERGENS IgE

IgE Level (AU)

Moulds				
Alternaria alternata	1	<div></div>		
Aspergillus mix *	43	<div></div>		
Malassezia	8	<div></div>		
Penicillium mix *	51	<div></div>		

Results must be interpreted in the light of clinical and environmental considerations.

Results are reported as an AU value between 0 and 100. Sera from dogs suspected of suffering from atopic dermatitis frequently show elevated levels of mould-specific IgE that may not be clinically relevant unless they are very high. An additional second vertical cut-off line is used for this group. Results highlighted in pale green are higher than this second line but must still be interpreted in the light of clinical and environmental considerations before implementing allergen avoidance or including in ASIT.

* full details of mix contents available at avactaanimalhealth.com



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PROTEINS	Candidate for	Class Score	
	Dietary Trial	IgE	IgG
Mammalian			
Beef		1	3
Cow's milk		0	1
Lamb		0	2
Pork	✓	0	0
Rabbit		0	2
Venison		0	1
Avian			
Chicken	✓	0	0
Duck	✓	0	0
Turkey	✓	0	0
Whole egg	✓	0	0
Fish			
Salmon		0	1
White fish		0	1
Vegetable			
Soybean		0	1
CARBOHYDRATES			
Barley	✓	0	0
Corn (maize)	✓	0	0
Oats	✓	0	0
Potato	✓	0	0
Rice	✓	0	0
Wheat	✓	0	0

Reaction class score

No reaction	Low reaction	Moderate reaction	High reaction		
0	1	2	3	4	5

May be considered for inclusion in
 Consider for inclusion in diet trial. diet trial if compatible with clinical history. Should not be included in diet trial.

A dietary trial is the only way to diagnose an adverse food reaction.

Results are reported as a graded score between 0 (no reaction/negative) and 5 (very strong reaction). Foods that are negative to both IgE and IgG (indicated by a tick) should be considered for inclusion in the dietary trial. If necessary, allergens with low reactivity (score 1) may also be considered if ingestion of that food is known/previously proven to be tolerated. All results must be interpreted in the light of the full clinical and dietary history. IgE reactivity is classically associated with Type 1 hypersensitivity reactions; however, food-specific IgG levels can be useful in cases of suspected adverse food reaction that are not IgE-mediated.

Potential cross-reactivity between related food groups should also be considered (e.g., between related mammalian proteins such as beef, lamb and cow's milk). Where possible, if a food allergen is positive, avoid all other allergens from the same food group in the dietary trial (e.g., if salmon is positive, avoid other fish proteins even if they individually scored negatively). Food allergens are listed within their related groups to aid in the selection process.



