



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - April 20, 2010

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	06-Mar	13-Mar	20-Mar	27-Mar	03-Apr	Mar Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Total Canada	575	458	520	202	233	1,988	5,081	6,000	-15%
<i>previous year</i>	612	340	472	379	449	2,252			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-10	Feb-10	Feb-09	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Alberta	220	169	133	205	108	213	313	399	-22%
Saskatchewan	25	34	15	33	38	57	71	97	-27%
Manitoba/BC	96	63	62	52	53	63	105	105	0%
Ontario/Quebec	42	52	30	47	39	36	86	94	-9%
Total	383	318	240	337	238	369	575	695	-17%

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

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

	2010	2009	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	5,656	6,695	-16%

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	06-Mar	13-Mar	20-Mar	27-Mar	03-Apr	Mar Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
	1147	1200	1062	1092	1299	5,800	14,567	13,718	6%
<i>previous year</i>	1054	1143	1138	1009	907	5,251			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Dec-09	Jan-10	Feb-10	Mar-10	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	916	839	714	812	2,365	1,467	61%
Slaughter Female	968	694	936	773	2,403	2,465	-3%
Feeder Male	180	901	397	476	1,774	1,136	56%
Feeder Female	189	587	116	417	1,120	1,096	2%
Total	2,253	3,021	2,163	2,478	7,662	6,164	24%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		October	November	December	January	February	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
USA	Kg	26,608	48,093	25,396	23,963	47,302	71,265	75,520	-6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	231,321	373,907	211,430	203,620	380,341	583,961	588,901	-1%
France	Kg	17,777	9,382	36,362	27,768	24,551	52,319	51,621	1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	238,221	115,935	383,923	211,581	285,401	496,982	612,389	-19%
Germany	Kg	4,446	2,305	3,655	576	742	1,318	1,423	-7%
	Value (\$Cdn)	42,771	44,571	93,278	11,819	12,561	24,380	21,829	12%
Switzerland	Kg	1,907	3,801	2,281	2,901	2,904	5,805	5,775	1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	58,625	130,189	89,531	108,020	119,932	227,952	220,420	3%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	16,841	18,330	35,171	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	62,589	52,786	115,375	-	N/A
China P.Rep.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Hong Kong	Kg	-	-	1,955	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	14,348	-	-	-	-	N/A
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	485	238	-	1,656	1,656	666	149%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	4,626	8,986	-	45,752	45,752	19,032	140%
Japan	Kg	401	-	1,042	20,411	-	20,411	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	1,603	-	8,445	194,338	-	194,338	-	N/A
Moldova	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Taiwan	Kg	-	-	-	24,944	-	24,944	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	234,000	-	234,000	-	N/A
Total	Kg	51,139	64,066	70,929	117,404	95,485	212,889	135,005	58%
	Value (\$Cdn)	572,541	669,228	809,941	1,025,967	896,773	1,922,740	1,462,571	31%

Bone-in

	October	November	December	January	February	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Total	789	-	-	-	-	-	7,981	N/A
Value (\$Cdn)	10,147	-	-	-	-	-	31,336	N/A

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	October	November	December	January	February	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Kg	51,928	64,066	70,929	117,404	95,485	212,889	142,986	49%
Value (\$Cdn)	582,688	669,228	809,941	1,025,967	896,773	1,922,740	1,493,907	29%

*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)
Apr 2009	238.71	220.44	150	151.9
May 2009	239.33	221.12	159.5	154.78
June 2009	238.55	207.04	141.67	152.02
July 2009	239.39	219.85	154.38	149
Aug 2009	234.98	220.24	118	135.18
Sep 2009	235.11	218.8	159.88	147.3
Oct 2009	237.4	222.18	162.14	148.5
Nov 2009	239.53	221.9	160.61	159.98
Dec 2009	242.27	223.67	163.29	164.8
Jan 2010	241	222.99	161.3	158.77
Feb 2010	246.99	228.58	180.73	171.43
Mar 2010	246.53	238.7	185	165.1

