



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - October 21, 2011

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	03-Sep	10-Sep	17-Sep	24-Sep	01-Oct	Sept Total	2011	2010	% Change
Total Canada	494	56	340	11	369	1,270	7,931	12,354	-35.8%
<i>previous year</i>	286	140	177	157	256	1,016			

September YTD

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Apr 2011	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	Aug 2011	Aug 2010	2011	2010	% Change
Alberta	111	134	86	69	59	124	666	1307	-49.0%
Saskatchewan	14	8	7	17	11	25	105	227	-53.7%
Manitoba/BC	50	51	77	71	81	35	595	559	6.4%
Ontario/Quebec**	35	38	45	38	42	53	260	345	-24.6%
Total	210	231	215	195	193	237	1626	2438	-33.3%

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

	YTD 2011	YTD 2010	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	9,557	14,792	-35.4%

*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*

	03-Sep	10-Sep	17-Sep	24-Sep	01-Oct	Sept Total	2011	2010	% Change
Total	725	787	852	909	719	3,992	33,238	40,738	-18.4%
<i>previous year</i>	937	939	1012	982	893	4,763			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	May-11	June-11	July-11	Aug-11	Sept-11	2011	2010	% Change
Slaughter Male	324	501	513	464	296	4,687	4,797	-2.3%
Slaughter Female	183	437	513	205	290	3,105	4,522	-31.3%
Feeder Male	237	209	85	46	23	1,967	3,555	-44.7%
Feeder Female	34	117	84	46	37	1,802	2,703	-33.3%
Total	778	1,264	1,195	761	646	11,561	15,577	-25.8%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Country	Unit	March 2011	April	May	June	July	August	August YTD		% Change
								2011	2010	
Boneless										
USA	Kg	27,835	34,185	19,148	16,799	19,539	32,997	222,269	328,304	-32.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	372,676	438,761	267,829	249,877	279,473	312,522	2,811,704	3,063,940	-8.2%
France	Kg	4,174	2,749	2,614	2,898	3,058	2,913	25,572	122,828	-79.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	56,721	36,317	32,295	34,990	44,881	37,282	345,630	1,530,062	-77.4%
Switzerland	Kg	3,245	3,155	5,098	2,763	3,617	3,593	28,680	41,554	-31.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	120,458	118,951	192,887	101,865	149,069	137,416	1,098,942	1,520,364	-27.7%
Germany	Kg	365	830	-	-	1,217	-	3,093	3,305	-6.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	12,663	24,586	-	-	37,101	-	88,897	60,508	46.9%
Egypt	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,682	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	173,422	N/A
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	188	2,404	-92.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,515	77,261	-95.5%
Macau	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,787	N/A
Singapore	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,381	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,517	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	290	90	380	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	7,983	2,563	10,546	-	N/A
Sweden	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	594	594	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	21,352	21,352	-	N/A
Netherlands	Kg	26,326	-	-	-	-	-	26,326	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	133,492	-	-	-	-	-	133,492	-	N/A
Others	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Kg	61,945	40,919	26,860	22,460	27,721	40,187	307,102	512,458	-40.1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	696,010	618,615	493,011	386,732	518,507	511,135	4,514,078	6,451,861	-30.0%

Bone-in

	March 2011	April	May	June	July	August	2011	2010	% Change
Total	3,656	3,356	16,138	8,955	-	11,211	67,966	37,958	79.1%
	18,847	16,458	56,265	94,033	-	85,687	408,576	220,702	85.1%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	March 2011	April	May	June	July	August	2011	2010	% Change
Total	65,601	44,275	42,998	31,415	27,721	51,398	375,068	550,416	-31.9%
	714,857	635,073	549,276	480,765	518,507	596,822	4,922,654	6,672,563	-26.2%

*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)
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
Dec 2010	332.43	324.30	242.19	238.03
Jan 2011	332.33	323.84	259.06	238.78
Feb 2011	354.76	335.85	249.51	254.47
Mar 2011	356.63	350.08	260.52	280.91
Apr 2011	365.73	353.38	277.06	256.92
May 2011	369.99	360.97	275.16	265.24
June 2011	373.99	367.04	295.00	295.95
July 2011	380.50	378.15	304.84	315.78
Aug 2011	381.97	380.81	298.86	280.32
Sept 2011	388.59	384.18	300.80	310.00

