Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

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

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	07-Aug	14-Aug	21-Aug	28-Aug	Aug Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Total Canada	**361**	**137**	**350**	**233**	**1,081**	**11,323**	**13,364**	**-15%**
previous year	350	313	406	241	**1,310**			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Mar-10	Apr	May	June	July-10	July-09	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Alberta	151	221	147	174	177	223	1183	1437	-18%
Saskatchewan	34	43	18	21	15	20	202	227	-11%
Manitoba/BC	64	62	84	118	89	71	522	509	3%
Ontario/Quebec	44	60	48	56	51	49	345	343	1%
Total	**293**	**386**	**297**	**369**	**332**	**363**	**2252**	**2516**	**-10%**

*** 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	**13,575**	**15,880**	**-15%**

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	07-Aug	14-Aug	21-Aug	28-Aug	Aug Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
	910	**744**	**917**	**842**	**3,413**	**35,975**	**34,679**	**4%**
previous year	931	945	878	998	**3,752**			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	May-10	June-10	July-10	Aug-10	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	505	329	995	N/A	4,797	4,508	**6%**
Slaughter Female	491	385	813	N/A	4,522	5,228	**-14%**
Feeder Male	203	870	349	N/A	3,555	2,056	**73%**
Feeder Female	170	575	349	N/A	2,703	1,723	**57%**
Total	**1,369**	**2,159**	**2,506**		**15,577**	**13,515**	**15%**

**source USDA*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless

		March	April	May	June	July	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
USA	Kg	50,036	25,523	40,240	42,845	52,922	282,831	241,958	**17%**
	Value ($Cdn)	414,742	238,875	363,064	426,411	536,044	2,563,097	2,013,999	**27%**
France	Kg	28,894	17,796	3,307	10,018	2,086	114,420	211,948	**-46%**
	Value ($Cdn)	358,500	313,358	44,734	134,981	50,386	1,398,941	2,946,207	**-53%**
Germany	Kg	709	589	689	-	-	3,305	14,032	**-76%**
	Value ($Cdn)	10,771	13,457	11,900	-	-	60,508	198,806	**-70%**
Switzerland	Kg	4,288	7,111	6,501	6,264	6,053	36,022	28,443	**27%**
	Value ($Cdn)	148,430	246,810	224,201	232,907	227,582	1,307,882	1,050,650	**24%**
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	423	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,165	**N/A**
China P.Rep.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	**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	666	**261%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	3,759	17,038	10,712	-	77,261	19,032	**306%**
Macau	Kg	-	-	1,000	-	-	1,000	-	**N/A**
	Value ($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 ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	4,768	-	**N/A**
Total	**Kg**	**83,927**	**51,192**	**63,778**	**59,343**	**62,442**	**455,144**	**507,738**	**-10%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**932,443**	**816,259**	**843,146**	**805,011**	**831,529**	**5,612,183**	**6,457,512**	**-13%**

Bone-in

		March	April	May	June	July	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**17,966**	**730**	**388**	**-**	**18,874**	**37,958**	**9,163**	**314%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**49,162**	**6,675**	**4,243**	**-**	**160,622**	**220,702**	**43,943**	**402%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	March	April	May	June	July	YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Kg	**101,893**	**51,922**	**64,166**	**59,343**	**81,316**	**493,102**	**516,901**	**-5%**
Value ($Cdn)	**981,605**	**822,934**	**847,389**	**805,011**	**992,151**	**5,832,885**	**6,501,455**	**-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)
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
July 2010	266.74	258.33	208.75	186.43
Aug 2010	272.93	263.38	225	224.74

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
Aug 2010	285-290	275-290	180-220	180-220
Sep 2010	280-310	280-310	180-220	180-220

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	June		July		August		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	840-1225	995.61	750-1225	998.68	750-1225	1008.3	1%	1%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	340-465	369.23	350-450	368.91	350-525	369.52	0%	0%
Striploin Fresh	610-1050	916.51	650-1095	654.2	650-1095	978.07	7%	50%
Tenderloin Fresh	1000-1650	1169.71	1050-1650	1239.1	1200-1650	1404.61	20%	13%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	300-395	362	360-420	362	360-420	362	0%	0%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	405-500	443.8	390-510	461.65	390-540	480.98	8%	4%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	390-440	425.71	401-455	425.07	410-540	465.44	9%	9%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-June Pricing	Mid-July Pricing	Mid-August Pricing	Mid-September Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$34.95 - $46.00	$34.95 - $48.00	$38.00 - $48.00	$44.00 - $48.98
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$22.24 - $28.50	$22.24 - $28.50	$23.00 - $28.00	$24.50 - $29.00
Inside Round - Fresh	$10.95 - $13.60	$10.95 - $15.00	$12.80 - $15.00	$11.50 - $15.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$9.45 - $11.45	$9.45 - $12.50	$11.35 - $12.50	$12.00 - $12.50
Fresh Bison Trim	$9.15 - $9.25	$9.15 - $10.00	$10.25 - $10.25	$10.25 - $10.50

