

## **Information sheet**

Allfarm Superworms – Giant Mealworms

Allfarm Superworms (Giant Mealworms) – a nutrient- and protein-rich treat for poultry, reptiles, amphibians, and large fish. Sold as Live or Dried.

#### Background:

Allfarm Superworms / Giant Mealworms are Australian-grown Zophobas morio larvae, also known as King Worms or Morio Worms. They are a protein- and nutrient-rich treat for a variety of insect-eating birds, reptiles, amphibians, and fish. Our Superworms are reared on natural, chemical-free Australia-grown media. These worms are larger and have a softer exoskeleton than traditional mealworms (*Tenebrio molitor*), which means they have a higher protein to shell ratio and can be more digestible.



Allfarm Superworms can be fed as a treat to **adult pets that can consume larger larvae**, including:

- Poultry, and other insectivorous birds.
- Snakes, lizards, and other reptiles.
- Amphibians, including frogs and newts.
- Larger insectivorous fish.

Keep in mind that Superworms are larger than traditional mealworms, so may not be suitable for feeding to smaller pets. However, Live Superworms are sold in three different class sizes (Small, Medium, and Large), so can be tailored to a range of dietary requirements. Dried Superworms are sold as mixed-size packs.

## **Contains:**

All products contain Superworms / King Worms (Zophobas morio).

Live Superworms also include a bran-based growth / transport medium and a vegetable stick for hydration.

All materials are natural, chemical-free, and grown in Australia.

#### **Pack Sizes:**

- Dried Superworms come in 50 g, 100 g, and 220 g packs which contain mixed-size larvae.
- Live Superworms come in regular and bulk pack options, classed by larva size:
  - Regular Live packs: Small-sized (75 worms), Medium-sized (50 worms), or Large-sized (30 worms).
  - Bulk Live packs (125 g): Small-sized (minimum 300 worms), Medium-sized (greater than 200

worms), or Large-sized (greater than 100 worms) (as bulk packs are sold by total weight, the larger the larvae the fewer will be present).

We can also produce custom packs containing larger numbers of worms, or a range of worm sizes. Please email us (details below) and we can discuss your requirements.





Superworm sizes are classified as:

- Small-sized: 0.2 0.4 grams average weight. Average length\* will be roughly 1-2 cm.
- Medium-sized: 0.4 0.7 grams average weight. Average length\* will be roughly 2-4 cm.
- Large-sized: above 0.7 grams average weight. Average length\* will be roughly 4 cm.

\*Note regarding length: these figures are rough guidelines only. Superworms are primarily classified by weight, and their length-to-weight ratio can vary.

# Ordering and enquiries:

All orders and enquiries may be conducted through our website: https://www.allfarm.com.au or by telephone: (03) 5979 4488. We are pleased to pass your query on to our Veterinarian.

Product	Code
Allfarm Live Superworms - Regular Pack – Small Larvae – 75 larvae	MWSL
Allfarm Live Superworms - Regular Pack – Medium Larvae – 50 larvae	MWML
Allfarm Live Superworms - Regular Pack –Large Larvae – 30 larvae	MWLL
Allfarm Live Superworms - Bulk Pack – Small Larvae - 125 grams	MW125GMS
Allfarm Live Superworms - Bulk Pack – Medium Larvae - 125 grams	MW125GMM
Allfarm Live Superworms - Bulk Pack – Large Larvae - 125 grams	MW125GML
Allfarm Dried Superworms - Mixed Sizes - 50 grams	MWD
Allfarm Dried Superworms - Mixed Sizes - 100 grams	MWD100
Allfarm Dried Superworms - Mixed Sizes - 220 grams	MWD220
Allfarm Superworm Growth Medium, 500 g	MWSM500
Allfarm Superworm Growth Medium, 5 kg	MWSM5





### **Feeding Superworms to Your Pets:**

Superworms should be fed as a treat or supplement, and not as the staple component of your pet's diet. Generally, give your pets Superworms no more than a few times a week. As Superworms can be fed to a wide variety of pets we cannot cover every individual case here. Please consult literature or hobbyist groups regarding the requirements of your particular animal species.

Superworms may be dusted with a high-quality calcium and vitamin powder before feeding to your pets. This is especially important if they are fed regularly. Superworms are high in phosphorous, which may slow calcium absorption in some animals.

If you wish, Live Superworms can be refrigerated just before feeding to make them more docile. But do not refrigerate them if you intend to keep them alive.

For poultry, we recommend giving your birds a few Superworms (2 for smaller birds, 3 for larger) once or twice a week as regular treats, or daily for birds coming into lay. The chitin in the exoskeleton is associated with improved immune function. Remember that Superworms are not meal substitutes and do not contain significant levels of calcium. The chitin in the exoskeleton is associated with improved immune function. As a bonus, the Superworm growth medium that comes with the Live Superworms can be fed to poultry and is highly nutritious!

#### Maintenance Instructions (Live Superworms only):



Allfarm Live Superworms may be kept in larval form for many months, much longer than traditional mealworms. They are easy to maintain, providing you give them a stable environment, maintenance medium, and a vegetable water source. Superworms should be kept together so that they come into regular contact with each other, or they may pupate and turn into adult beetles (which are not a suitable food source).

**Temperature:** Live Superworms should be maintained in a stable environment, ideally at 22-28°C. They should not be refrigerated.

Light source: Light is not essential.

**Container:** Allfarm Superworms come packaged in a biodegradable container that is resistant to chewing. **For bulk packs:** you should transfer the Superworms to a new container immediately upon receipt and add a fresh carrot stick or piece of potato – *do not store bulk quantities of Superworms in their original shipping container*. **For regular packs**: you may keep your Superworms in their original container for some time. However, the integrity of the container will change with age and moisture. We recommend that you house the Superworms and their medium to a tougher, non-plastic container, with an air-permeable lid. Note that Superworms are known to chew through polystyrene plastic.



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Feeding: Live Superworms should be supplied with a fresh piece of carrot or potato (~ 25 g per 50 worms) regularly. This is essential for hydration, as the worms have no other direct water source. Generally, supply enough carrot or potato so that hydrated material remains visible for about 24 hours. Replace the vegetable material after 2-3 days, but do not add too much or their environment will become humid and mouldy. The maintenance medium that the Superworms come with provides all the other nutrients that they require.

Growth Medium: As a rule of thumb, mature Superworms require 2 g of growth medium per worm per month, but you can safely provide more and the medium will last longer. The Superworm Growth Medium should be gently mixed at least once a week, by gently folding the worms and media in their container. As the media ages, a finely grained, aromatic product called frass will accumulate. This mixture of chewed meal and faeces should be removed (as much as is practical) and replaced with fresh medium, as it will slow the growth rate of the Superworms. The medium should also be replaced entirely every 4-6 weeks. If you transfer the larvae to a larger container you should also add more growth medium. You may purchase Superworm Growth Medium from Allfarm Specialty - ordering information is provided at the end of this document. You can also provide them with a substrate of oatmeal or bran but be aware that the growth rate of the Superworms will be slower in basic media. When changing media, remember to include a fresh vegetable stick!

