

RVC Exotics Service

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leading on from the previous point rabbits will simply choose to eat tastier foods rather than the essential hay needed. The average rabbits only needs one cup of leafy greens a day and items such as carrots and fruit which are high in sugars should not be fed.

Some rabbits are fussy when it comes to eating some types of hay, most of the time this is due to the lower quality of hay. High quality hays are green and smell fresh when a packet is opened. If your hay smells stale or musty then this is likely a lower quality. Low quality hays can put your rabbits at risk of mites/lice and fungal infections as well as digestive problems.

How can I get my rabbit to eat hay?

There are several ways to get your rabbit eating its proper diet:

rabbits do not need pellets so it is safe to not feed them at all (unless your rabbit is under 6 months of age or a vet has specifically instructed you to feed more due to a health problem). If you still wish to feed them then they should get no more than 20g of pellets per kilo of body weight. Ideally they should be reserved for training treats or as part of environmental enrichment—not fed from a bowl. If you need to reduce the amount of pelleted food then do this slowly over the course of a week. This should encourage your rabbit to start eating hay.

