



Your work is worth it.

Vitamin C Advancements

Certain laboratory animals such as guinea pigs and non-human primates require vitamin C in their diet. Vitamin C was one of the least stable dietary nutrients until the mid-1990's. In 1997, Purina started using the newly developed, microencapsulated ascorbic acid in LabDiet® guinea pig products. Due to the research-proven, improved stability of the microencapsulated product, the shelf life of all Purina laboratory guinea pig products was extended to six months.

Another vitamin C formulation advancement was the development of L-ascorbyl-2-polyphosphate (stabilized vitamin C). This form of vitamin C remains stable through storage and releases ascorbic acid after activation by enzymes in the animal's digestive tract. The increased stability of this form of vitamin C enables the reduction of the ascorbic acid level in the diet, while still delivering the effective level to the animal, as before. Based on this technology and in-house research, LabDiet® incorporated stabilized vitamin C in primate diets in 2001. Consequently, primate diets have a six-month shelf life. Stabilized vitamin C replaced microencapsulated vitamin C in guinea pig diets in 2003 after thorough evaluation.

LabDiet® is dedicated to incorporating the latest technological advancements to provide the best laboratory animal diets without introducing major changes in the diet composition or nutrient profile.