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
Jan 2011	350-375	340-375	230-270	225-270
Feb 2011	350-383	350-383	250-270	250-270
Mar 2011	350-375	350-365	250-270	250-270
Apr 2011	370-385	365-370	260-290	260-270
May 2011	380-410	380-400	260-275	260-275
June 2011	400-410	400	275-280	275-280
July 2011	400-410	400-410	280-300	275-280
Aug 2011	410-420	410-415	280-350	280-350
Sept 2011	390-400	390-400	280-290	280-290
Oct 2011	375-380	370-375	280-290	260-265

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	July 2011		August 2011		September 2011		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1100-1650	1,352.57	1100-1650	1,321.41	1100-1600	1,366.00	1.0%	3.4%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-625	531.44	500-673	543.13	500-669	560.82	5.5%	3.3%
Striploin Fresh	890-1600	1,347.45	925-1600	1,325.39	910-1600	1,354.55	0.5%	2.2%
Tenderloin Fresh	1750-2195	1,939.27	1850-2200	1,966.01	1850-2300	2,013.63	3.8%	2.4%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	533-613	562.47	450-640	566.90	450-640	631.83	12.3%	11.5%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	545-675	593.48	550-695	589.67	571-660	611.18	3.0%	3.6%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-625	588.95	555-695	588.44	557-660	591.91	0.5%	0.6%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-July 2011 Pricing	Mid-August 2011 Pricing	Mid-September 2011 Pricing	Mid-October 2011 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$50.00 - \$60.00	\$50.00 - \$63.00	\$50.00 - \$60.00	\$50.00 - \$60.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$28.00 - \$31.00	\$27.00 - \$37.00	\$27.00 - \$35.00	\$27.00 - \$35.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$13.67 - \$18.70	\$15.00 - \$16.90	\$15.00 - \$16.90	\$15.00 - \$17.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$13.00 - \$14.50	\$13.00 - \$14.50	\$13.00 - \$14.50	\$13.00 - \$13.50
Fresh Bison Trim	\$12.00 - \$13.00	\$12.00 - \$13.50	\$12.00 - \$13.00	\$12.00 - \$13.00

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Kramer Auctions (SK) (May 11, 2011)				Sekura Auctions (AB) (April 2, 2011)				Kramer Auctions (SK) (March 16, 2011)		
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	low per cwt	high per cwt	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)
2009 Bulls	750<	6	217	2010 Bulls	300-399	130	267.5	2008 Exposed Females	765-890	162
	<750	2	195		400-499	172.5	261			
2009 Heifers	700<	6	96	2009 Bulls	500-599	140	232	2009 Bulls	565-745	214
	725-850	10	237		600-699	192	192			
	950<	6	164		700-799	157.5	157.5	2009 Heifers	550-649	200
	<725	4	227		800-899	165	165			
2010 Bulls	400-499	23	289	2010 Heifers	0-299	180	192.5	2010 Bulls	300-399	265
	500-599	60	286	300-399	117.5	198	2010 Heifers			
	600-675	41	283	400-499	211	217.5		650-735	221	
	<400	21	220	2009 Heifers	400-499	172.5	184			2010 Bulls
2010 Heifers	450-575	19	264	500-599	169	182.5	2010 Heifers	<349	233	
	<450	29	222	600-699	180	180				350-399
				700-799	192	192	400-449	240		
				2008 Heifers	600-699	175			175	450-570
				700-799	180	180				
				2007 Heifers	800-899	120	120			
				Mature Bulls	800-9999	1550	2400			

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 diane.kelly@agr.gc.ca

October live bison and meat prices are down from the summer highs and showed moderate declines compared to last month's levels. Consumer resistance in North America and Europe continues to be a concern for marketers, particularly when the 2010 finished animals come to the market near year-end. Although demand remains strong for most cuts, there have been reports of inventory build-up resulting in downward pressure on fresh bison trim and bison ground. With the summer grilling season coming to an end, the demand for bison trim will likely continue to show weakness.

