



C/N 4862

LP 43 FST 3 2007



1100051233

Study on food preference behavior among kittens / Saidatul  
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## STUDY ON FOOD PREFERENCE BEHAVIOR AMONG KITTENS

By

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Research Report submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
Bachelor of Applied Science (Biodiversity Conservation and Management)

Department of Biological Sciences  
Faculty of Science and Technology  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU  
2007

1100051233

This project should be cited as:

Saidatul, A. M. A., 2007. Food preference behavior among kittens. Undergraduate thesis, Bachelor of Applied Science (Biodiversity Conservation and Management), Faculty of Science and Technology, University Malaysia Terengganu. 55pp.

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FAKULTI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI  
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA TERENGGANU**

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, I am very grateful to Professor Madya Dr. Mohd Effendy Bin Abd. Wahid for guiding me in doing my project and also supports me in whatever situation. I would like to express my deepest appreciation and sincere gratitude to him for being the best supervisor and for all his endurance in assisting me throughout the completion of this project. I also wish to express my deepest gratitude to Professor Madya Dr. Liew Hock Chark and Dr. Chuah Tse Seng for teaching and helping me in analysis calculations. Special thanks to Mr. Amirrudin Ahmad, Mr. Wong Chee Ho, Mr. Kasawani @ Kazuwani Ibrahim , Mrs. Wahizatul Afzan Azmi and Miss Jamilah Mohd Salim @ Halim for their useful comments and suggestions during this study. A big thank you also to Dr. Jawaher, a veterinarian for helpful monitoring and comments regarding the health of all the kittens. I would like to thank to Faculty of Food Science and Agro technology that allowed me to use all materials in the lab with the help of the science officer. Special thanks also to Mr. Mohd Apendai and Mrs. Fauziah Ibrahim for giving me financial support to complete my project. To everyone else who had indirectly aided me to complete this project, I am very grateful and thank you from the bottom of my heart.

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

<sup>0</sup> C	-	Celsius
BF	-	Barf food
CF	-	Commercial food
g	-	gram
Ho	-	Hypothesis null
Kg	-	kilogram
M	-	mol
ml	-	milliliter

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## ABSTRACT

This study analyzed the food preference of 18 domestic kittens (*Felis silvestris catus*) between two types of food based on their behavior. The aimed of the study is to determine the effect of type of food on the behavior pattern of the kittens. Two groups of domestic kittens were formed and offered two different types of food items differing in preparation of the food (commercial food or barf food, CF and BF, respectively) at the same timing every day. Based on the proximate food test, the commercial food contains higher fat, 5% but low protein 10% compare to the barf food. Man Whitney U-test analysis behavior during the meal showed that there were no difference in food preference behavior for both type of food, CF and BF with the value of  $p > 0.05$ . Same analysis that had been done for behavior before and after meal also showed same result, no significance ( $p > 0.05$ ) and the behavior of the kittens was not influenced by the type of food. Even though there were no differences in food preference behavior between those two types of food, the feed conversion ratio of the kittens that served with commercial food were much higher with range of  $9.75 \pm 17.38$  and showed a lot of increasing value compare to those kittens that ate barf food that only range between  $6.09 \pm 16.52$ . T-test analysis also proved that the type of food did not influence the value of feed conversion ratio.

# KAJIAN MENGENAI MINAT ANAK-ANAK KUCING TERHADAP MAKANAN BERDASARKAN TINGKAH LAKU

## ABSTRAK

Kajian ini telah menganalisis minat 18 ekor anak kucing tempatan (*Felis silvestris catus*) terhadap dua jenis makanan yang berlainan melalui tingkah laku mereka. Kajian ini juga telah dijalankan dengan tujuan untuk menentukan kesan jenis makanan terhadap tingkah laku anak-anak kucing tersebut. Anak-anak kucing tersebut telah dibahagikan kepada dua kumpulan dan telah diberi makan dua jenis makanan yang berlainan yang berbeza dari segi penyediaan (makanan kucing yang komersial atau makanan kucing yang telah diproses di rumah, CF atau BF) pada masa yang sama setiap hari. Berdasarkan analisis makanan, makanan komersial mengandungi lebih banyak lemak, 5% tetapi protein yang rendah 10% berbanding makanan yang telah diproses sendiri. Analisis Man Whitney U-test mengenai tingkah laku anak-anak kucing tersebut ketika makan menunjukkan bahawa kedua-dua kumpulan, CF dan BF tidak menunjukkan sebarang perbezaan dari segi minat terhadap jenis makanan yang telah diberikan dengan nilai  $p > 0.05$ . Analisis yang sama telah dijalankan untuk tingkah laku anak-anak kucing tersebut sebelum dan selepas makanan diberikan, menunjukkan hasil keputusan juga adalah sama, tiada signifikansi ( $p > 0.05$ ) dan tingkah laku anak-anak kucing tersebut tidak dipengaruhi oleh jenis makanan yang telah diberikan. Meskipun tiada perbezaan minat telah ditunjukkan terhadap kedua-dua jenis makanan, namun jumlah nisbah tumbesaran anak-anak kucing yang telah diberi makanan komersial adalah lebih tinggi dengan julat  $9.75 \pm 17.38$  dan menunjukkan nilai pertumbuhan yang lebih tinggi berbanding anak-anak kucing yang makan makanan yang diproses sendiri yang julatnya cuma antara  $6.09 \pm 16.52$ . Analisis Ujian T juga membuktikan bahawa jenis makanan tidak mempengaruhi nilai nisbah pertumbuhan tersebut.