



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - March 18, 2010

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	06-Feb	13-Feb	20-Feb	27-Feb	Feb Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Total Canada	451	394	450	293	1,588	3,118	3,748	-17%
<i>previous year</i>	511	242	463	423	1,639			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Sept-09	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-10	Jan-09	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Alberta	169	220	169	133	205	186	205	186	10%
Saskatchewan	26	25	34	15	33	40	33	40	-18%
Manitoba/BC	73	96	63	62	57	42	57	42	36%
Ontario/Quebec	68	42	52	30	44	58	44	58	-24%
Total	336	383	318	240	339	326	339	326	4%

** 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	3,457	4,074	-15%

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	06-Feb	13-Feb	20-Feb	27-Feb	Feb Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
	1011	975	1174	938	4,098	8,767	8,467	4%
<i>previous year</i>	1039	1031	971	1162	4,203			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Nov-09	Dec-09	Jan-10	Feb-10	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	324	916	839	714	1,553	912	70%
Slaughter Female	502	968	694	936	1,630	1,541	6%
Feeder Male	603	180	901	397	1,298	725	79%
Feeder Female	661	189	587	116	703	895	-21%
Total	2,090	2,253	3,021	2,163	5,184	4,073	27%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		September	October	November	December	January	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
USA	Kg	27,609	26,608	48,093	25,396	27,987	27,987	50,633	-45%
	Value (\$Cdn)	232,014	231,321	373,907	211,430	230,130	230,130	392,229	-41%
France	Kg	36,111	17,777	9,382	36,362	27,768	27,768	37,657	-26%
	Value (\$Cdn)	490,282	238,221	115,935	383,923	211,581	211,581	389,926	-46%
Germany	Kg	2,179	4,446	2,305	3,655	576	576	592	-3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	25,750	42,771	44,571	93,278	11,819	11,819	7,936	49%
Switzerland	Kg	3,116	1,907	3,801	2,281	2,901	2,901	2,749	6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	112,673	58,625	130,189	89,531	108,020	108,020	108,815	-1%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	16,841	16,841	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	62,589	62,589	-	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	185	-	485	238	-	-	647	-100%
	Value (\$Cdn)	5,285	-	4,626	8,986	-	-	18,432	-100%
Japan	Kg	-	401	-	1,042	18,312	18,312	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	1,603	-	8,445	189,570	189,570	-	N/A
Moldova	Kg	1,008	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	15,760	-	-	-	-	-	-	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	70,208	51,139	64,066	70,929	119,329	119,329	92,278	29%
	Value (\$Cdn)	881,764	572,541	669,228	809,941	1,047,709	1,047,709	917,338	14%

Bone-in

		September	October	November	December	January	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Total	Kg	16,465	789	-	-	-	-	7,776	-100%
	Value (\$Cdn)	171,118	10,147	-	-	-	-	29,181	-100%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

		September	October	November	December	January	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in	Kg	86,673	51,928	64,066	70,929	119,329	119,329	100,054	19%
	Value (\$Cdn)	1,052,882	582,688	669,228	809,941	1,047,709	1,047,709	946,519	11%

*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)
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
Feb 2010	246.99	228.58	180.73	171.43

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
Mar 2010	225-260	225-245	150-160	145-155

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	December		January		February		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	939.05	700-1225	956.85	725-1225	977.67	4%	2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	240-440	341.2	336-425	341.63	332-425	337.96	-1%	-1%
Striploin Fresh	700-1050	871.61	720-1050	888.94	720-1050	900.75	3%	1%
Tenderloin Fresh	950-1650	1325.21	800-1650	1366.45	1000-1650	1366.13	3%	0%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	341-354	351.48	344-390	381.49	345-345	345	-2%	-10%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	300-445	370.94	300-470	397	300-470	393.3	6%	-1%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	325-440	362.67	325-440	363.53	325-440	368.71	2%	1%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-December Pricing	Mid-January Pricing	Mid-February Pricing	Mid-March Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$38.00 - \$48.00	\$29.95 - \$43.00	\$36.00 - \$49.50	\$29.95 - \$49.50
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$21.95 - \$27.50	\$19.95 - \$27.00	\$22.00 - \$24.50	\$19.95 - \$26.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$8.45 - \$12.00	\$8.45 - \$12.00	\$10.00 - \$15.00	\$9.00 - \$11.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$7.45 - \$9.35	\$7.50 - \$7.58	\$7.50 - \$10.15	\$8.45 - \$10.15
Fresh Bison Trim	\$6.45 - \$7.30	\$7.25 - \$7.58	\$7.00 - \$7.78	\$7.30 - \$7.70