GUIDE TO YOUR NEW AVACTA ALLERGY+ ENVIRONMENTAL TEST RESULTS

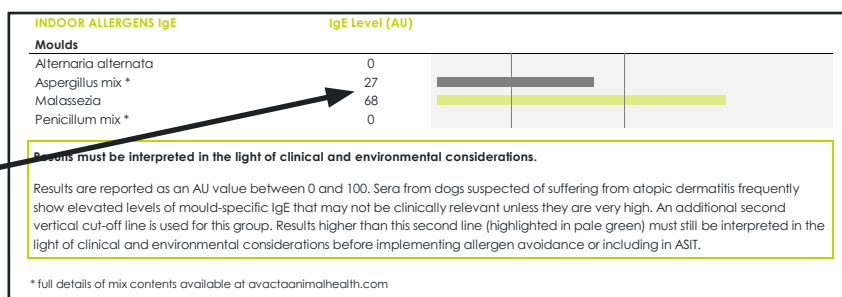
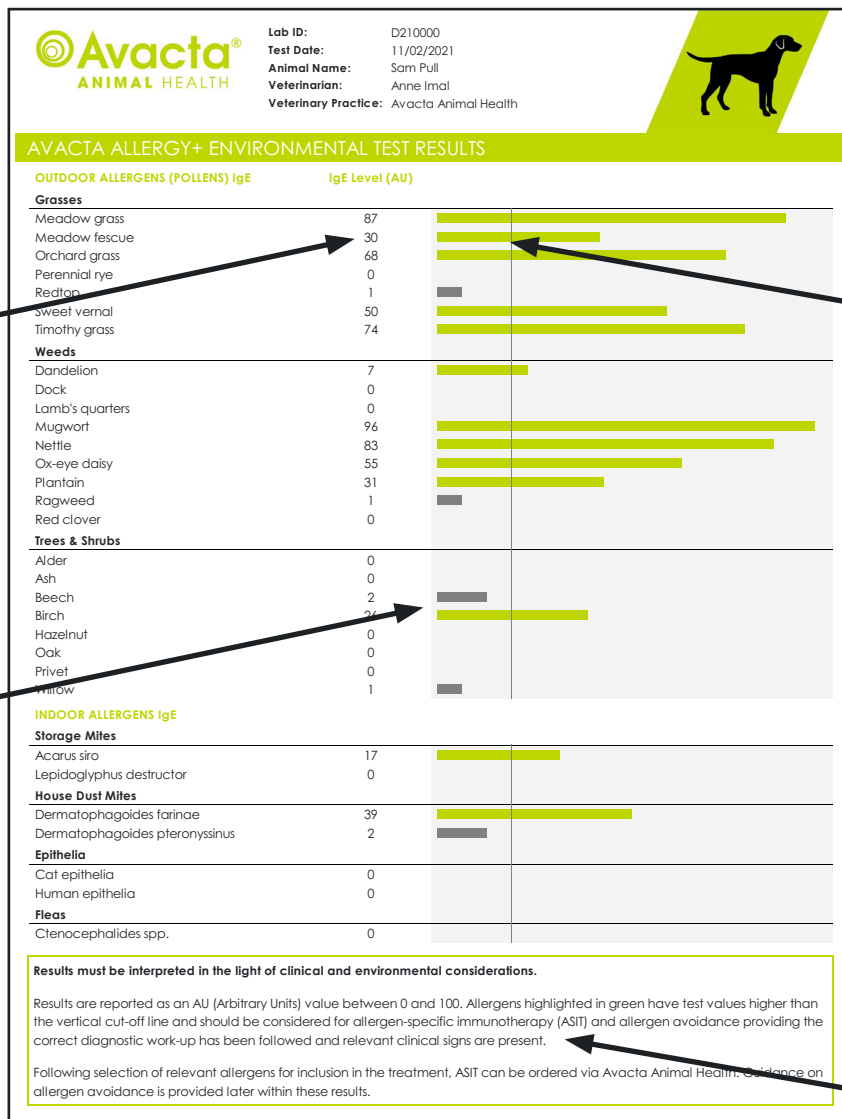
Provision of the AU value enables the determination of more subtle differences in reactivity; this may help guide in the selection of allergens for inclusion in immunotherapy (ASIT).

Coloured bars offer clear visual comparison between allergen reactivity and are a great visual tool when discussing the results with owners.

Despite frequently showing elevated IgE levels, moulds are seldom clinically significant and results should be interpreted with this in mind.

Allergens highlighted in green have test values higher than the vertical cut-off line and should be considered for allergen-specific immunotherapy (ASIT) and allergen avoidance, providing the correct diagnostic work-up has been followed and relevant clinical signs are present.

Guidelines to aid interpretation. If you have any questions please contact our Technical Support Team. If it is more convenient, please use the 'Contact Us' form on the website where you can book an allocated call back slot at a time convenient for you. Remember, you can also access 24/7 support via our Practice Portal at avactaanimalhealth.com/login.



For further information or assistance, please contact our Technical Support Team on 0800 3 047 047 or at technical.support@avacta.com