With 2010 finished bison soon to be coming to market, the price of finished animals is expected to be softer than summer prices. The impact of the Christmas demand for bison products at present prices is uncertain. The tight supplies mentioned in previous reports will be alleviated as finished bison come to market. Boneless meat exports from Jan to August 2011 were 307,102 Kg compared to 512,458 Kg in 2010 – a decline of 40%. This decline can be attributed to availability plus the strength of the Canadian dollar.

Nationally, federal slaughter was down 35% in the first 39 weeks of 2011 when compared to 2010 (7,931 animals in 2011 compared to 12,354 animals for 2010). Live bison exports to the U.S. are down by 31% - 11,966 for the first six months of 2011 compared to 17,536 bison for the same period in 2010. The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers moved down from highs of \$4.10 - \$4.20 per pound to \$3.75 - \$3.90 per pound hot hanging weight. Mature bull prices in mid-September moved down from prices near \$3.00 per pound to \$2.80 per pound while mature cows moved to prices averaging \$2.60 per pound.

There have been few reports for prices of 2010 bulls and 2010 heifers but those reports available suggest prices of \$2.30 to \$2.50 per pound.

Chart 1

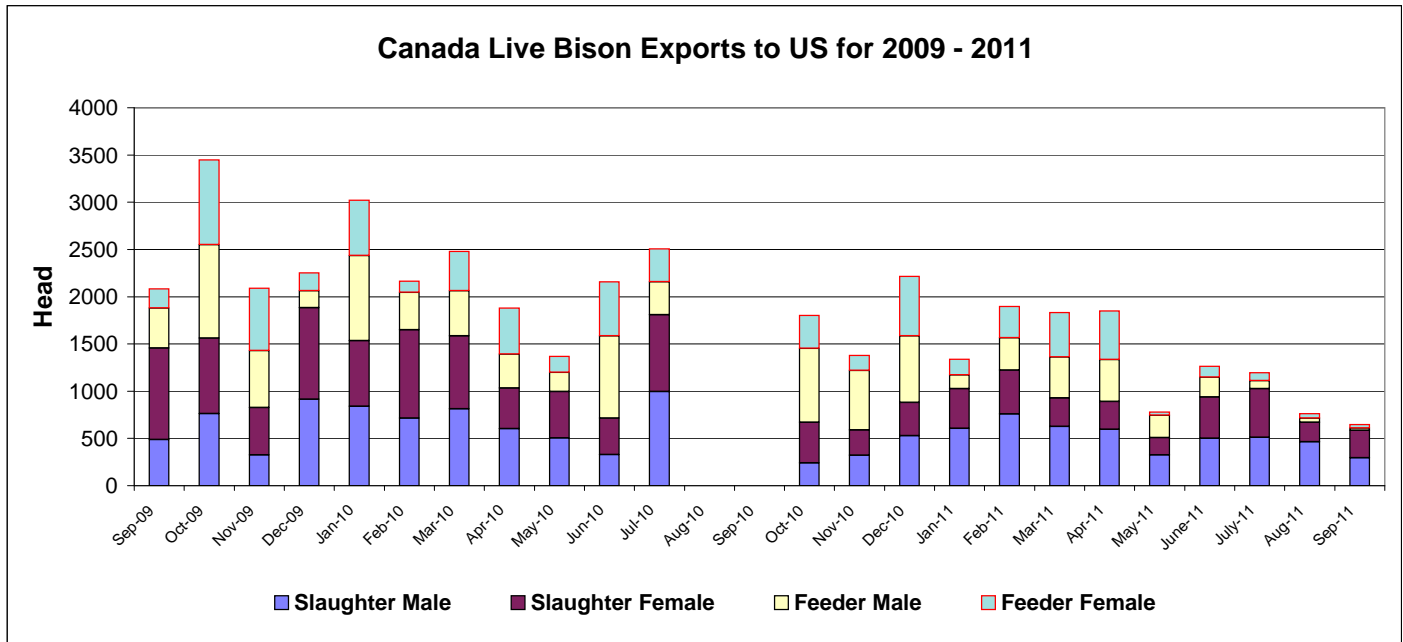


Chart 2