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Apr 2009	240-250	240-240	130-150	130-150
May 2009	240-270	240-265	120-170	120-170
June 2009	240-265	240-250	130-170	130-165
July 2009	255-280	235-265	125-165	130-165
Aug 2009	235-275	225-260	130-150	130-140
Sep 2009	235-275	225-250	130-140	130-150
Oct 2009	235-275	225-250	130-140	130-150
Nov 2009	245-260	225-245	140-165	140-165
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

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	January		February		March		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	700-1225	956.85	725-1225	977.67	750-1225	978.64	2%	0%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	336-425	341.63	332-425	337.96	330-425	341.78	0%	1%
Striploin Fresh	720-1050	888.94	720-1050	900.75	720-1050	898.18	1%	0%
Tenderloin Fresh	800-1650	1366.45	1000-1650	1366.13	1050-1650	1239.63	-9%	-9%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	340-395	345	330-390	333	300-395	340	-1%	2%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	300-470	397	300-470	393.3	300-470	391.87	-1%	0%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	325-440	363.53	325-440	368.71	345-435	418.15	15%	13%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-January Pricing	Mid-February Pricing	Mid-March Pricing	Mid-April Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$29.95 - \$43.00	\$36.00 - \$49.50	\$29.95 - \$49.50	\$35.90 - \$47.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$19.95 - \$27.00	\$22.00 - \$24.50	\$19.95 - \$26.00	\$18.95 - \$26.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$8.45 - \$12.00	\$10.00 - \$15.00	\$9.00 - \$11.00	\$9.65 - \$12.70
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$7.50 - \$7.58	\$7.50 - \$10.15	\$8.45 - \$10.15	\$7.95 - \$9.95
Fresh Bison Trim	\$7.25 - \$7.58	\$7.00 - \$7.78	\$7.30 - \$7.70	\$7.50 - \$8.25

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Sekura Auctions (AB) (April 10, 2010)			Willowview Auctions (AB) (March 20, 2010)			Sekura Auctions (AB) (March 6, 2010)		
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)
2007 Males	800-899	125.00	2009 Bull Calves	300-350	136-140	2009 Males	0-299	141.64
2008 Males	500-599	125.00		400-450	152-156		300-399	133.58
	600-699	120.00		450-550	154-158		400-500	153.28
	700-799	119.25					400-499	144.00
2009 Males	0-300	117.50	2009 Heifer Calves	300-350	130-135		500-599	149.24
	300-400	134.58		400-450	138-141	2008 Males	500-599	114.46
	400-500	150.90					600-699	122.50
2008 Females	400-499	85.00	2008 Yearling Bulls	500-600	110-120		700-799	145.19
	500-599	105.50		600-650	128-135		800-899	75.00
	600-699	120.37		700-800	145-148		900-999	125.00
	700-799	124		800-900	146-148	2007 Males	1000-9999	88.10
2009 Females	0-300	118.66	2008 Yearling Hei	500-600	120-125	2009 Females	0-300	102.00
	300-400	129.11		600-700	129-135		300-400	123.55
	400-500	137.20		700-800	135-138		400-500	139.26
Mature Bulls	1000-9999	104.00				2008 Females	500-600	126.63
Cows	0-999	93.54					600-700	129.24
			Mature Bulls		83-90	Cows		86.56
			Bison Cows		85-91	Bred Heifers		1071.43 / hd
						Breeding Bulls		1559.22 / hd

Commentary

By Terry Kremeriuk, 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

Consumer demand for bison ground products continues to grow in both Canada and the United States as everyone prepares for the summer BBQ season. The inventory of frozen middle cuts is beginning to move. Prices of these cuts have been reduced compared to last months prices. Marketers are expecting further reduction in these inventories as the BBQ season gets into full swing. The US market demand for Canadian bison continues to be strong even though the Canadian dollar has strengthened in recent weeks. Prices for all classes of live animals were stronger than reported in February. Price ranges for mature bulls and cows narrowed. Heifers with excess finish continue to be discounted.