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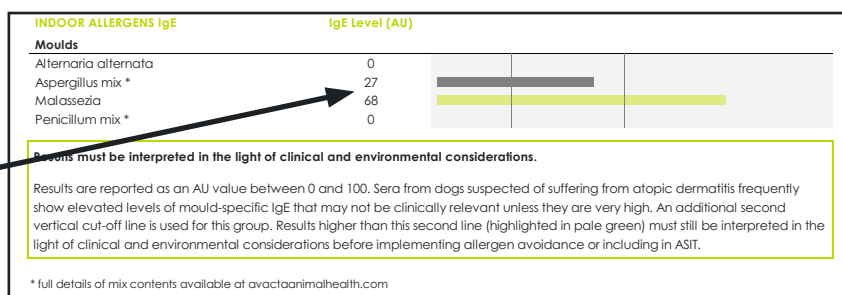
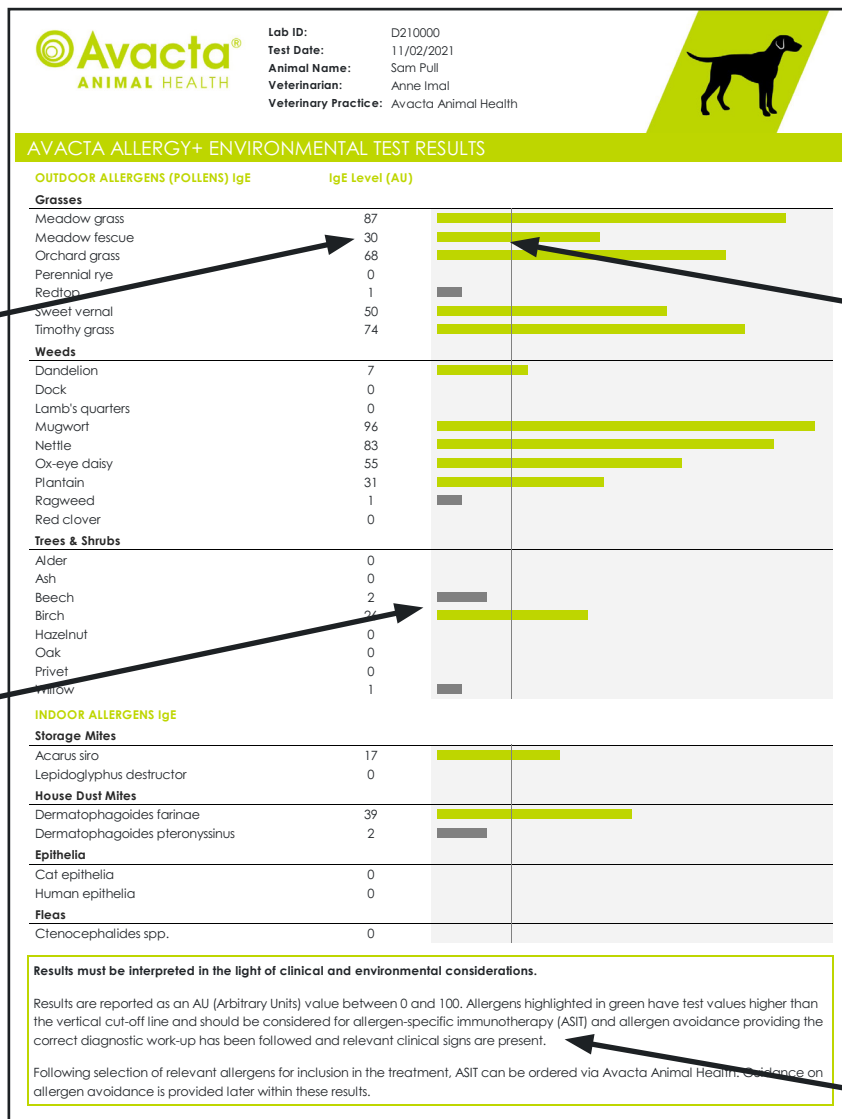
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INDOOR ALLERGENS

