Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - October 21, 2010

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	04-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	02-Oct	Sept Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Total Canada	**286**	**140**	**177**	**157**	**256**	**1,016**	**12,340**	**14,853**	**-17%**
previous year	277	91	404	337	380	**1,489**			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Apr-10	May	June	July	Aug-10	Aug-09	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Alberta	221	147	174	177	124	150	1307	1587	-18%
Saskatchewan	43	18	21	15	25	15	227	242	-6%
Manitoba/BC	62	84	118	89	35	45	559	554	1%
Ontario/Quebec	60	48	56	51	54	59	399	402	-1%
Total	**386**	**297**	**369**	**332**	**238**	**269**	**2492**	**2785**	**-11%**

*** 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	**14,832**	**17,638**	**-16%**

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	04-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	02-Oct	Sept Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
	937	**939**	**1012**	**982**	**893**	**4,763**	**40,738**	**39,485**	**3%**
previous year	811	1097	1093	895	910	**4,806**			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	June-10	July-10	Aug-10	Sept-10	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	329	995	N/A	N/A	4,797	4,508	**6%**
Slaughter Female	385	813	N/A	N/A	4,522	5,228	**-14%**
Feeder Male	870	349	N/A	N/A	3,555	2,056	**73%**
Feeder Female	575	349	N/A	N/A	2,703	1,723	**57%**
Total	**2,159**	**2,506**			**15,577**	**13,515**	**15%**

**source USDA*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless

		April	May	June	July	August	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
USA	Kg	25,523	40,240	42,845	52,922	45,473	328,304	268,835	**22%**
	Value ($Cdn)	238,875	363,064	426,411	536,044	500,843	3,063,940	2,230,994	**37%**
France	Kg	17,796	3,307	10,018	2,086	8,408	122,828	247,561	**-50%**
	Value ($Cdn)	313,358	44,734	134,981	50,386	131,121	1,530,062	3,414,861	**-55%**
Germany	Kg	589	689	-	-	-	3,305	18,330	**-82%**
	Value ($Cdn)	13,457	11,900	-	-	-	60,508	256,303	**-76%**
Switzerland	Kg	7,111	6,501	6,264	6,053	5,532	41,554	32,685	**27%**
	Value ($Cdn)	246,810	224,201	232,907	227,582	212,482	1,520,364	1,207,989	**26%**
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	423	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,165	**N/A**
China P.Rep.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	186	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,030	**N/A**
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,073	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	209,682	**N/A**
Egypt	Kg	-	11,682	-	-	-	11,682	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	173,422	-	-	-	173,422	-	**N/A**
United Arab Emirates	Kg	173	359	216	-	-	2,404	679	**254%**
	Value ($Cdn)	3,759	17,038	10,712	-	-	77,261	19,393	**298%**
Macau	Kg	-	1,000	-	-	-	1,000	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	8,787	-	-	-	8,787	-	**N/A**
Singapore	Kg	-	-	-	1,381	-	1,381	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	17,517	-	17,517	-	**N/A**
French S. Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	195	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,971	**N/A**
Japan	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	2,099	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	4,768	-	**N/A**
Total	**Kg**	**51,192**	**63,778**	**59,343**	**62,442**	**59,413**	**514,557**	**578,967**	**-11%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**816,259**	**843,146**	**805,011**	**831,529**	**844,446**	**6,456,629**	**7,359,388**	**-12%**

Bone-in

		April	May	June	July	August	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**730**	**388**	**-**	**18,874**	**-**	**37,958**	**9,217**	**312%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**6,675**	**4,243**	**-**	**160,622**	**-**	**220,702**	**44,506**	**396%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	April	May	June	July	August	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Kg	**51,922**	**64,166**	**59,343**	**81,316**	**59,413**	**552,515**	**588,184**	**-6%**
Value ($Cdn)	**822,934**	**847,389**	**805,011**	**992,151**	**844,446**	**6,677,331**	**7,403,894**	**-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)
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
July 2010	266.74	258.33	208.75	186.43
Aug 2010	272.93	263.38	225	224.74
Sept 2010	296.03	276.84	228.75	206.18

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
Aug 2010	285-290	275-290	180-220	180-220
Sep 2010	280-310	280-310	180-220	180-220
Oct 2010	330-345	310-345	220-240	220-240

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	July		August		September		Change Current Month vs. 2 months prior	1 month prior
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg		
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	750-1225	998.68	750-1225	1008.3	775-1295	1031.74	3%	2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	350-450	368.91	350-525	369.52	400-616	407.92	11%	10%
Striploin Fresh	650-1095	654.2	650-1095	978.07	675-1150	929	42%	-5%
Tenderloin Fresh	1050-1650	1239.1	1200-1650	1404.61	1112-1700	1412.67	14%	1%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	360-420	362	360-420	362	375-470	443	22%	22%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	390-510	461.65	390-540	480.98	400-595	518.22	12%	8%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	401-455	425.07	410-540	465.44	424-595	491.09	16%	6%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-July Pricing	Mid-August Pricing	Mid-September Pricing	Mid-October Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$34.95 - $48.00	$38.00 - $48.00	$44.00 - $48.98	$44.00 - $54.95
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$22.24 - $28.50	$23.00 - $28.00	$24.50 - $29.00	$24.00 - $34.95
Inside Round - Fresh	$10.95 - $15.00	$12.80 - $15.00	$11.50 - $15.00	$11.29 - $16.75
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$9.45 - $12.50	$11.35 - $12.50	$12.00 - $12.50	$10.95 - $12.75
Fresh Bison Trim	$9.15 - $10.00	$10.25 - $10.25	$10.25 - $10.50	$10.25 - $11.20

