Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

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

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	05-Jun	12-Jun	19-Jun	26-Jun	03-Jul	June Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Total Canada	**278**	**457**	**322**	**415**	**194**	**1,666**	**9,217**	**10,556**	**-13%**
previous year	325	315	444	378	242	**1,704**			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Jan-10	Feb	Mar	Apr	May-10	May-09	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Alberta	205	108	151	221	147	172	832	1056	-21%
Saskatchewan	33	38	34	43	18	32	166	183	-9%
Manitoba/BC	52	53	64	62	84	89	315	347	-9%
Ontario/Quebec	47	39	44	60	48	56	238	238	0%
Total	**337**	**238**	**293**	**386**	**297**	**349**	**1551**	**1824**	**-15%**

*** 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	**10,768**	**12,380**	**-13%**

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	05-Jun	12-Jun	19-Jun	26-Jun	03-Jul	June Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
	1049	**1094**	**1219**	**900**	**1015**	**5,277**	**28,377**	**26,821**	**6%**
previous year	1101	1067	1036	932	757	**4,893**			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Mar-10	Apr-10	May-10	June-10	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	812	603	505	329	3,802	3,969	**-4%**
Slaughter Female	773	430	491	385	3,709	4,669	**-21%**
Feeder Male	476	359	203	870	3,206	2,020	**59%**
Feeder Female	417	489	170	575	2,354	1,688	**39%**
Total	**2,478**	**1,881**	**1,369**	**2,159**	**13,071**	**12,346**	**6%**

**source USDA*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless

		January	February	March	April	May		YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
USA	Kg	23,963	47,302	50,036	25,523	40,240		187,064	182,253	**3%**
	Value ($Cdn)	203,620	380,341	414,742	238,875	363,064		1,600,642	1,520,913	**5%**
France	Kg	27,768	24,551	28,894	17,796	3,307		102,316	163,324	**-37%**
	Value ($Cdn)	211,581	285,401	358,500	313,358	44,734		1,213,574	2,156,065	**-44%**
Germany	Kg	576	742	709	589	689		3,305	7,515	**-56%**
	Value ($Cdn)	11,819	12,561	10,771	13,457	11,900		60,508	95,754	**-37%**
Switzerland	Kg	2,901	2,904	4,288	7,111	6,501		23,705	20,689	**15%**
	Value ($Cdn)	108,020	119,932	148,430	246,810	224,201		847,393	775,679	**9%**
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	423	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	16,165	**N/A**
China P.Rep.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Egypt	Kg	-	-	-	-	11,682		11,682	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	173,422		173,422	-	**N/A**
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	1,656	-	173	359		2,188	666	**229%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	45,752	-	3,759	17,038		66,549	19,032	**250%**
Macau	Kg	-	-	-	-	1,000		1,000	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	8,787		8,787	-	**N/A**
Moldova	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Taiwan	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Total	**Kg**	**55,208**	**77,155**	**83,927**	**51,192**	**63,778**		**331,260**	**374,870**	**-12%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**535,040**	**843,987**	**932,443**	**816,259**	**843,146**		**3,970,875**	**4,583,608**	**-13%**

Bone-in

		January	February	March	April	May		YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**-**	**-**	**17,966**	**730**	**388**		**19,084**	**8,848**	**-12%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**-**	**-**	**49,162**	**6,675**	**4,243**		**60,080**	**39,589**	**52%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

		January	February	March	April	May		YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
	Kg	**55,208**	**77,155**	**101,893**	**51,922**	**64,166**		**350,344**	**383,718**	**-9%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**535,040**	**843,987**	**981,605**	**822,934**	**847,389**		**4,030,955**	**4,623,197**	**-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)
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
Apr 2010	249.04	236.58	195	174.29
May 2010	255.59	241.74		182.07
June 2010	260.77	249.48	186.36	176.32

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
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

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	April		May		June		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	750-1225	976.46	725-1225	978.05	840-1225	995.61	2%	2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	330-425	342.65	345-519	364.8	340-465	369.23	8%	1%
Striploin Fresh	650-1050	909.95	675-1050	903.65	610-1050	916.51	1%	1%
Tenderloin Fresh	1050-1650	1168.05	1000-1650	1195.59	1000-1650	1169.71	0%	-2%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	300-395	331	300-395	362	300-395	362	9%	0%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	340-470	391.44	340-470	416.11	405-500	443.8	13%	7%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	345-440	374.98	345-440	397	390-440	425.71	14%	7%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-April Pricing	Mid-May Pricing	Mid-June Pricing	Mid-July Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$35.90 - $47.00	$35.90 - $45.00	$34.95 - $46.00	$34.95 - $48.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$18.95 - $26.00	$18.95 - $28.00	$22.24 - $28.50	$22.24 - $28.50
Inside Round - Fresh	$9.65 - $12.70	$9.65 - $12.80	$10.95 - $13.60	$10.95 - $15.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$7.95 - $9.95	$7.95 - $9.95	$9.45 - $11.45	$9.45 - $12.50
Fresh Bison Trim	$7.50 - $8.25	$8.00 - $8.25	$9.15 - $9.25	$9.15 - $10.00

