

Chicken Treat Chart The Best Treats For Backyard Chickens

<http://www.backyardchickens.com/a/chicken-treat-chart-the-best-treats-for-backyard-chickens>

This is a list of everything you can feed a chicken. However, everybody's chickens have their own tiny brains full of likes and dislikes, so while one person's chickens may come running for grapes or watermelon, another person's chickens may turn up their pointy little beaks at it. Anything on this list is worth a try.

Treat	Type	General Opinions
Apples	Raw and applesauce	Apple seeds contain cyanide, but not in sufficient quantities to kill.
Asparagus	Raw or cooked	Okay to feed, but not a favorite.
Bananas	Without the peel	High in potassium, a good treat.
Beans	Well-cooked only, <u>never dry</u>	Also, greenbeans.
Beets	Greens also.	.
Berries	All kinds	A treat, especially strawberries.
Breads	All kinds - good use for stale bread or rolls	Feed starches in moderation.
Broccoli & Cauliflower	.	Tuck into a suet cage and they will pick at it all day.
Cabbage & Brussels Sprouts	Whole head -	Hang a whole cabbage from their coop ceiling in winter so they have something to play with and greens to eat.
Carrots	Raw and cooked	They like carrot foliage too.
Catfood * (see bottom of page)	Wet and dry	Feed in strict moderation, perhaps only during moulting * (see bottom of page)
Cereal	Cheerios, etc.	Avoid highly sugared cereal such as Cocopuffs, etc.
Cheese	Including cottage cheese	Feed in moderation, fatty but a good source of protein and calcium
Cooked Chicken	.	They may like it and it won't kill them, but it just seems so..... ummm..... wrong.
Corn	On cob and canned, raw and cooked	.
Crickets (alive)	Can be bought at bait or pet-supply stores.	Great treat – provides protein and it's fun to watch the chickens catch them.
Cucumbers		Let mature for yummy seeds and flesh.
Eggs	Hardcooked and scrambled are a good source of protein, and a favorite treat.	Feed cooked eggs only because you don't want your chickens to start eating their own raw eggs.
Eggplant	.	.
Fish / Seafood	Cooked only.	
Flowers	Make sure they haven't been treated with pesticides, such as	Marigolds, nasturtiums, pansies, etc.

	florist flowers might be.	
Fruit	Pears, peaches, cherries, apples	
Grains	Bulgar, flax, niger, wheatberries, etc.	.
Grapes	Seedless only. For chicks, cutting them in half makes it easier for them to swallow.	Great fun - the cause of many entertaining "chicken keepaway" games.
Grits	Cooked	
"Leftovers"	Only feed your chickens that which is still considered edible by humans, don't feed anything spoiled, moldy, oily, salty or unidentifiable.	
Lettuce / Kale	Any leafy greens, spinach collards, chickweed included.	A big treat, depending on how much other greenery they have access to.
Mealworms (see photo after the chart)	Available at pet supply stores or on the internet, although shipping is expensive!	A huge(!) favorite treat, probably the most foolproof treat on the books.
Meat scraps of any kind.	Not too fatty.	In moderation, a good source of protein
Melon	Cantelope, etc.	Both seeds and flesh are good chicken treats.
Oatmeal	Raw or cooked	Cooked is nutritionally better.
Pasta / Macaroni	Cooked spaghetti, etc.	A favorite treat, fun to watch them eat it, but not much nutrition.
Peas	Peas and pea tendrils and flowers (thanks to YayChick for the advice)	.
Peppers (bell)	.	.
Pomegranates	Raw	Seeds are a big treat.
Popcorn	Popped, no butter, no salt.	
Potatos / Sweet Potatos/Yams	Cooked only - avoid green parts of peels!	Starchy, not much nutrition
Pumpkins / Winter Squash	Raw or cooked	Both seeds and flesh are a nutritious treat.
Raisins	.	
Rice	Cooked only	Pilaf mixes are okay too, plain white rice has little nutrition.
Scratch	Scratch is cracked corn with grains	Scratch is a treat for cold weather, not a complete feed. Toss it on the ground and let them scratch for it for

	(such as wheat, oats and rye) mixed in.	something to do.
Sprouts	Wheat and oat sprouts are great!	Good for greens in mid-winter.
Summer Squash	Yellow squash and zucchini	Yellow squash not a huge favorite, but okay to feed.
Sunflower Seeds	Sunflower seeds with the shell still on is fine to feed, as well as with the shell off.	A good treat, helps hens lay eggs and grow healthy feathers.
Tomatos	Raw and cooked.	
Turnips	Cooked.	Not a huge favorite
Watermelon	Served cold, it can keep chickens cool and hydrated during hot summers.	Seeds and flesh are both okay to feed.
Yogurt	Plain or flavored	A big favorite and good for their digestive systems. Plain is better.