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Sekura Auctions (AB) (April 10, 2010)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average ($/cwt)
2007 Males	800-899	125.00
2008 Males	500-599	125.00
	600-699	120.00
	700-799	119.25
2009 Males	0-300	117.50
	300-400	134.58
	400-500	150.90
2008 Females	400-499	85.00
	500-599	105.50
	600-699	120.37
	700-799	124
2009 Females	0-300	118.66
	300-400	129.11
	400-500	137.20
Mature Bulls	1000-9999	104.00
Cows	0-999	93.54

Willowview Auctions (AB) (March 20, 2010)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average ($/cwt)
2009 Bull Calves	300-350	136-140
	400-450	152-156
	450-550	154-158
2009 Heifer Calves	300-350	130-135
	400-450	138-141
2008 Yearling Bulls	500-600	110-120
	600-650	128-135
	700-800	145-148
	800-900	146-148
2008 Yearling Heifers	500-600	120-125
	600-700	129-135
	700-800	135-138
Mature Bulls		83-90
Bison Cows		85-91

Sekura Auctions (AB) (October 2, 2010)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average ($/cwt)
2008 Bulls	600-699	194.35
	700-799	202
	800-899	165
	1000-9999	140
2008 Heifers	500-599	180
	600-699	170
2009 Heifers	300-400	171.56
Mature Bulls	1000-9999	132.41
Cows	0-999	115

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

Bison prices are at an all time high. Prices for live bison and meat cuts have again increased when compared to prices in the September report. These prices are driven by a short supply of bison and expectations that supply of finished bison will be tighter as we move into next year. Prices marketers are offering for finished bison are being reflected in meat prices to consumers. Significantly higher prices are resulting in some buying resistance at the consumer level. Marketers with European customers have begun preparing for Christmas orders. It is expected that at present prices, orders will be reduced while others will not place orders.

Nationally, federal slaughter is down 16.9% for the first 39 weeks of this year (12,340 in 2010 compared to 14,853 for the same period in 2009). Exports of live animals to the end of September declined by 14.0% in 2010 when compared to the same period in 2009 (15,858 in 2010 compared to 18,492 in 2009). The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers strengthened reaching $3.45 per pound in October 2010 compared to $2.75 per pound in October 2009. Mature bulls to mid-October 2010 ranged from $2.20 - $2.40 per pound, much higher than the $1.30 - $1.50 range reported in 2009. Today's price for fresh bison trim at $11.20 per kilo is over 70% higher than the $6.50 reported in October 2009.

Data suggest that federally slaughtered bison in Canada will be down as much as 20% this year with live bison being exported to the U.S.being down by a similar amount. With some producers retaining heifers to grow their herds and while others renew their cow herds; supply growth will be very slow. This has major implications for the processing industry which has geared up to handle a significantly larger number of animlas than are coming to the market. Consolidation is expected at the processing and marketer levels. Alternatively, processors and marketers may add non-bison products to their product lines.

Chart 1

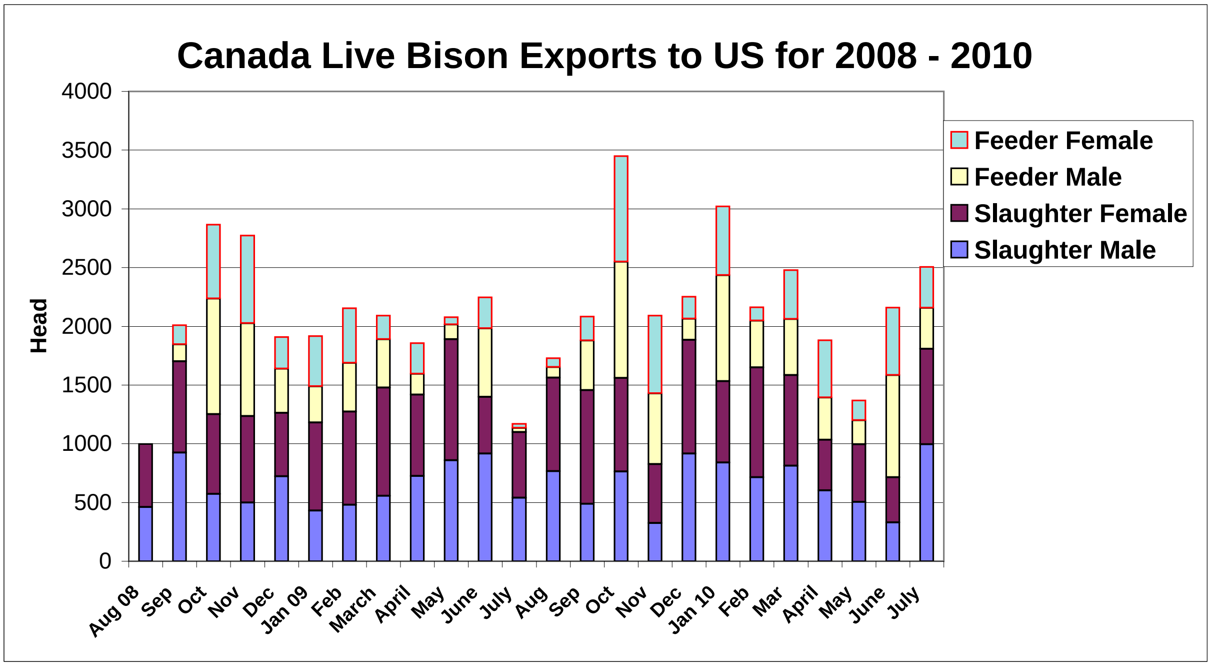

Chart 2