



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - November 2011

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	08-Oct	15-Oct	22-Oct	29-Oct	Oct Total	2011	2010	% Change
Total Canada	138	241	138	236	753	8,684	13,408	-35.2%
<i>previous year</i>	241	174	333	306	1,054			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	May 2011	June 2011	July 2011	Aug 2011	Sept 2011	Sept 2010	2011	2010	% Change
Alberta	134	86	69	59	74	110	740	1417	-47.8%
Saskatchewan	8	7	17	11	5	22	110	249	-55.8%
Manitoba/BC	51	77	71	81	82	90	677	649	4.3%
Ontario/Quebec**	47	46	50	53	41	43	338	388	-12.9%
Total	240	216	207	204	202	265	1865	2703	-31.0%

** Quebec Provincial slaughter numbers are estimated due to a delay in reporting

	YTD 2011	YTD 2010	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	10,549	16,111	-34.5%

*Source AAFC Red Meat Section : Due to varying provincial reporting schedules, total Fed. and Prov. has a one month delay in Prov. Data

US Federal Slaughter*

	08-Oct	15-Oct	22-Oct	29-Oct	Oct Total	2011	2010	% Change
for week ending:	914	800	806	710	3,230	36,468	44,446	-17.9%
<i>previous year</i>	830	818	920	1140	3,708			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	June-11	July-11	Aug-11	Sept-11	Oct-11	2011	2010	% Change
Slaughter Male	501	513	464	296	244	4,931	5,037	-2.1%
Slaughter Female	437	513	205	290	358	3,463	4,951	-30.1%
Feeder Male	209	85	46	23	0	1,967	4,339	-54.7%
Feeder Female	117	84	46	37	0	1,802	3,053	-41.0%
Total	1,264	1,195	761	646	602	12,163	17,380	-30.0%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		2011						September YTD		% Change
		April 2011	May	June	July	August	September	2011	2010	
USA	Kg	34,185	19,148	16,799	25,429	27,107	24,649	246,918	413,391	-40.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	438,761	267,829	249,877	298,966	293,029	190,370	3,002,074	3,577,454	-16.1%
France	Kg	2,749	2,614	2,898	3,058	2,913	7,833	33,405	125,086	-73.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	36,317	32,295	34,990	44,881	37,282	125,900	471,530	1,566,369	-69.9%
Switzerland	Kg	3,155	5,098	2,763	3,617	3,593	3,767	32,447	43,569	-25.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	118,951	192,887	101,865	149,069	137,416	157,563	1,256,505	1,596,963	-21.3%
Germany	Kg	830	-	-	1,217	-	-	3,093	3,736	-17.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	24,586	-	-	37,101	-	-	88,897	71,289	24.7%
Egypt	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,682	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	173,422	N/A
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	188	2,506	-92.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,515	79,460	-95.6%
Macau	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,787	N/A
Singapore	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,381	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17,517	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	290	90	-	380	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	7,983	2,563	-	10,546	-	N/A
Sweden	Kg	-	-	-	-	594	-	594	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	21,352	-	21,352	-	N/A
Netherlands	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,326	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	133,492	-	N/A
Others	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Kg	40,919	26,860	22,460	33,611	34,297	36,249	343,351	602,351	-43.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	618,615	493,011	386,732	538,000	491,642	473,833	4,987,911	7,091,261	-29.7%

Bone-in

	April 2011	May	June	July	August	September	2011	2010	% Change
Total	3,356	16,138	8,955	3,110	14,572	6,507	80,944	37,958	113.2%
<i>Value (\$Cdn)</i>	16,458	56,265	94,033	12,627	96,237	66,204	497,957	220,702	125.6%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	April 2011	May	June	July	August	September	2011	2010	% Change
Kg	44,275	42,998	31,415	36,721	48,869	42,756	424,295	640,309	-33.7%
Value (\$Cdn)	635,073	549,276	480,765	550,627	587,879	540,037	5,485,868	7,311,963	-25.0%

*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 2010	317.57	304.34	234.38	233.46
Nov 2010	325.34	312.02	237.88	228.73
Dec 2010	332.43	324.30	242.19	238.03
Jan 2011	332.33	323.84	259.06	238.78
Feb 2011	354.76	335.85	249.51	254.47
Mar 2011	356.63	350.08	260.52	280.91
Apr 2011	365.73	353.38	277.06	256.92
May 2011	369.99	360.97	275.16	265.24
June 2011	373.99	367.04	295.00	295.95
July 2011	380.50	378.15	304.84	315.78
Aug 2011	381.97	380.81	298.86	280.32
Sept 2011	388.59	384.18	300.80	310.00
Oct 2011	393.37	386.59	296.80	281.31

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Nov 2010	345-350	330-335	220-230	210-220
Dec 2010	325-350	325-340	220-225	200-225
Jan 2011	350-375	340-375	230-270	225-270
Feb 2011	350-383	350-383	250-270	250-270
Mar 2011	350-375	350-365	250-270	250-270
Apr 2011	370-385	365-370	260-290	260-270
May 2011	380-410	380-400	260-275	260-275
June 2011	400-410	400	275-280	275-280
July 2011	400-410	400-410	280-300	275-280
Aug 2011	410-420	410-415	280-350	280-350
Sept 2011	390-400	390-400	280-290	280-290
Oct 2011	375-380	370-375	280-290	260-265
Nov 2011	375-400	370-400	250-280	250-280