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Sekura Auctions (AB) (March 6, 2010)			Willowview Auctions (AB) (February 13, 2010)			Sekura Auctions (AB) (February 8, 2010)			
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	
2009 Males	0-299	141.64	2009 Bull Calves	300-350	126-137	2009 Males	0-300	125	
	300-399	133.58		350-400	139-144		300-400	146.33	
	400-500	153.28		400-500	148-154		400-500	146	
	400-499	144.00	2009 Heifer Calves	300-350	112-120	2008 Males	500-600	120.6	
	500-599	149.24		350-400	124-128		600-700	131	
600-699	122.50	400-500		129-135	700-800		132		
2008 Males	700-799	145.19	2008 Yearling Bulls	500-600	120-125	2006 Males	1000-999	102	
	800-899	75.00		650-750	136-139		2009 Females	0-300	85
	900-999	125.00		750-850	139-145			300-400	116.78
2007 Males	1000-9999	88.10	2008 Yearling Heifers	500-600	110-115	2008 Females	500-600	107	
	2009 Females	0-300		102.00	600-650		115-119	600-700	100
300-400		123.55		650-700	120-122	Feeder Cows		77.4	
400-500	139.26	Mature Bulls		80-85	Mature Bulls			88	
2008 Females	500-600	126.63	Bison Cows			72-82			
	600-700	129.24							
Cows		86.56							
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

Prices for grain-fed grade "A" bulls and heifers remain strong with premiums being paid for quality. Although the strength of the Canadian dollar continues to be a concern, a greater concern has arisen because of the weakness of the Euro. Although some of the frozen inventory is moving, the large inventory of frozen prime and middle cuts continues to be a problem, with a need for marketers to develop strategies to market frozen cuts. Marketers report that fresh cuts are moving well. The market for trim continues to be very strong in Canada and the U.S. as restaurants and the food service trade prepare for the summer season.

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

Nationally federal slaughter for the first nine weeks was down 14% (3,758 in 2010 compared to 4,360 for the same period in 2009). Exports of live animals to December 31, 2009 were down by 13% (25,850 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.

Chart 1

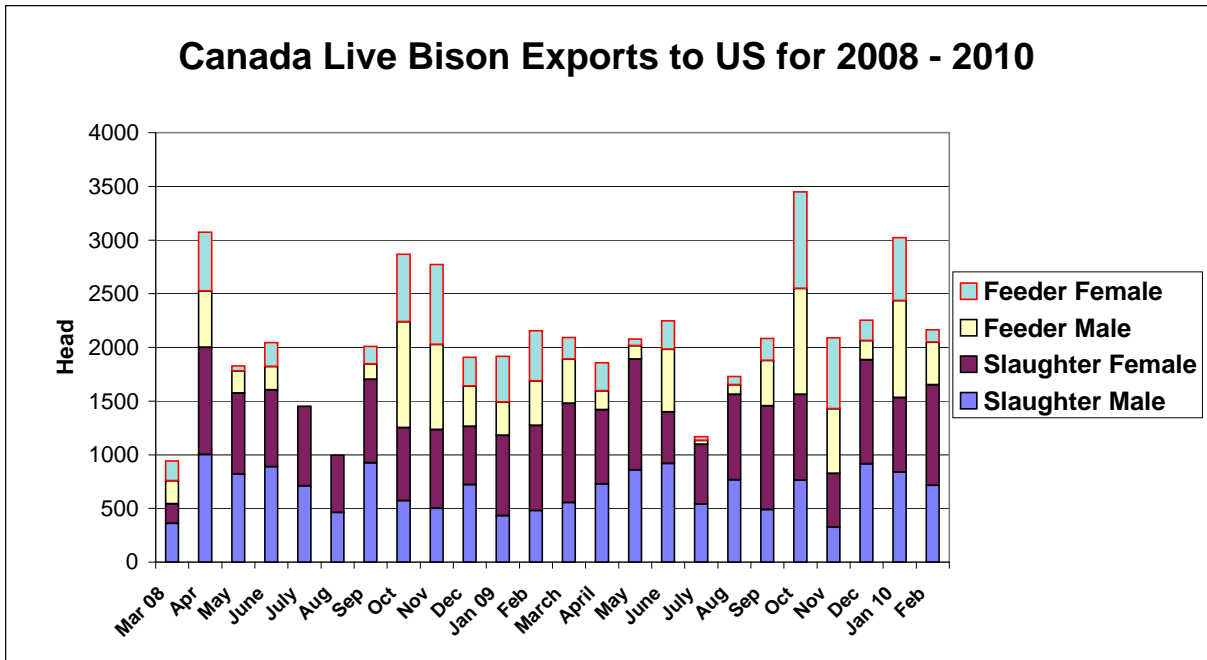


Chart 2

