



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - February 22, 2010

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	09-Jan	16-Jan	23-Jan	30-Jan	Jan Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Total Canada	264	301	463	502	1,530	1,530	2,109	-27%
<i>previous year</i>	650	448	536	475	2,109			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Dec-08	2009 YTD	2008 YTD	% Change
Alberta	150	169	220	169	133	142	2278	2794	-18%
Saskatchewan	15	26	25	34	15	26	342	N/A	
Manitoba/BC	74	73	96	63	62	55	877	883	-1%
Ontario/Quebec	59	62	49	51	21	35	594	656	-9%
Total	298	330	390	317	231	258	4091	4333	-6%

** 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

	2009	2008	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	5,621	6,442	-13%

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	09-Jan	16-Jan	23-Jan	30-Jan	Jan Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
	1267	1222	1142	1038	4,669	4,669	4,264	9%
<i>previous year</i>	1132	1128	1099	905	4,264			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	Jan-10	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	763	324	916	839	839	431	95%
Slaughter Female	798	502	968	694	694	749	-7%
Feeder Male	988	603	180	901	901	310	191%
Feeder Female	899	661	189	587	587	428	37%
Total	3,448	2,090	2,253	3,021	3,021	1,918	58%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless	August	September	October	November	December	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
USA	Kg 26,877	27,609	26,608	48,093	25,396	396,541	323,021	23%
	Value (\$Cdn) 216,995	232,014	231,321	373,907	211,430	3,279,666	2,246,015	46%
France	Kg 35,613	36,111	17,777	9,382	36,362	347,193	535,765	-35%
	Value (\$Cdn) 468,654	490,282	238,221	115,935	383,923	4,643,222	5,768,491	-20%
Germany	Kg 4,298	2,179	4,446	2,305	3,655	30,915	55,799	-45%
	Value (\$Cdn) 57,497	25,750	42,771	44,571	93,278	462,673	770,496	-40%
Switzerland	Kg 4,242	3,116	1,907	3,801	2,281	43,790	100,295	-56%
	Value (\$Cdn) 157,339	112,673	58,625	130,189	89,531	1,599,007	1,599,613	0%
Mexico	Kg -	-	-	-	-	423	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	16,165	-	N/A
China P.Rep.	Kg 186	-	-	-	-	186	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) 1,030	-	-	-	-	1,030	-	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Kg -	-	-	-	-	10,073	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	209,682	-	N/A
Hong Kong	Kg -	-	-	-	1,955	1,955	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	14,348	14,348	-	N/A
United Arab Emirates	Kg 13	185	-	485	238	1,587	47	3277%
	Value (\$Cdn) 361	5,285	-	4,626	8,986	38,290	756	4965%
Japan	Kg -	-	401	-	1,443	1,443	10,305	-86%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	1,603	-	8,445	10,048	74,727	-87%
Moldova	Kg -	1,008	-	-	-	1,008	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	15,760	-	-	-	15,760	-	N/A
Italy	Kg -	-	-	-	-	1,008	431	134%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	15,760	6,899	128%
French S. Terr.	Kg -	-	-	-	-	195	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	2,971	-	N/A
Total	Kg 71,229	70,208	51,139	64,066	70,929	835,309	1,025,663	-19%
	Value (\$Cdn) 901,876	881,764	572,541	669,228	809,941	10,292,862	10,466,997	-2%

Bone-in

	August	September	October	November	December	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
Total	Kg 54	16,465	789	-	-	26,471	67,554	-61%
	Value (\$Cdn) 563	171,118	10,147	-	-	225,771	272,296	-17%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	August	September	October	November	December	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
Total	Kg 71,283	86,673	51,928	64,066	70,929	861,780	1,093,217	-21%
	Value (\$Cdn) 902,439	1,052,882	582,688	669,228	809,941	10,518,633	10,739,293	-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)
Feb 2009	238.08	221.62	149.43	142.82
Mar 2009	237.3	220.08	146.71	145.8
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

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Feb 2009	240-275	230-260	110-125	110-125
Mar 2009	240-270	230-260	115-145	110-145
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

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	November		December		January		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	951	700-1225	939.05	700-1225	956.85	1%	2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	335-390	340.32	240-440	341.2	336-425	341.63	0%	0%
Striploin Fresh	700-915	897.64	700-1050	871.61	720-1050	888.94	-1%	2%
Tenderloin Fresh	900-1650	1267.1	950-1650	1325.21	800-1650	1366.45	8%	3%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	333-390	371.65	341-354	351.48	344-390	381.49	3%	9%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	332-445	384.06	300-445	370.94	300-470	397	3%	7%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	325-440	362.59	325-440	362.67	325-440	363.53	0%	0%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-November Pricing	Mid-December Pricing	Mid-January Pricing	Mid-February Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$39.95 - \$40.00	\$38.00 - \$48.00	\$29.95 - \$43.00	\$36.00 - \$49.50
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$23.40 - \$26.01	\$21.95 - \$27.50	\$19.95 - \$27.00	\$22.00 - \$24.50
Inside Round - Fresh	\$8.49 - \$12.75	\$8.45 - \$12.00	\$8.45 - \$12.00	\$10.00 - \$15.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$7.25 - \$9.45	\$7.45 - \$9.35	\$7.50 - \$7.58	\$7.50 - \$10.15
Fresh Bison Trim	\$7.25 - \$7.49	\$6.45 - \$7.30	\$7.25 - \$7.58	\$7.00 - \$7.78

