

PENNYROYAL SMALL AND EXOTIC ANIMAL HOSPITAL
247 Regency Circle
Lexington, KY 40503
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DUCK SOUP

1 can Sustacal (8oz., or 230 ml; it comes in a larger size too) Most ferrets prefer vanilla rather than strawberry.

1 can water (8oz., or 230 ml)

1/8 can puppy or kitten weaning formula-optional or a/d canned

4oz. dry kitten or ferret food, soaked in enough water to cover and soften it completely

Sustacal is meant for humans; look for it by baby formulas or in the pharmacy section of your supermarket. You can also use *Ensure*, *Discover 2.0*, or *Just Born* (puppy/kitten milk replacer).

Mix thoroughly. Microwave to the temperature of baby formula. Serve about 4 ounces at a time twice a day for maintenance; if your ferret eats too much and you feel he/she is getting too fat, you can increase the amount of water. This formula also freezes well (ice cube trays work well for this). *The Sustacal must be used within 48 hours if left only in the fridge.*

High calorie. Easily digestible diet

Use 1 can *Science Diet a/d* canned food with 2 oz. *Discover 2.0* (or *Isocal Plus* or *Sustacal*) and 1 teaspoon butter. A little water or *Pedialyte* can be added to make syringe feeding easier. This mixture should only be stored for about 48 hours. The opened *Discover 2.0* should be divided into 2 oz. portions and frozen for future use (or it can be poured into an ice cube tray and cubes can be defrosted as needed). An alternative to the *Science Diet a/d* is the use of 3 oz. Canned *Iams* kitten food mixed with a jar of chicken or turkey baby food (use the meat only kind-not the kind with rice or veggies mixed in.) This mixture is a little harder to dispense through a syringe and may have to be fed off of your finger or a spoon. If your ferret won't eat any of these mixtures, you can also try softening his regular food with a little water, *Sustical* or *Isocal*, mash it up and warm it in the microwave for a few seconds. If your ferret still will not eat you may have to force feed him (squirt a little at a time into his mouth, then stroke his throat downward to make him swallow). ***BE CAREFUL NOT TO CHOKE HIM/HER.***