FEEDING EGGS TO FERRETS

It's fine to give ferrets an egg. It's a good source of protein.

When giving raw eggs, there is always the slight risk of salmonella, which could be deadly. If giving raw eggs, be sure the eggs are kept cold all the time and don’t leave them sitting out before giving them to the ferret.  You can give raw egg yolk about every other day. You can give a whole egg two to three times a week. The white of the raw egg contains avidin which can prevent biotin from being absorbed by the ferret. If the egg white is only given two to three times a week, it will not be a problem.

Cooking the scrambled egg increases the absorption of protein from 50% to 90% and removes any risk of salmonella!  While cooking does remove biotin and omega-3s by 33%, eggs aren't a significant source of either of those nutrients for a ferret. These are offset by increased protein absorption. You can give scrambled unseasoned eggs every day.

Bear in mind, with an egg that is slimy, the acids in the stomach may not break it completely down and it could pull other foods through the system with it. So, kibble that’s been eaten could be pulled through the system and not really be absorbed by the ferret.

If you are using eggs as a means of **hairball prevention**, there is no proof this helps. I have talked with numerous vets about using eggs for hairball prevention and every one of them questions why that would even be a consideration. The acid in the stomach breaks down enough of the egg to keep it from pulling fur sufficiently through the system. An emulsifier can help break down the beginning of a hairball. While egg yolk lecithin is an emulsifier, it’s not concentrated enough to be certain of breaking down a hairball. Either use a hairball remedy instead of or with the egg.