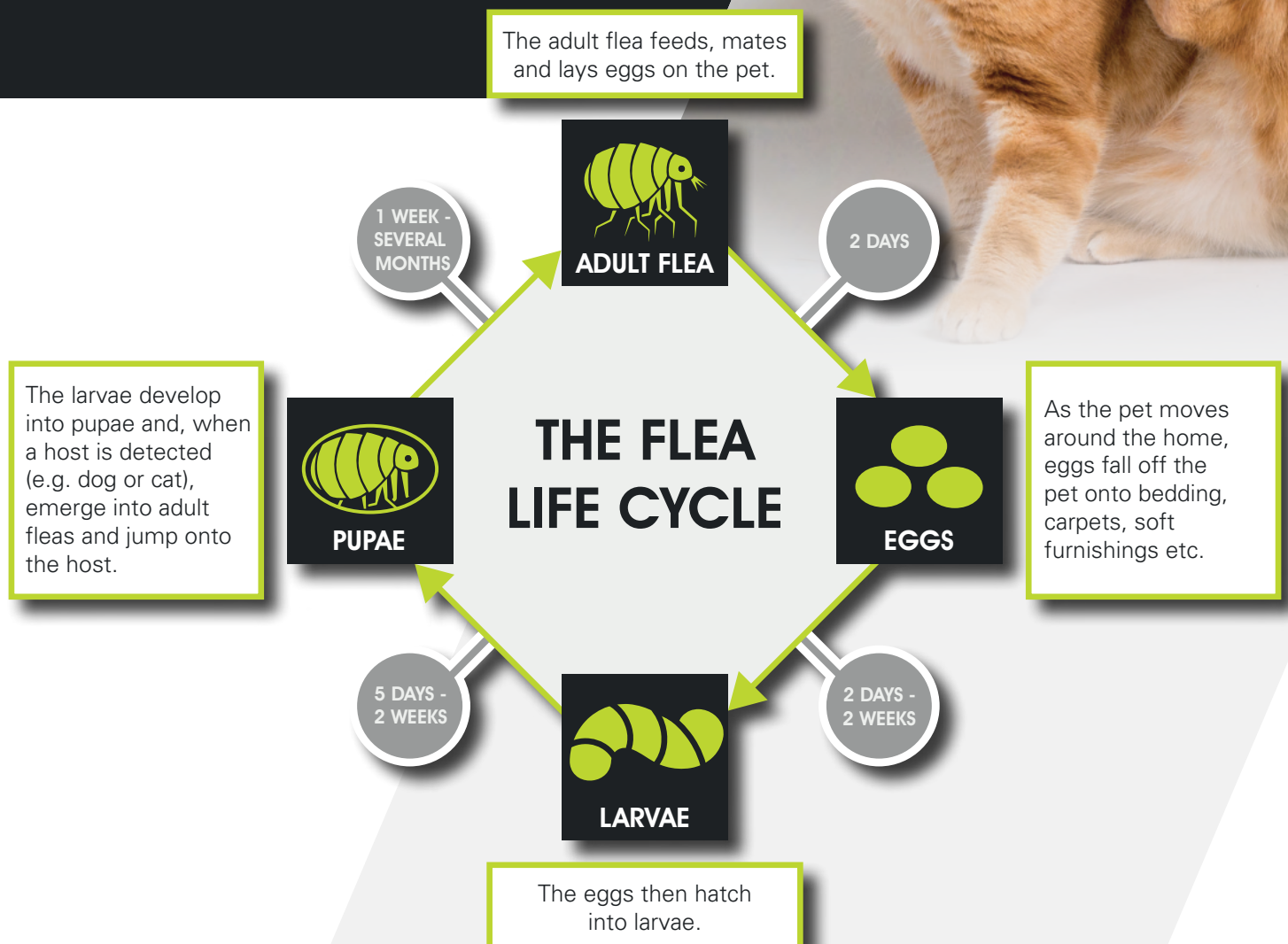
FLEAS

Fleas are a very common parasite that can significantly affect our pets. Not only do they cause irritation as they move around, and discomfort by biting, they can also transmit disease. Some pets also have a heightened response to flea bites (known as **flea allergic dermatitis**), which means they have an allergic response to flea saliva. In this situation, rather than just causing the usual irritation and discomfort, even just a few flea bites can trigger extremely itchy and inflamed skin.

When a pet becomes infested with fleas, it brings them back into the home. The adult flea lays up to 50 eggs a day and the flea life-cycle takes around 21 days to complete; this means that the number of fleas can very rapidly escalate and eradicating a flea infestation can take quite some time. See the diagram below for more information.



The adult flea feeds, mates and lays eggs on the pet.