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Kramer Auctions (SK) (May 12, 2010)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average ($/cwt)
2009 Bulls	425-525	57	183
	526-625	77	187
2009 Heifers	350-450	21	160
	451-500	26	151
	501-610	72	172

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

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 difficulty in meeting customer demand. With the strong demand, marketers are locking in as much supply as possible. This has resulted in higher prices to the producers. While the high prices to producers are encouraging industry investment, some producers see this as a time to exit the industry. Animal shortages have also had an impact on the processing industry as they must now look to processing other species to maintain viability. The 2009 crop of animals will be coming to market later this year and early next year but it will be reduced as producers withhold hiefers to grow the herd. It will take up to five years for the supply of animals to meet growing demand.

North American demand for bison remains strong although there is some price resistance from some customers. With the difficulty in getting sufficient bison, some customers have reduced or terminated their bison program while other customers are working with the supply they are able to get. European demand is expected to pick up as they prepare for the Christmas demand.

Nationally, federal slaughter is down 15.3% for the first 34 weeks of this year (11,323 in 2010 compared to 13,364 for the same period in 2009). Exports of live animals to the end of July rose by 12.5% in 2010 when compared to the same period in 2009 (15,858 in 2010 compared to 14,097 in 2009). The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers strengthened, reaching $3.10 per pound in 2010 with some sales higher, compared to $2.75 per pound in September 2009. Mature bulls to mid-September 2010 ranged from $1.80 - $2.20 per pound, much higher than the $1.30 - $1.40 range reported in 2009. Today's price for fresh bison trim at $10.50 per kilo is 38.5% higher than the $7.35 reported in September 2009.

Total boneless bison meat exports to July 31, 2010 are down 10.4 % with a decline in exports to France and Germany. Boneless meat exports have increased to the U.S., Switzerland, United Arab Emirates and Egypt.

Chart 1

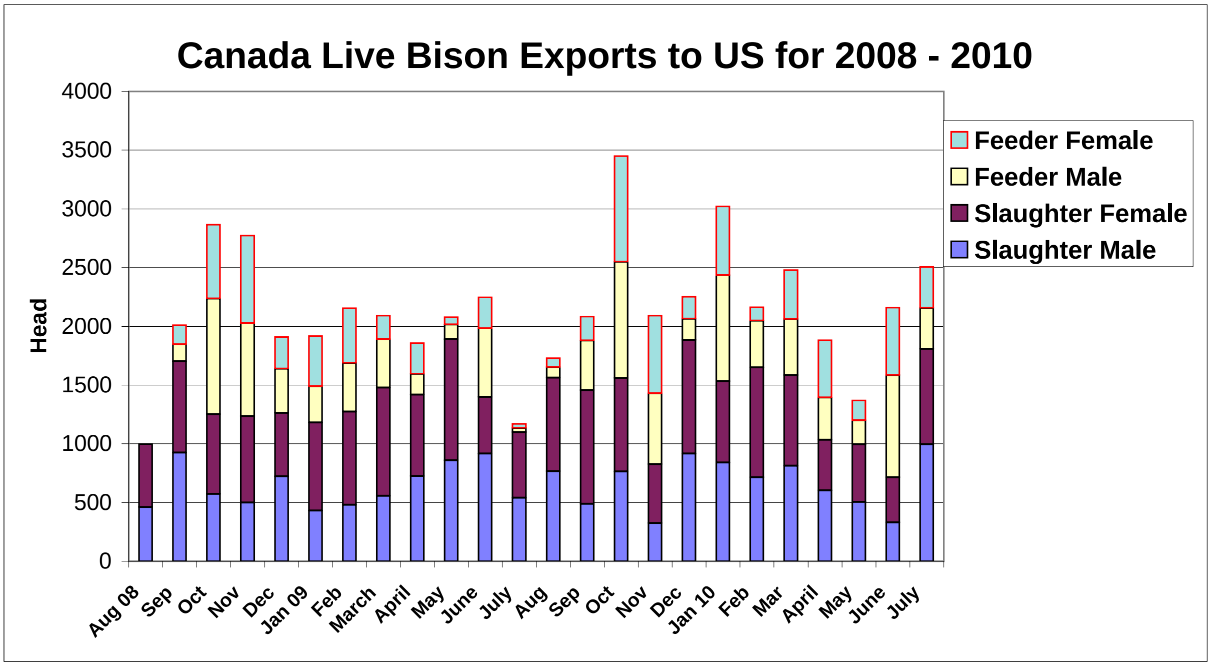

Chart 2