ActivPower CANIS

CANINE KNOWLEDGE BASE • INGREDIENT SCIENCE

Boswellia serrata for Canine Joint Health & Mobility

A botanical resin studied for its role in supporting joint comfort, flexibility, and normal inflammatory balance in dogs.

ActivPower ATLAS® for Dogs | Indian Frankincense | Boswellic Acids · AKBA

What Is Boswellia serrata?

Boswellia serrata, commonly known as Indian frankincense, is a botanical resin long used in traditional wellness systems and now widely studied for its role in joint health, mobility, and normal inflammatory balance. Boswellia contains naturally occurring **boswellic acids**, including AKBA, which researchers have studied for their interaction with pathways involved in the body's normal inflammatory response in mammals.

Boswellia serrata powder is included in **ActivPower ATLAS® for dogs** as part of a broader formulation designed to support mobility, musculoskeletal wellness, and active living.

Normal Inflammatory Balance

Boswellic acids have been studied for their interaction with inflammatory signaling pathways, including 5-lipoxygenase, NF-κB, COX-2, MAPK signaling, and cytokine-related pathways. These mechanisms help explain why Boswellia is often discussed in the scientific literature as a botanical that may support normal inflammatory balance and healthy musculoskeletal function. For nutritional purposes it is best described as supporting joint comfort, flexibility, and mobility rather than as treating any disease.

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Evidence in Dogs

Boswellia has been evaluated in companion-animal nutrition, both on its own and within multi-ingredient joint formulas designed for canine mobility and quality of life.

Reichling et al. (2004). In a canine field study, dietary support with a Boswellia resin preparation was associated with reduced signs of inflammatory joint and spinal disease in dogs, and was well tolerated.

Martello et al. (2022). A randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind trial evaluated a dietary supplement containing Boswellia serrata with other joint-support ingredients in dogs with osteoarthritis-related mobility concerns.

Stabile et al. (2024). A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled crossover study assessed a feed supplement combining undenatured type II collagen and Boswellia serrata in dogs with mild-to-moderate mobility disorders.

Because several of these trials used multi-ingredient formulas, results cannot be attributed to Boswellia alone, but together they support scientific interest in Boswellia-containing nutritional strategies for canine mobility.

Mobility & Everyday Activity

Across the veterinary literature, Boswellia-containing programs are associated with support for measures relevant to a dog's daily life:

- Joint comfort and willingness to move
- Flexibility and physical function
- Everyday activities — walking, stairs, rising, and play
- Owner-reported quality of life

A Note on Tissue-Health Research

Boswellia has a history of traditional use in tissue and skin applications, and preclinical models have explored antioxidant activity and collagen-related repair pathways. This area remains preliminary, and there is not enough evidence to claim that oral Boswellia heals wounds in dogs.

Safety & Tolerability

Boswellia is generally reported as well tolerated in published studies, though mild digestive symptoms may occur in some animals. Pet owners should consult a veterinarian before introducing any new supplement, particularly for dogs on medication, preparing for surgery, or managing existing health conditions.

The ActivPower Perspective

ActivPower includes Boswellia serrata powder in ATLAS® for dogs as part of a broader formula intended to support mobility, joint comfort, and musculoskeletal wellness. The scientific literature supports Boswellia as a

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botanical ingredient of interest for healthy movement and normal inflammatory balance, while making clear it should not be presented as a treatment, cure, or prevention for arthritis, wounds, or inflammation-related disease.

FEATURED IN

ActivPower ATLAS® for Dogs

Selected References — Canine Literature

1. Reichling J, Schmökel H, Fitzi J, Bucher S, Saller R. Dietary support with Boswellia resin in canine inflammatory joint and spinal disease. *Schweiz Arch Tierheilkd.* 2004;146(2):71–79.
2. Martello E, Bigliati M, Adami R, et al. Efficacy of a dietary supplement in dogs with osteoarthritis: a randomized placebo-controlled, double-blind clinical trial. *PLoS One.* 2022;17(2):e0263971.
3. Stabile M, Lacitignola L, Samarelli R, et al. Effects of a feed supplement containing undenatured type II collagen (UC-II) and Boswellia serrata in the management of mild/moderate mobility disorders in dogs: a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled, cross-over study. *PLoS One.* 2024;19(7):e0305697.
4. Sgorlon S, et al. Management of osteoarthritis and joint support using feed supplements: a scoping review of undenatured type II collagen and Boswellia serrata. *Animals (Basel).* 2023;13(5):870.

DISCLAIMER

This article is provided solely for educational and informational purposes and summarizes selected scientific literature concerning Boswellia serrata as a nutritional ingredient in dogs. Nothing herein is intended to diagnose, treat, cure, mitigate, or prevent any disease, injury, arthritis, inflammatory disorder, or medical condition in animals.

Statements regarding dietary supplements have not been evaluated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Individual responses may vary. Pet owners should consult a qualified veterinarian before introducing any new supplement or nutritional ingredient into an animal wellness program. No claim beyond the educational discussion of current scientific literature is stated or implied.