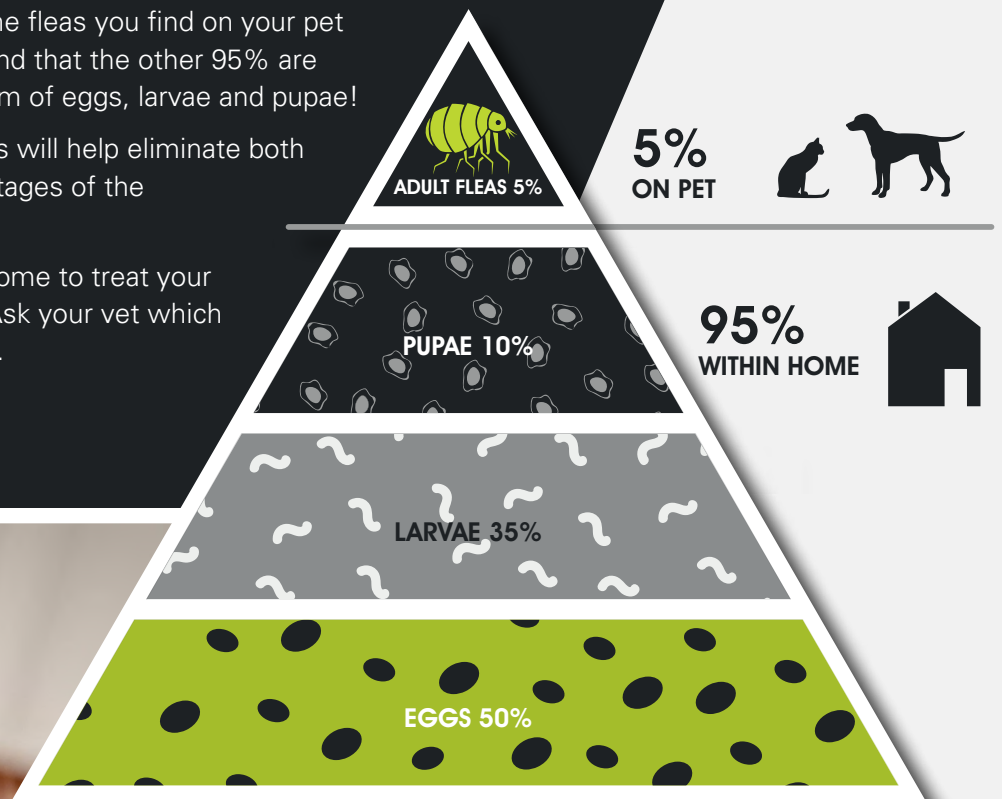


INDOOR ALLERGENS

You may be shocked to learn that the fleas you find on your pet represent just 5% of the problem and that the other 95% are actually within your home in the form of eggs, larvae and pupae!

Using effective flea control products will help eliminate both the adult fleas, and also the other stages of the life cycle found in the environment.

There are many options available, some to treat your pet and some to treat your home. Ask your vet which would be the most suitable options.



TIPS TO REDUCE FLEAS

General guidance

- Treat all cats and dogs in the household with their own prescribed flea treatment. Ensure it is applied at the recommended intervals for that product.
- Wash pet bedding and clothing regularly.

If an infestation occurs

- In addition to all pets in the household being treated, ensure the environment including carpets, bedding and soft furnishings, are either washed, or treated with an appropriate product containing an insect growth regulator (IGR).
- After treating the environment, it is important to vacuum daily for 3 weeks. This encourages any pupae still present to hatch and come into contact with the insecticide. The pupae are not susceptible to any flea treatment so it is important to wait for them to hatch so they can be eliminated.



INDOOR ALLERGENS

HOUSE DUST MITES

These mites are very small, almost transparent, arachnids (mites have 8-legs like spiders). They eat dead skin flakes (epithelia) from both humans and pets. It is the dust mite droppings and dead body parts, rather than the live dust mites themselves, that provoke an allergic reaction when they are either inhaled (breathed in) or touched.

The mites live in bedding, upholstered furniture, carpets, curtains, mattresses and pillows. Removing dust mites completely from the environment is impossible, but please see below for some useful tips to help reduce their presence. Mites also like warm, damp conditions so our tips on reducing moulds can help too.

TIPS TO REDUCE HOUSE DUST MITES

- Vacuum or dry-clean your carpets, curtains and upholstery regularly. Use a vacuum cleaner fitted with a HEPA (high efficiency particulate air) filter, if possible.
- Keep your pet outside whilst you are vacuuming and for a while afterwards, to allow time for any dust to settle.
- Avoid dry dusting, regularly wipe surfaces with a damp cloth instead.
- Reduce the amount of clutter in your home, for example remove books, magazines, ornaments etc.
- Reduce soft furnishings in your home e.g. replace carpets with hard floors, choose leather instead of upholstered furniture.
- Wash your pet's bedding and stuffed toys regularly above 60°C or alternatively, freeze for 24 hours to kill the mites, then wash at a lower temperature to remove the dead mites and droppings.
- Use allergen proof pet bedding, if possible.
- Reduce your pet's access to one room or area of the house. Don't allow them to sleep in bedrooms as they are dust mite hot spots.
- Environmental sprays are available for treating surfaces in your home.



