



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - Jan 4th, 2011

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	06-Nov	13-Nov	20-Nov	27-Nov	Nov Total	2010	2009	% Change
Total Canada	383	275	351	443	1,452	14,860	18,010	-17.5%
<i>previous year</i>	455	471	443	484	1,853			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	June 2010	July	Aug	Sept	Oct 2010	Oct 2009	2010	2009	% Change
Alberta	174	177	124	110	114	220	1531	1976	-22.5%
Saskatchewan	21	15	25	19	11	25	260	293	-11.3%
Manitoba/BC	118	89	35	90	56	96	705	729	-3.3%
Ontario/Quebec**	56	51	54	37	68	42	504	512	-1.6%
Total	369	332	238	256	249	383	3000	3510	-14.5%

** Quebec Provincial slaughter numbers are estimated due to a delay in reporting

	2010	2009	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	17,860	21,520	-17.0%

*Source AAFC Red Meat Section : Due to varying provincial reporting schedules, total Fed. and Prov. has a one month delay in Prov. Data

US Federal Slaughter*

	06-Nov	13-Nov	20-Nov	27-Nov	Nov Total	2010	2009	% Change
Total	1003	1011	944	700	3,658	48,104	48,282	-0.4%
<i>previous year</i>	1202	1196	1265	676	4,339			

*actual slaughter numbers in federally inspected plants, not necessarily inspected, source USDA

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	July-10	Aug-10	Sept-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	2010	2009	% Change
Slaughter Male	995	N/A	N/A	240	322	5,359	6,849	-21.8%
Slaughter Female	813	N/A	N/A	429	267	5,218	8,292	-37.1%
Feeder Male	349	N/A	N/A	784	629	4,968	4,159	19.5%
Feeder Female	349	N/A	N/A	350	159	3,212	3,565	-9.9%
Total	2,506			1,803	1,377	18,757	22,865	-18.0%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

		May	June	July	August	September	October	2010	2009	% Change
Boneless										
USA	Kg	40,240	42,845	52,922	45,473	85,087	34,190	447,581	327,076	37%
	Value (\$Cdn)	363,064	426,411	536,044	500,843	513,514	393,613	3,971,067	2,720,839	46%
France	Kg	3,307	10,018	2,086	8,408	2,258	451	125,537	301,449	-58%
	Value (\$Cdn)	44,734	134,981	50,386	131,121	36,307	11,430	1,577,799	4,143,364	-62%
Germany	Kg	689	-	-	-	431	1,416	5,152	24,955	-79%
	Value (\$Cdn)	11,900	-	-	-	10,781	40,001	111,290	324,824	-66%
Switzerland	Kg	6,501	6,264	6,053	5,532	2,015	3,957	47,526	38,006	25%
	Value (\$Cdn)	224,201	232,907	227,582	212,482	76,599	145,691	1,742,654	1,390,798	25%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	423	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	16,165	N/A
China P.Rep.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	186	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1,030	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	10,073	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	209,682	N/A
Egypt	Kg	11,682	-	-	-	-	-	11,682	0	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	173,422	-	-	-	-	-	173,422	0	N/A
United Arab Emirates	Kg	359	216	-	-	102	185	2,691	864	211%
	Value (\$Cdn)	17,038	10,712	-	-	2,199	9,925	89,385	24,678	262%
Macau	Kg	1,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	0	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	8,787	-	-	-	-	-	8,787	0	N/A
Singapore	Kg	-	-	1,381	-	-	-	1,381	0	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	17,517	-	-	-	17,517	0	N/A
French S. Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	195	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	2,971	N/A
Others	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	1,008	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	0	15,760	N/A
Total	Kg	63,778	59,343	62,442	59,413	89,893	40,199	642,550	704,235	-9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	843,146	805,011	831,529	844,446	639,400	600,660	7,691,921	8,850,111	-13%

Bone-in

	May	June	July	August	September	October	2010	2009	% Change
Total	388	-	18,874	-	-	-	37,958	26,471	43%
	Value (\$Cdn)	4,243	-	160,622	-	-	220,702	225,771	-2%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	May	June	July	August	September	October	2010	2009	% Change	
Total	64,166	59,343	81,316	59,413	89,893	40,199	680,508	730,706	-7%	
	Value (\$Cdn)	847,389	805,011	992,151	844,446	639,400	600,660	7,912,623	9,075,882	-13%

