ActivPower CANIS

CANINE KNOWLEDGE BASE • INGREDIENT SCIENCE

Turmeric for Canine Digestive Wellness & Healthy Aging

A golden botanical rich in curcuminoids, studied for antioxidant support, digestive wellness, and healthy aging in dogs.

ActivPower ATLAS® | ACTORUB-K9™ | Curcuma longa · Curcumin

What Is Turmeric?

Turmeric (*Curcuma longa*) is a golden-yellow spice used for centuries in traditional culinary and wellness practices. It is one of the most widely studied botanical ingredients in nutritional science, owing to its naturally occurring compounds known as **curcuminoids**, including curcumin, along with polysaccharides, essential oils, and phytonutrients. It is included in **ActivPower ATLAS®** and **ACTORUB-K9™** for dogs.

Digestive Wellness & the Gut Environment

Emerging research suggests turmeric and its compounds may help support a healthy gastrointestinal environment and normal digestive function, possibly related to turmeric's support of balanced cellular signaling and healthy inflammatory responses already within the normal range. Turmeric compounds may also influence microbial diversity and support a balanced gut environment. These areas remain under active investigation.

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Evidence in Dogs

Turmeric and curcumin are among the better-studied botanicals in canine nutrition, with dedicated canine research and comparative reviews.

Comblain et al. (2017). A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in owners' dogs evaluated a diet supplemented with a curcuminoids extract (with hydrolyzed collagen and green tea extract), supporting interest in curcuminoid-containing canine nutrition.

Bioavailability in beagle dogs (2022). A controlled beagle-dog study demonstrated that curcumin (with piperine) can act as a bio-enhancer, informing how curcuminoids are absorbed and utilized in dogs.

Humans versus dogs review (2023). A dedicated review compared the health-promoting properties and metabolism of turmeric and curcumin in humans and dogs, highlighting species-specific considerations for canine use.

As with all nutritional research, results vary by formulation and curcuminoid bioavailability, and research is ongoing.

Antioxidant, Cellular & Healthy-Aging Support

Curcuminoids possess antioxidant properties that may help support the body's natural defenses against the oxidative stress generated during normal metabolism — an important component of healthy aging. Within the canine diet, turmeric may support:

- A healthy digestive and gut environment
- Antioxidant and healthy-cellular support
- Normal cellular communication pathways
- Overall wellness, activity, and vitality

A Note on Bioavailability

Curcuminoid bioavailability can vary considerably by formulation, which is why turmeric is frequently paired with black pepper (piperine) in nutritional products to support absorption. Turmeric is best viewed as a supportive nutritional ingredient within a healthy lifestyle.

Safety & Quality Considerations

Turmeric has a long history of dietary use and is generally well tolerated when consumed as part of a balanced diet or an appropriately formulated product. Pet owners should consult a veterinarian regarding supplementation for dogs with existing health concerns or receiving medications.

The ActivPower Perspective

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ActivPower includes turmeric powder in ATLAS® and ACTORUB-K9™ because of its established role as a traditional wellness ingredient and its growing scientific support for digestive wellness, antioxidant defenses, and overall vitality in dogs.

FEATURED IN

ActivPower ATLAS® & ACTORUB-K9™ for Dogs

Selected References — Canine & Veterinary Literature

1. Comblain F, Barthélémy N, Lefebvre M, et al. A randomized, double-blind, prospective, placebo-controlled study of the efficacy of a diet supplemented with curcuminoids extract, hydrolyzed collagen and green tea extract in owner's dogs with osteoarthritis. *BMC Vet Res.* 2017;13(1):395.
2. Songvut P, Suriyo T, Panomvana D, et al. Bioenhancing effects of piperine and curcumin on triterpenoid pharmacokinetics and neurodegenerative metabolomes from Centella asiatica extract in beagle dogs. *Sci Rep.* 2022;12:20469.
3. Turmeric and curcumin—health-promoting properties in humans versus dogs. *Int J Mol Sci.* 2023;24(19):14561.
4. Wernimont SM, Radosevich J, Jackson MI, et al. The effects of nutrition on the gastrointestinal microbiome of cats and dogs: impact on health and disease. *Front Microbiol.* 2020;11:1266.

DISCLAIMER

This article is provided solely for educational and informational purposes and summarizes selected scientific literature concerning turmeric (Curcuma longa) 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.

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