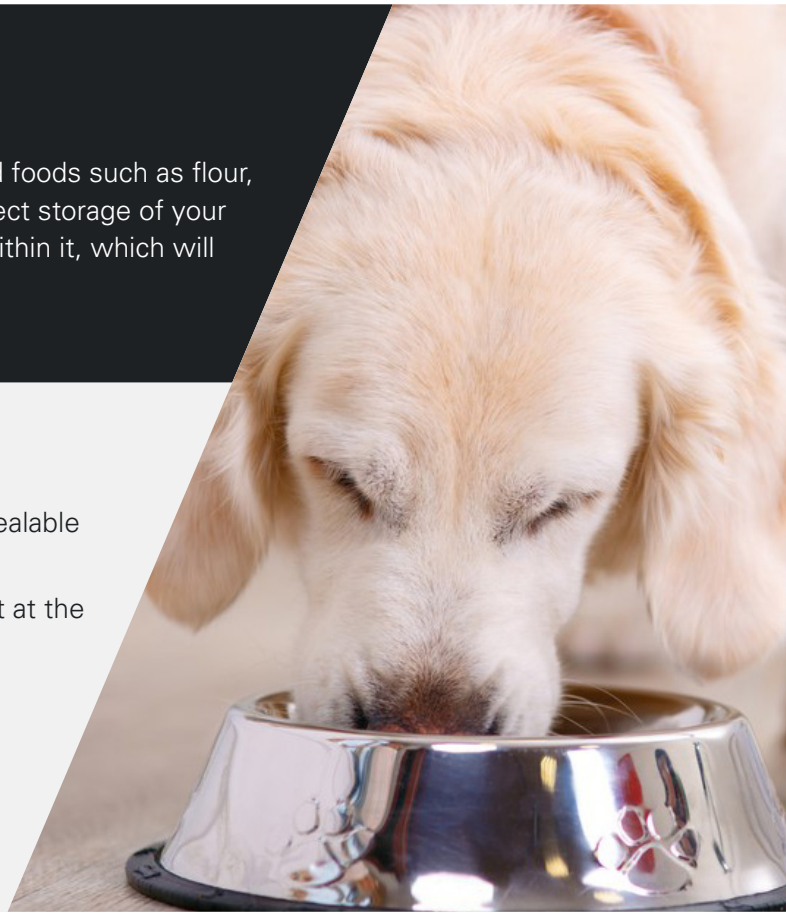
INDOOR ALLERGENS

STORAGE MITES

Storage mites are tiny, white arachnids that feed on stored foods such as flour, grain and seeds; they can also be found in pet foods. Correct storage of your pet's food can help reduce the number of storage mites within it, which will decrease your pet's exposure to them.

TIPS ON FOOD STORAGE

- Keep dry food in its original packaging and place into resealable airtight plastic containers.
- Clean the plastic containers regularly, discarding any dust at the bottom. Dry completely before reusing.
- Keep the food in dry, cool conditions (take care if storing food in an outbuilding such as a garage as this is more likely to be damp).
- Buy only small bags of food rather than large bulk packs, to ensure fresher batches are fed.



CAT EPITHELIA (DANDER)

Some dogs (and people) have an allergic response to a protein that is found in the tiny flakes of dead skin (called **epithelia** or **dander**) that cats routinely shed (this dander becomes part of the dust in your home); the protein is also present in the cat's saliva, which sticks to the fur when the cat grooms itself. We recommend the following measures to help reduce your dog's exposure to cat dander:

TIPS TO REDUCE EXPOSURE

- Groom your cat at least once a week either outside or in a well-ventilated room, away from the dog.
- Vacuum frequently.
- Wash all pet bedding once a week.
- Wash your hands in-between handling the cat and the dog.
- Cat food which reduces the amount of allergen the cat produces is also available (check if suitable with your vet).





INDOOR ALLERGENS

MOULDS

Moulds can be found both inside and outside your home. They are a type of fungus and like warm, damp, and humid conditions best. Moulds spread by producing tiny spores, which are too small to see but float through the air. When these spores are inhaled (breathed in) or touched, they can cause both irritation and allergic reactions. Making the environment difficult for mould to live in will help reduce the amount of mould in your home. See tips below on ways of reducing mould.