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Willowview Auctions (AB) (February 13, 2010)			Sekura Auctions (AB) (February 8, 2010)			Kramer Auctions (SK) (January 27, 2010)				
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# Head	Average (\$/cwt)	
2009 Bull Calves	300-350	126-137	2009 Males	0-300	125	2007 Bulls	1001-1100	2	121	
	350-400	139-144		300-400	146.33		850-900	5	126	
	400-500	148-154		400-500	146	2008 Bulls	575-625	8	134	
2009 Heifer Calves	300-350	112-120	2008 Males	500-600	120.6		626-700	13	143	
	350-400	124-128		600-700	131		700<	2	125	
	400-500	129-135		700-800	132	2008 Heifers	500-600	17	113	
2008 Yearling Bulls	500-600	120-125	2006 Males	1000-999	102		601-750	24	115	
	650-750	136-139		2009 Females	0-300	85	2009 Bulls	<350	19	122
	750-850	139-145			300-400	116.78		351-400	18	141
2008 Yearling Heifers	500-600	110-115	400-500		120	401-500		75	167	
	600-650	115-119	2008 Females	500-600	107	500<	10	165		
	650-700	120-122		600-700	100	2009 Heifers	<350	35	114	
Mature Bulls	80-85	Feeder Cows	77.4	350-400	40		121			
Bison Cows	72-82		Mature Bulls	88	400-500		24	148		

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

Prices for grain-fed grade "A" bulls and heifers has remained steady. Heifers with excess finish continue to be discounted. The volatility of the Canadian dollar continues to add additional risk to those producers shipping into the U.S. market. Although some of the frozen inventory is moving, the large inventory of frozen prime and middle cuts continues to be problematic as storage costs continue to mount. Marketers report that fresh cuts are moving well. The market for trim continues to be very strong in the U.S. There are also signs that there is some strength building in the EU market.

The steady prices for finished bison as well as the strong trim prices of trim have translated into a stronger calf market with Canadian calves moving into the U.S. Prices are also being driven by a tight supplies as some producers have culled their herds and others rebuild theirs.

Nationally, federal slaughter for the year was down 6.0% (19,725 in 2009 compared to 20,949 for the same period in 2008). Exports of live animals to December 31, 2009 were down by 13.0% (25,580 in 2009 compared to 29,670 in 2008). The decline in live exports is attributed to the short supply of animals combined with the strong Canadian dollar.

Total boneless bison meat exports for 2009 were 835,309 Kg. compared to 1,027,687 Kg. for 2008 – a decrease of almost 19%. Exports of meat have increased to the U.S. have increased by 23% in volume and 46% in value. Exports to Europe have declined as significant amounts of Canadian bison continue to be shipped to the EU from the U.S. New markets developed over 2009 include Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Chart 1

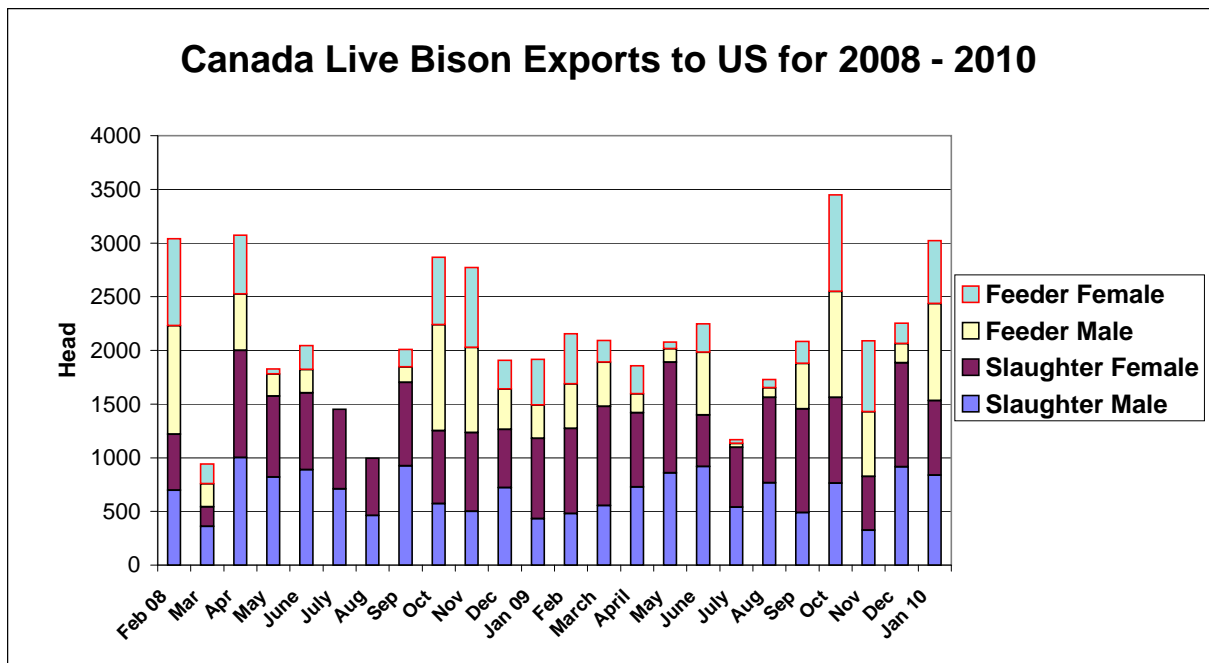


Chart 2

