

In Conclusion....

Although experts agree that feeding natural, high fibre plants is the best approach this can be difficult, particularly during the winter.

Artificial foods can be used to supplement a more natural diet but **avoid highly processed, extruded pellets that are typically based on Maize or Wheat.** These can have high protein or carbohydrate levels and the fibre they contain is typically ground into very small particles. Instead, use one that is based around natural weeds or grasses, has a low protein level and contains fibre (plant material) that is not highly processed and retains its natural structure.

If it contains added calcium or vitamin D then this can also be useful. Artificial foods should not form 100% of the tortoise's diet.

Feeding Instructions

Tortoises are best fed 2 or 3 times a day, with as much food as they can eat in an hour.

Place the food into a shallow dish and place in the enclosure. ProRep advanced tortoise food can be fed dry or can be lightly sprayed with water to aid palatability but do not soak or over-wet. Lightly spray food for young tortoises.

It is advised that a varied diet containing suitable fresh plants is provided. The vitamin and calcium supplementation in this food provides low level supplementation. Calcium and vitamin supplements should be used as normal.

Ideally your tortoise should grow slowly and steadily, developing a smooth, hard shell. If you notice fast or slow growth or uneven shell development then adjust your feeding regime.



Developed by reptile enthusiasts for reptile enthusiasts

Have you seen our Tortoise range?

Tortoise Life (10 litre)

ProRep Tortoise Life is part of the species-specific life series of substrates and has been created to meet the needs of tortoises originating from arid habitats, particularly Mediterranean and Russian tortoises.

It is a 50:50 mixture of high quality top soil and play sand with a little limestone grit added to provide some Calcium if the substrate is eaten.



Tortoise Feed Growing Kit

The tortoise feed growing kit is a complete kit for growing edible weeds for Mediterranean tortoises.

The kit contains: Edible weed seeds - enough for 4 sowings, seed trays, propagator top, compost and full instructions.



Tortoise Feed Seeds

The ProRep Tortoise Feed Seeds refill pack contains enough seed for 20 trays of weeds but can also be used to sow an outdoor enclosure.

To be also used in conjunction with our ProRep Tortoise Feed Growing Kit.



ProRep products are available at your nearest stockist



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The New **PROREP**

TORTOISE FOOD

+
Calcium & Vitamin D3

A complete low protein diet suitable for all Mediterranean, Horsfield's and Sulcata Tortoises

Advanced Nutrition



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New

The New **PROREP** 

TORTOISE FOOD

A complete low protein, high fibre diet suitable for all Mediterranean, Horsfield's and Sulcata Tortoises.

ProRep's low protein tortoise food combines a range of natural foods, including grasses and edible weeds, which are chopped and then formed into cobs, before being gently dried.



Because they are not cooked at high temperatures or finely ground, more of the natural goodness is retained. With a natural scent to aid palatability and added calcium and vitamin D3 for health, this low in protein, high fibre advanced food is suitable for all Mediterranean type tortoises, including Hermann's, Marginated, Spur Thigh and Horsfield's Tortoises, as well as African Spurred Tortoises (*G. sulcata*).

It can also be used for other herbivorous reptiles such as Iguanas and Uromastyx.



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+ Calcium & Vitamin D3

Why Buy ProRep Tortoise Food?

- Low protein
- Added Calcium and D3
- High fibre, including essential long fibres
- Low grain content
- Includes 29 natural weeds and grasses

The Correct Diet

Feeding a diet that meets the needs of Mediterranean type tortoises can be a daunting but essential task for an owner, as they have some very specific requirements. To stay happy and healthy their diet should contain high levels of natural fibre and calcium and low protein and carbohydrate.

Fibre

Fibre is difficult to digest and so provides important bulk to a tortoise's diet without adding large quantities of nutrients. It also helps the food to move through the gut, speeding up the time it takes for food to pass through.



See ProRep Tortoise Food on You Tube....
www.youtube.com/peregrinelivevids

Calcium

Calcium is vital for tortoises to develop healthy bones and a healthy shell. In the wild the plants they eat are naturally high in calcium, and they will also eat calcium rich stones from their environment.

Protein

With a totally vegetarian diet Mediterranean tortoises naturally consume low levels of protein in the wild, and never eat animal protein. Choosing the right plants to feed, and avoiding unnatural foods, means that you will be able to replicate this in captivity.

Carbohydrates

Many plants contain high levels of carbohydrates and sugars and these would be rarely eaten by wild tortoises. In captivity fruit and root vegetables should not be fed in significant amounts as they can cause stomach upsets and diarrhoea.

Follow the Simple Rules....

- Provide a wide range of natural plants
- Avoid salad vegetables such as lettuce and cucumber
- Provide calcium by supplementing natural food
- Avoid legumes (peas and beans) and brassicas (cabbage family)
- Provide fibre rich plants such as tough weeds/edible grasses
- Avoid fruit and root vegetables as much as possible
- Provide a good source of UVB
- Avoid artificial foods which contain ground fibre, are based on cereals, have high protein content or are heated to high temperatures during production
- Always provide plants whole rather than chopped
- Never feed animal protein (meat) of any sort

A good diet that mimics the natural food eaten by wild tortoises allows them to grow slowly and lay down a hard, smooth shell whilst maintaining a healthy gut. Any imbalance in any of the components could result in fast growth, soft or irregular shell formation (pyramiding) accompanied by stomach and gut problems. Over a period of time this may lead to secondary infections and even death.