Moulds can be found on:

- Carpets / textiles
- Behind paint
- Wallpaper
- Moist chipboard
- Stored grain / cereals
- Leather, wool and cotton
- Decaying plant debris
- House dust
- Window frames
- Water damaged buildings
- Soil
- Fruits and foods
- Compost heaps
- Forage



TIPS TO REDUCE MOULD

Reducing condensation:

- Increase ventilation in the kitchen and bathrooms by using extractor fans and/or opening windows.
- Close internal doors and open a window when cooking or bathing/showering, to encourage moist air to leave the house.
- Avoid drying clothes indoors and especially not on radiators. If this is unavoidable, tumble dry or air dry in a room inaccessible to your pet.
- Use an air conditioner or dehumidifier to keep humidity levels below 50%.
- Allow fresh air to circulate to avoid mould forming where the air is still.
- Wipe down windows that get wet on the inside daily.

Reducing exposure to mould:

- Clean any damp walls and treat with a mould inhibitor; seek professional advice to resolve underlying damp issues.
- Keep hard surfaces, window frames and window ledges mould free.
- Keep all pet bedding and clothing dry and clean.
- Don't overwater houseplants: it encourages mould in the soil.
- Avoid heavy vegetation around or over the house, e.g. ivy.
- Restrict access to garden debris and compost heaps.





CANINE & FELINE GRASS ALLERGENS

SWEET VERNAL

(*Anthoxanthum odoratum*)



*April - July

PERENNIAL RYE

(*Lolium perenne*)



*May - August

MEADOW FESCUE

(*Festuca elatior*)



*May - September

MEADOW GRASS

(*Poa pratensis*)



*May - September

TIMOTHY GRASS

(*Phleum pratense*)



*May - September

REDTOP

(*Agrostis alba*)



*May - September

ORCHARD GRASS

(*Dactylis glomerata*)



*June - September

TIPS ON REDUCING EXPOSURE

- Exercise your pet on well-cut paths and pavements; avoiding areas with long flowering grasses
- Regularly groom, wipe over with a damp cloth or rinse your pet off with water, especially after exposure to long grass
- Mow your lawn regularly to keep the grass short
- Keep your pet indoors when grass is being cut in the area
- Monitor your local pollen forecast
- Be aware that species related to the named allergen can also be problematic

*Approximate flowering time

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CANINE & FELINE WEED ALLERGENS

DANDELION

(*Taraxacum officinale*)



* March - October

PLANTAIN

(*Plantago lanceolata*)



* April - September

RED CLOVER

(*Trifolium pratense*)



* May - October

OX-EYE DAISY

(*Chrysanthemum leucanthemum*)



* June - August

DOCK

(*Rumex crispus*)



* June - September

NETTLE

(*Urtica dioica*)



* June - September

LAMB'S QUARTERS

(*Chenopodium album*)



* July - September

MUGWORT

(*Artemisia vulgaris*)



* July - September

RAGWEED

(*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*)



* August - October

TIPS ON REDUCING EXPOSURE

- Keep your garden weed-free as much as possible
- Exercise your pet on well-cut paths and pavements; avoiding areas with an overgrowth of weeds
- Regularly groom, wipe over with a damp cloth or rinse your pet off with water, especially after exposure to weeds
- Monitor your local pollen forecast
- Be aware that species related to the named allergen can also be problematic

*Approximate flowering time

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CANINE & FELINE TREE ALLERGENS

HAZELNUT

(*Corylus americana*)



* January - April

ALDER

(*Alnus serrulata*)



* February - April

WILLOW

(*Salix nigra*)



* March - May

ASH

(*Fraxinus americana*)



* April - May

BEECH

(*Fagus grandifolia*)



* April - May

BIRCH

(*Betula populifolia*)



* April - May

OAK

(*Quercus rubra*)



* April - May

PRIVET

(*Ligustrum vulgare*)



* June - July

TIPS ON REDUCING EXPOSURE

- Avoid exercise routes around wooded areas
- Keep hedges well cut to limit flowering
- Avoid areas with high concentrations of the named allergen e.g. beech woods
- Remember that tree pollens are seasonal with many species flowering early in the year
- Be aware that species related to the named allergen can also be problematic

*Approximate flowering time

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