**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				2009 Females	0-300	102.00
	300-400	129.11	2008 Yearling Heifers	500-600	120-125		300-400	123.55
	400-500	137.20		600-700	129-135		400-500	139.26
Mature Bulls	1000-9999	104.00		700-800	135-138	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 Kremeniuk, 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

All marketers report strong demand for most cuts with some buyer resistance on middle cuts at current prices. Demand for fresh bison trim continues to be very strong and is expected to continue so during the summer season. Most marketers have been able to deal with their high inventory of frozen product. Live bison prices continue to be strong with finished animals and animals for the trim market in short supply. US market demand for bison continues to be strong. Some U.S. retailers continue to show resistance to the high trim prices. Even though the Canadian dollar has hovered near par, returns to producers continue to be higher in the U.S. market.

The weak EURO, increased prices, and the summer break in Europe have resulted in sluggish European demand; however there are reports that demand for tenderloin, strip loin, rib eyes and top sirloin has increased. 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. These tight supplies will require higher prices to ration available supply.

Nationally, federal slaughter is down 12.7% for the first 26 weeks of this year (9,217 in 2010 compared to 10,556 for the same period in 2009). Exports of live animals to the end of May rose by 15% in 2010 when compared to the same period in 2009 (11,847 in 2010 compared to 10,269 in 2009). To May 2010, 62% of the live animal exports were for slaughter compared to 72% to May 2009 and 61% to May 2008. The average price for Grade A bulls at $2.55 - $2.85 in July 2009 is just slightly higher than the $2.55 - $2.80 range reported in 2009 and $2.05 - $2.30 in July 2008. Today's prices for fresh bison trim at nearly $10.00 compares to a high of $7.85 in July 2009 and $6.28 in July 2008.

Total boneless bison meat exports to May 31, 2010 are off 11.6% with a slight decline in all markets except for the United Arab Emirates which showed a 229% increase to May 31, 2010. Shipments to Egypt were also reported.

Chart 1

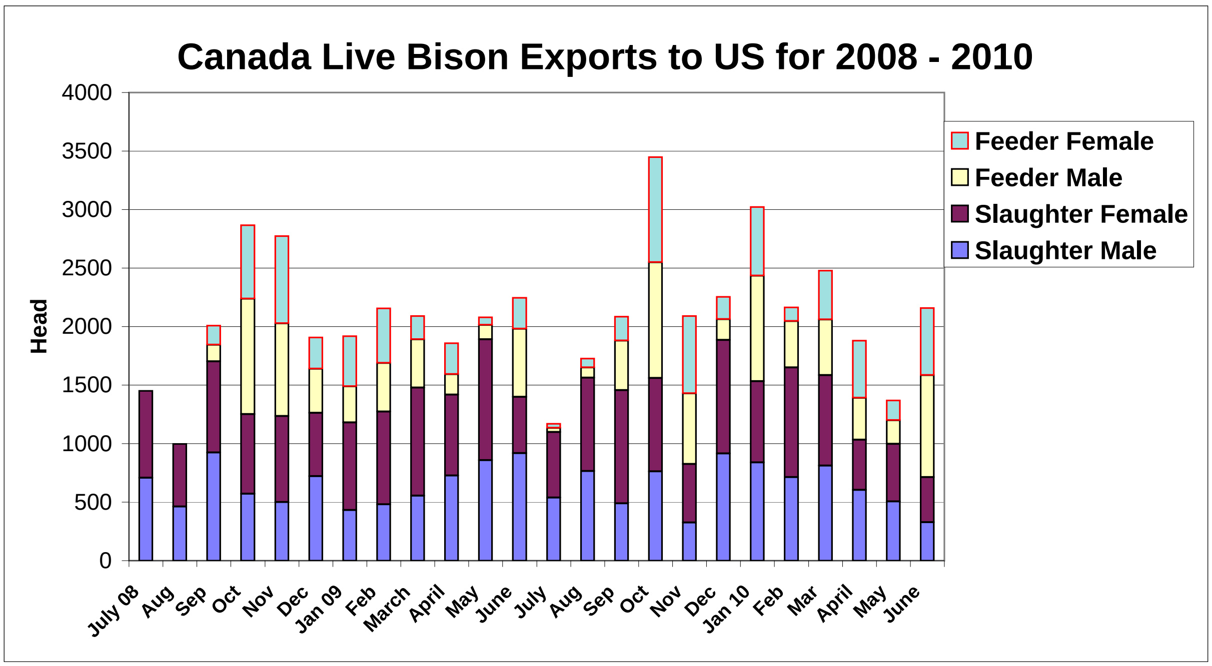

Chart 2