

Grandma Mae's COUNTRY NATURALS®

ALL NATURAL PET FOOD WITH VITAMINS AND MINERALS ADDED

July 2019

Dear Valued Retailer:

All of us have heard customers voice concerns about grain free dog foods as potentially linked to Taurine deficiency and DCM, a canine heart disorder. Our hearts go out to anyone whose pet dies for any reason or is seriously ill, as we have all been in that situation.

I believe we and other companies have provided enough information to help your customers put the FDA reports into context, e.g. the small number of dogs affected, that many of the dogs had pre-existing conditions or were very old, or other factors that may have caused the issue but were not considered.

We have said from the beginning that concerns about a dietary link to DCM, though not proven and unlikely to be related to legumes, are also not new. They were raised twenty years ago when low-protein lamb first became popular. It is, however, possible to **make a grain free dog food that averts taurine deficiency** and thus DCM. **Grandma Mae's Country Naturals is such a food**, and both our grain free and grain-inclusive products have these features:

- o We use the highest-quality proteins that are only available in relatively small quantities. The proteins in our foods are over 70% from animal sources, and **higher quality meats and meals have high levels of taurine** before cooking
- o Grandma Mae's Country Naturals uses a **slow-cook, low-temperature process** which prevents heat damage to the proteins and **maintains high Taurine levels**
- o All formulas are supplemented with DL-Methionine, which **dogs convert to taurine naturally**
- o All our dog foods have Methionine levels between 0.5% (Low Fat) and 1.0%

(Whitefish), with most at 0.6% or 0.7%, and taurine levels between 0.10% and 0.15%

This is why of the many hundreds of cases of DCM reported to the FDA, **not a single dog** was feeding **Grandma Mae's Country Naturals**.

The facts above are why **feeding Grandma Mae's Country Naturals** grain-free or grain-inclusive pet foods **can help prevent many health issues** including DCM.

Out of respect for customers who still insist on avoiding grain-free foods, we are expanding our grain-inclusive product line from five items to seven in four different single protein diets.

Grandma Mae's Country Naturals pet food is owned by a group of independent pet store owners who care about your pets just like you do, not by investment groups with aggressive profit goals. We will continue to make your pet's health our highest priority.

---Barry Berman (President), and your friends at Grandma Mae's Country Naturals