*source Statistics Canada

US Bison Carcasses - Grain Fed (Hot Carcass Wt \$US/cwt) FOB Plant Basis

wghtd avg

	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)
Nov 2009	239.53	221.90	160.61	159.98
Dec 2009	242.27	223.67	163.29	164.80
Jan 2010	241.00	222.99	161.30	158.77
Feb 2010	246.99	228.58	180.73	171.43
Mar 2010	246.53	238.70	185.00	165.10
Apr 2010	249.04	236.58	195.00	174.29
May 2010	255.59	241.74		182.07
June 2010	260.77	249.48	186.36	176.32
July 2010	266.74	258.33	208.75	186.43
Aug 2010	272.93	263.38	225.00	224.74
Sept 2010	296.03	276.84	228.75	206.18
Oct 2010	317.57	304.34	234.38	233.46
Nov 2010	325.34	312.02	237.88	228.73

**source USDA*

Canadian Bison Carcasses - Grain Fed (Hot Carcass Wt Cdn\$/cwt) FOB Plant Basis

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Dec 2009	225-260	215-245	140-150	140-150
Jan 2010	220-255	210-240	140-155	140-150
Feb 2010	240-255	220-240	140-155	140-155
Mar 2010	225-260	225-245	150-160	145-155
Apr 2010	245-260	240-255	150-160	150-160
May 2010	245-265	225-250	150-170	150-170
June 2010	255-285	235-270	175-200	175-200
July 2010	255-285	235-270	160-200	160-200
Aug 2010	285-290	275-290	180-220	180-220
Sep 2010	280-310	280-310	180-220	180-220
Oct 2010	330-345	310-345	220-240	220-240
Nov 2010	345-350	330-335	220-230	210-220
Dec 2010	325-350	325-340	220-225	200-225

**source CBA survey of marketers*

USDA Key Cuts - Grain Fed Wholesale (\$US/cwt)

	September 2010		October 2010		November 2010		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	775-1295	1031.74	750-1250	1060.45	800-1375	1090.87	5.7%	2.9%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	400-616	407.92	440-550	451.20	440-580	456.79	12.0%	1.2%
Striploin Fresh	675-1150	929.00	650-1150	1024.46	650-1150	1029.37	10.8%	0.5%
Tenderloin Fresh	1112-1700	1412.67	1340-1695	1552.99	1500-1795	1627.09	15.2%	4.8%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	375-470	443.00	450-585	484.56	450-585	482.00	8.8%	-0.5%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	400-595	518.22	465-645	541.20	490-580	550.66	6.3%	1.7%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	424-595	491.09	460-635	536.26	480-580	538.83	9.7%	0.5%

**source USDA*

Canadian Bison Cuts - Grain Fed Wholesale (\$Cdn/kilogram)

	Mid-September Pricing	Mid-October Pricing	Mid-November Pricing	Mid-December Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$44.00 - \$48.98	\$44.00 - \$54.95	\$40.00 - \$60.00	\$37.95 - \$46.75
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$24.50 - \$29.00	\$24.00 - \$34.95	\$24.00 - \$34.00	\$24.95 - \$28.65
Inside Round - Fresh	\$11.50 - \$15.00	\$11.29 - \$16.75	\$11.00 - \$17.00	\$11.95 - \$14.88
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$12.00 - \$12.50	\$10.95 - \$12.75	\$10.50 - \$13.75	\$10.95 - \$11.70
Fresh Bison Trim	\$10.25 - \$10.50	\$10.25 - \$11.20	\$9.75 - \$11.50	\$9.95 - \$11.75

**source CBA survey of marketers*

Live Auction Reports *most recent reported, may not reflect current market

Sekura Auctions (AB) (Nov 6, 2010)			Sekura Auctions (AB) (Dec 4, 2010)			Willow view Auctions (AB) (Dec 11, 2010)		
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)
2008 Bulls	600-699	202.15	2006 Bulls	1000-9999	130.25	2010 Bull Calves	400-450	239-246
	700-799	201.00	2008 Bulls	800-899	204		500-525	240-247
	900-999	186.10		900-999	190			
				1000-9999	182.5	2010 Heifer Calves	350-400	235-239
2009 Bulls	400-500	201.00	2009 Bulls	600-699	231.21		400-450	239-250
				700-799	225.44			
2010 Bulls	400-499	205.00		800-899	216.61	2009 Yearling Bulls	600-650	205
			2010 Bulls	300-399	205		650-700	210-215
2008 Heifers	500-599	200.00		400-499	227.5		700-800	210-214
	700-799	115.00		500-599	209.5			
			2008 Heifers	600-699	175	2009 Yearling Heifers	500-600	203-208
2009 Heifers	400-500	197.20		900-999	172.5			
			2009 Heifers	600-699	215.14	2008 Yearling Heifers	600-750	207-214
2010 Heifers	300-399	232.89		700-799	195.97			
			2010 Heifers	300-399	152.5	2008 Bulls	900-1100	190.00
Cows	0-9999	138.17		400-499	140.32			
				500-599	196.15	Mature Bulls		124-149
			Mature Bulls	800-9999	141.69			
			Cows	0-999	172.18	Mature Cows		\$1500-\$1675 / head

