Way Out Here Farm Rabbit Care Sheet



<u>Feed:</u> Your new bunny needs to have a gradual transition to the feed you choose to get. We feed our rabbits the Nutrena NatureWise Performance Rabbit 18% Pellets. To prevent issues, please keep your bunny on this food for at least 4 days before you slowly transition.

With baby rabbits, it's important not to feed pellets on an empty stomach, meaning you will want to give a big handful of hay in the morning first, before giving them their 1/2 cup of pellets. Rabbit food is rich in protein, and too much at once can cause diarrhea, which can be dangerous for young rabbits.

<u>Hay:</u> Timothy hay, orchard grass, or mixed grass are all great roughage options for your rabbit's diet Be sure to not get Alfalfa hay, it is too rich and can cause diarrhea.

Always have clean water available for your rabbit. A water bottle with a ball works best and is the cleanest.

<u>Supplements/Treats</u> - Black Oil Sunflower Seeds (BOSS): These are great to add about 4-5 to your rabbit's food daily. These are packed with essential nutrients like protein, fiber, and healthy fats to help improve their coat condition, add a lot of shine, aid in digestion, and provide your rabbit with energy, but be careful not over feed. Too much can cause them to become overweight or even bring on a molt.

Apple Cider Vinegar: This is a great thing to add to your rabbits' water on a regular basis if properly diluted for several reasons; is packed with vitamins, minerals, and good bacteria that help to prevent urinary tract problems. It also boosts fertility, increases milk production, aids in nutrient absorption, and overall GI health. Rabbits like the taste of it, and will drink more water and become more hydrated. It also hides the taste of foreign water if traveling to shows, repels fleas, reduces urine odor, keeps their fur softer and shinier, helps to regulate PH, and aids in curing common colds, weepy eyes, mastitis, and skin infections.

Whole Oats: Oats are high in fiber and a good source of vitamins and minerals. This is great to keep the gut healthy, aid in digestion, and helps to reduce diarrhea. This is especially great to feed a little bit when babies are young and around weaning time. I feed a little pinch with my rabbit's pellets and they love this!

Dried pineapple: This is great to feed for help breaking down fur and wool and eliminating hair blockage. Rabbits cannot vomit like cats or dogs can and this will help them to get it to pass. I recommend feeding a couple pieces weekly as a preventative.

Immunize (supplement): Helps to boost the rabbit's immune system.

Behavior

When your bunny first arrives home, it's going to be nervous and stressed from the trip and being in a new environment. The best thing you can do for your bunny at this time is put him or her in a quiet place away from other pets, kids, and loud sounds to allow them to decompress.

Spay/Neuter It's VERY important to have your doe fixed as soon as your vet is willing. It is ideal to spay/neuter ASAP if keeping a rabbit as a pet.