



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - November 17, 2008

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	04-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct	Oct Total	2008 YTD	08 vs 07 % Change
Total Canada	283	304	471	328	1,386	16,721	9%
<i>previous year</i>	308	408	413	508	1,637	15,383	

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Sep-07	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
Alberta	195	223	236	205	197	338	2,257	3,504	-36%
Manitoba/BC	68	87	81	67	61	6	667	360	85%
Ontario/Quebec	58	101	64	37	52	62	564	588	-4%
Total	321	411	381	309	310	406	3,488	4,452	-22%

*source AAFC Red Meat Section

*Due to varying provincial reporting schedules, total Fed. and Prov. has a one month delay in Prov. data (Jan-Apr Federal, plus Jan-Mar Provincial for both years)

	2008	2007	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	20,209	19,835	2%

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	04-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct	Oct-08	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
	884	764	920	969	3,537	43,599	39,300	11%
<i>previous year</i>	752	793	850	694	3,089			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	July-08	Aug-08	Sep-08	Oct-08	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	708	461	924	572	7,126	7,199	-1%
Slaughter Female	743	536	778	679	7,147	4,806	49%
Feeder Male	-	-	143	986	4,023	1,715	135%
Feeder Female	-	-	164	629	2,867	839	242%
Total	1,451	997	2,009	2,866	21,163	14,559	45%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		May	June	July	August	September	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
USA	Kg	15,791	28,654	18,932	47,502	18,194	216,718	136,674	59%
	Value (\$Cdn)	132,646	210,675	155,265	253,776	136,815	1,465,333	930,663	57%
France	Kg	76,787	32,176	27,053	64,158	45,560	405,681	329,765	23%
	Value (\$Cdn)	602,737	351,931	348,866	586,963	539,152	4,153,215	2,873,844	45%
Germany	Kg	3,938	1,364	3,815	4,858	6,027	44,399	149,390	-70%
	Value (\$Cdn)	49,836	18,557	53,107	51,960	69,473	610,232	1,873,496	-67%
Switzerland	Kg	19,419	8,342	5,323	21,931	3,141	83,651	22,353	274%
	Value (\$Cdn)	248,034	115,544	79,316	271,740	97,703	1,220,781	420,461	190%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	1,309	28,681	29,990	87,724	-66%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	5,180	152,488	157,668	354,244	-55%
Japan	Kg	-	-	-	10,305	-	10,305	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	81,462	-	81,462	-	-
Neth. Antilles	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	122	923	-87%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	1,183	14,731	-92%
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	431	5,175	-92%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	6,899	94,391	-93%
Other	Kg	-	-	-	36	-	47	15,969	-100%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	290	-	756	178,661	-100%
Total	Kg	115,935	70,536	55,123	150,099	101,603	791,344	747,973	6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	1,033,253	696,707	636,554	1,251,371	995,631	7,697,529	6,740,491	14%

Bone-in

	May	June	July	August	September	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
Total	11,810	3,642	10,719	1,353	8,130	53,486	110,383	-52%
Value (\$Cdn)	35,632	21,946	37,867	13,474	42,120	205,329	447,031	-54%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	May	June	July	August	September	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change	
Kg	127,745	74,178	65,842	151,452	109,733	-	844,830	858,356	-2%
Value (\$Cdn)	1,068,885	718,653	674,421	1,264,845	1,037,751	-	7,902,858	7,187,522	10%

*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)
Nov 2007	204.26	190.62	130.11	131.48
Dec 2007	203.27	194.39	134.74	128.14
Jan 2008	206.42	194.98	135.17	131.62
Feb 2008	213.5	199.32	133.39	135
Mar 2008	220.94	207.49	144.83	132.11
Apr 2008	223.96	210.83	140.96	134.97
May 2008	225.63	211.13		141.49
June 2008	227.02	218.03	148.3	131.21
July 2008	228.63	221.07	148.48	138.81
Aug 2008	236.62	228.95	150	142.74
Sep 2008	239.14	230.36	137.5	145.89
Oct 2008	239.99	230.17	147.02	141.71

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Heifers (OTM)
Nov	177.5	167.5	160	160
Dec	185	180	175	175
	Youthful Bulls		Youthful Heifers	
Jan 2008	180-200		175-185	
	Bulls	Heifers	Cull Cows	Cull Bulls
Feb	190-205	180-200	70	65
March	195-220	185-210	70	70
April	215-225	205-215	85	90
May	205-225	200-210	80-100	80-100
June	205-225	195-220	90-100	90-100
July	205-230	210-225	100-110	100-110
August	220-230	210-230	90-100	90-100
September	225-240	210-230	90-100	90-100
October	230-260	225-255	100-120	100-125
November	230-275	225-265	120-130	125-130

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	August		September		October		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
	Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	825-1200	888.56	850-1200	973.15	800-1435	986.46	11%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	250-425	312.8	300-425	363.33	275-425	333.63	7%	-8%
Striploin Fresh	700-1050	920.04	700-1075	946.32	690-1150	925.12	1%	-2%
Tenderloin Fresh	1450-2250	1468.33	1450-2250	1683.34	1550-2150	1923.69	31%	14%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	300-350	324	300-390	324	300-390	330	2%	2%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	300-425	345.04	295-795	365.97	300-415	356.36	3%	-3%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	285-425	336.58	300-400	344.52	285-470	348.75	4%	1%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-August Pricing	Mid-September Pricing	Mid-October Pricing	Mid-November Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$41.95-49.00	\$41.95-49.95	\$41.95-49.50	\$41.95-49.50
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$21.95-28.00	\$21.95-27.95	\$21.95-28.50	\$21.95-28.50
Inside Round - Fresh	\$8.75-12.00	\$8.95-12.45	\$8.80-11.75	\$8.75-11.75
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$6.95-7.85	\$6.95-7.85	\$7.00-7.50	\$7.00-7.90
Fresh Bison Trim	\$5.85-5.95	\$5.95-6.25	\$5.90-6.50	\$6.35-6.40