The appreciation of the Canadian dollar continues to add additional risk for marketers shipping into the U.S. while the devaluation of the EURO adds additional risk for those shipping into the European market. The Middle Eastern market remains steady. These factors have translated into steady prices for finished bison as well as strong trim prices. The shortage of animals continues to motivate marketers to lock in their supply of animals. Further pressures have been placed on the tight supplies as most producers have culled their herds and are holding animals back to build their herds in response to the strong demand.

Nationally, federal slaughter for the year is down 15.3% (5,081 in 2010 compared to 6,000 for the same period in 2009). Exports of live animals to the end of February jumped by 24.6% in 2010 when compared to the same period in 2009 (5,342 in 2010 compared to 4,286 in 2009). Even though the Canadian dollar has appreciated, the strong demand for bison in the U.S. market combined with marketers locking in their supplies has contributed to the strong exports early in the year.

Total boneless bison meat exports for the first two months in 2010 are comparable for the U.S. and European markets with an increase in exports to the United Arab Emirates.

Chart 1

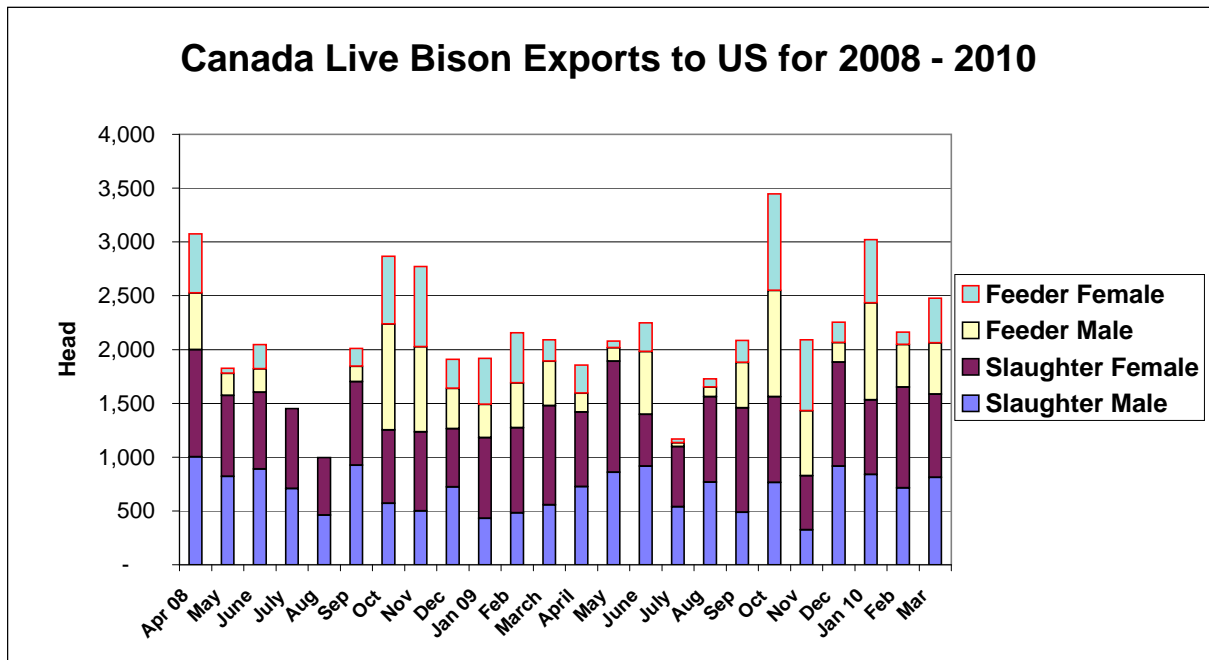


Chart 2