Commentary

By Terry Kremenik, Executive Director, CBA

This report can only be improved with your feedback. Please send any comments that you have to either cba2@sasktel.net or genevieve.rodrique@agr.gc.ca

Prices for live bison and meat cuts remain strong as reported in last months report. These prices are driven by a short supply of bison and expectations that supply of finished bison will be tighter as we move into next year. Prices marketers are offering for finished bison are being reflected in meat prices to consumers. Significantly higher prices are resulting in some buying resistance at the consumer level. Although the demand for bison products remains strong in the U.S. and to a lesser extent in Europe, the domestic consumers are showing resistance at present prices.

Nationally, federal slaughter is down 17.8% for the 48 weeks of this year (15,241 in 2010 compared to 18,536 for the same period in 2009). Exports of live animals to the end of November at 21,892 are down by about 4.0% compared to the 22,865 exported the same period last year. The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers continues to be strong at strengthened reaching \$3.50 per pound in December 2010 compared to \$2.60 per pound in December 2009. Mature bulls to mid-December 2010 ranged from \$2.20 - \$2.25 per pound, much higher than the \$1.50 reported in 2009. Today's price for fresh bison trim at a high of \$11.75 per kg is 61.0% higher than the \$7.30 reported in December 2009.

Data suggest that federally slaughtered bison in Canada will be down as much 18.0% this year with live bison being exported to the U.S. being down an estimated 5.0%. With some producers retaining heifers to grow their herds and while others renew their cow herds; supply growth will be slow. This has major implications for the processing industry which has geared up to handle a significantly larger number of animals than are coming to the market. As previously reported consolidation is expected at the processing and marketer levels. Alternatively processors and marketers may add non-bison products to their product lines.

Chart 1

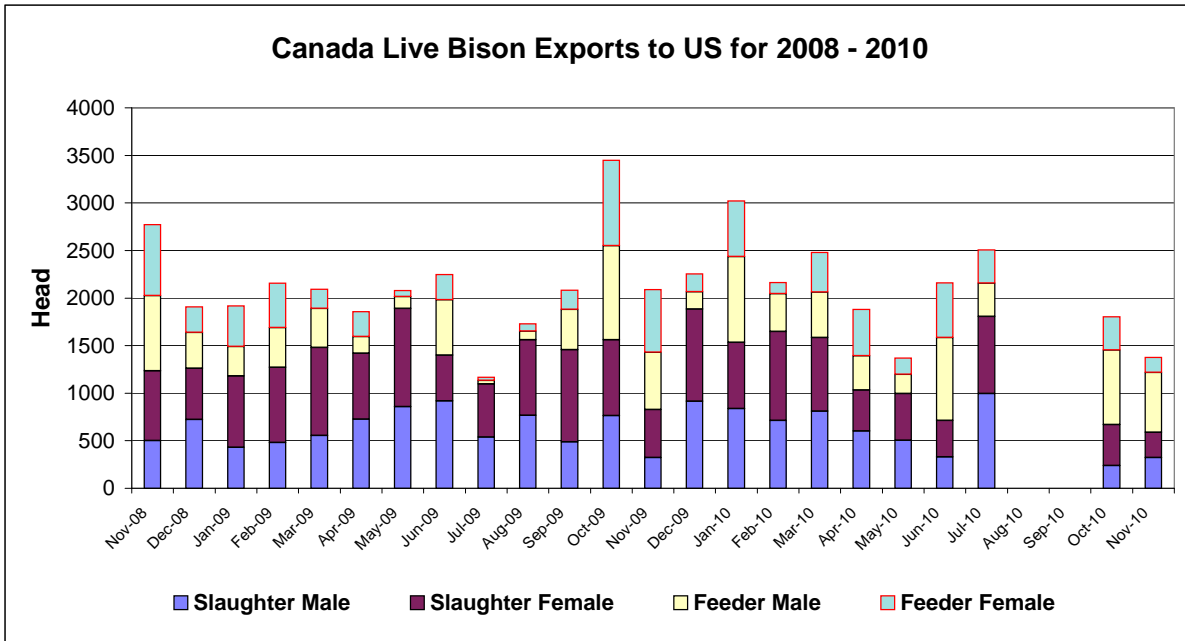


Chart 2