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Sekura Auction (AB) (10/04/08, 93 head)			Sekura Auction (AB) (11/01/08, 158 head)			Kramer Auction (SK) (05/14/08)			
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of Head	Average (\$odn/lb)
2008 Males	0-300	120.00	2008 Males	0-300	n/a	2006 Bulls	850	9	1.17
	300-400	112.00		300-400	131.16	2006 Heifers	500-600	3	0.98
2007 Males	500-700	158.74	2007 Males	400-500	108.5	2006 Heifers	600-650	9	1.20
2006 Males	300-400	n/a		500-999	135.27	2006 Heifers	650-700	6	1.21
	400-500	n/a	2006 Males	900+	90	2006 Heifers	700+	5	1.25
	500-600	n/a		mature bulls	51	2007 Bulls	350-450	18	1.34
	600-700	n/a				2007 Bulls	450-550	9	1.32
	700-800	n/a	2008 Females	300-400	121	2007 Bulls	500+	22	1.38
2008 Females	0-300	150.00		400-500	121	2007 Heifers	400-450	20	1.22
	300-400	93.00	2007 Females	500-600	113	2007 Heifers	450+	24	1.17
	400-500	91.00		600-700	114.92	2007 Heifers	under 400	14	1.27
	500-600	107.00		700-800	111				
2007 Females	500-600	107.00	2006 Females	900 +	100				
2006 Females	400-500	n/a		Feeder Cows	63.1				
	500-600	n/a							
	700-800	n/a							
	800-900	n/a							
Feeder Cows		58.16							
Cow/Calf Pairs		725.00							

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 isteadc@agr.gc.ca

Average prices paid for prime slaughter bulls remained relatively stable in mid-November compared to mid-October despite the depreciation of the Canadian dollar. It has been reported that although demand is strong, the economy is having an impact on the food services sector in the U.S. Prices are expected to remain firm through the Christmas season and soften because of the U.S. recession.

Nationally federal slaughter for the first 45 weeks of 2008 was up 11% (17,604 in 2008 compared to 15,904 for the same period in 2007). Exports of live animals to the end of August were up 43% (19,027 in 2008 compared to 13,277 in 2007) as U.S. and Canadian buyers competed aggressively for bison. Although many animals continue to go to slaughter, processors are also ensuring that they have sufficient supply for 2009.

Chart 1

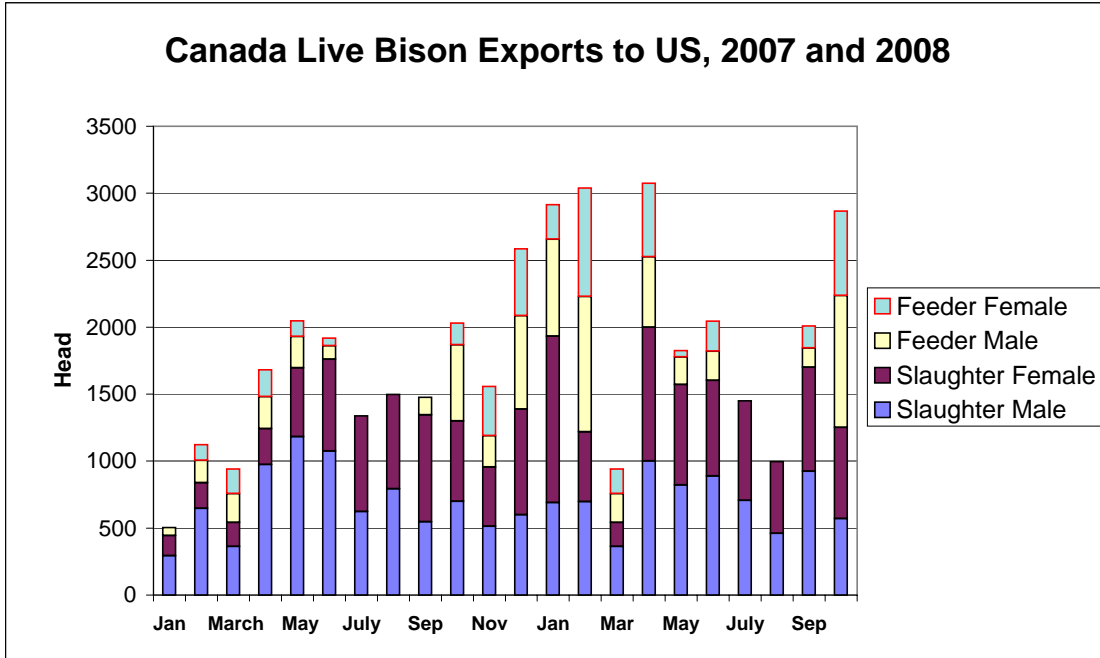


Chart 2