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	August 2011		September 2011		October 2011		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1100-1650	1,321.41	1100-1600	1,366.00	1100-1650	1,358.26	2.8%	-0.6%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-673	543.13	500-669	560.82	500-625	550.26	1.3%	-1.9%
Striploin Fresh	925-1600	1,325.39	910-1600	1,354.55	1250-1600	1,333.51	0.6%	-1.6%
Tenderloin Fresh	1850-2200	1,966.01	1850-2300	2,013.63	1800-2495	2,033.76	3.4%	1.0%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	450-640	566.90	450-640	631.83	525-642	579.71	2.3%	-8.2%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	550-695	589.67	571-660	611.18	550-630	617.38	4.7%	1.0%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	555-695	588.44	557-660	591.91	500-695	613.42	4.2%	3.6%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-August 2011 Pricing	Mid-September 2011 Pricing	Mid-October 2011 Pricing	Mid-November 2011 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$50.00 - \$63.00	\$50.00 - \$60.00	\$50.00 - \$60.00	\$50.00 - \$63.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$27.00 - \$37.00	\$27.00 - \$35.00	\$27.00 - \$35.00	\$27.00 - \$37.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$15.00 - \$16.90	\$15.00 - \$16.90	\$15.00 - \$17.00	\$15.00 - \$17.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$13.00 - \$14.50	\$13.00 - \$14.50	\$13.00 - \$13.50	\$13.00 - \$13.50
Fresh Bison Trim	\$12.00 - \$13.50	\$12.00 - \$13.00	\$12.00 - \$13.00	\$12.00 - \$13.00

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Sekura Auctions (AB) (December 10, 2011)				Kramer Auctions (SK) (December 7, 2011)				Kramer Auctions (SK) (May 11, 2011)			
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	
Cows		38	129.24	2011 Bulls	400-475	9	308	2009 Bulls	750<	217	
Cow / Calf Pairs		1	1,200.00		350-399	16	340		<750	195	
Bred Cows		54	2,125.00		under 300	12	331	2009 Heifers	700<	96	
Mature Bulls		14	108.43	2011 Heifers	450-575	19	264		725-850	237	
2011 Bulls	200 - 299	1	310		under 450	29	222		950<	164	
	300 - 399	23	360.22	2010 Bulls	925-1025	25	218		<725	227	
	400 - 499	28	363.93		850-924	44	240	2010 Bulls	400-499	289	
2010 Bulls	500 - 599	4	261		750-849	61	248		500-599	286	
	600 - 699	27	253.67		under 750	21	247		600-675	283	
	700 - 799	5	257.5	2010 Heifers	700-800	33	219		<400	220	
2009 Bulls	700 - 799	8	227.81		650-699	37	220	2010 Heifers	450-575	264	
	800 - 899	11	223.55		under 650	46	208		<450	222	
	1000+	6	185	Mature Bulls	over 850	20	148				
2011 Heifers	200 - 299	2	320	BRED FEMALES							
	300 - 399	27	287.04		Bell Creek Bison (Heifers)	30	311				
	400 - 499	15	281.33		Eastview Bison Ranch (Heifers)	10	240				
2010 Heifers	400 - 499	10	229		Richards Bison Ranch	21	207				
	500 - 599	33	235.46		EXPOSED						
	600 - 699	1	135		Wapeton Dakota Bison	19	100				
	700 - 799	6	205								
2009 Heifers	600 - 699	1	185								
	700 - 799	7	231								
	800 - 899	6	226								

Commentary

By Terry Kremenik, 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

November live bison and meat prices have stabilized at October levels. Consumer resistance in North America and Europe continues to be a concern for marketers. Prices are expected to remain under slight pressure when the 2010 finished animals come to the market near year-end. Demand remains strong for most cuts. There have been reports of inventory build-up resulting in downward pressures on fresh bison trim and bison ground.

With 2010 finished bison soon to be coming to market, the price of finished animals is expected to be softer than summer prices. The impact of the Christmas demand for bison products at present prices is uncertain. The tight supplies mentioned in previous reports will be alleviated as finished bison come to market. Boneless meat exports to August 2011 were 307,102 Kg compared to 512,458 Kg in 2010 – a decline of 40%. This decline can be attributed to availability plus the strength of the Canadian dollar.

Nationally, federal slaughter was down 35% in the first 45 weeks of 2011 when compared to 2010 (9,141 animals in 2011 compared to 14,066 animals for 2010). Live bison exports to the U.S. are down by 31% - 12,796 to September 30, 2011 compared to 18,604 bison for the same period in 2010. The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers has stabilized at October levels of \$3.80 - \$4.00 per pound hot hanging weight. Mature bull and cow prices have stayed in the range of \$2.50 - \$2.60 per pound.

At a recent Saskatchewan sale, 2011 bull calves sold for as high as \$3.30 per pound and 2011 heifers reached \$2.65 per pound. 2010 bulls at the sale sold as high as \$2.48 per pound and heifers as high as \$2.20 per pound.

Chart 1

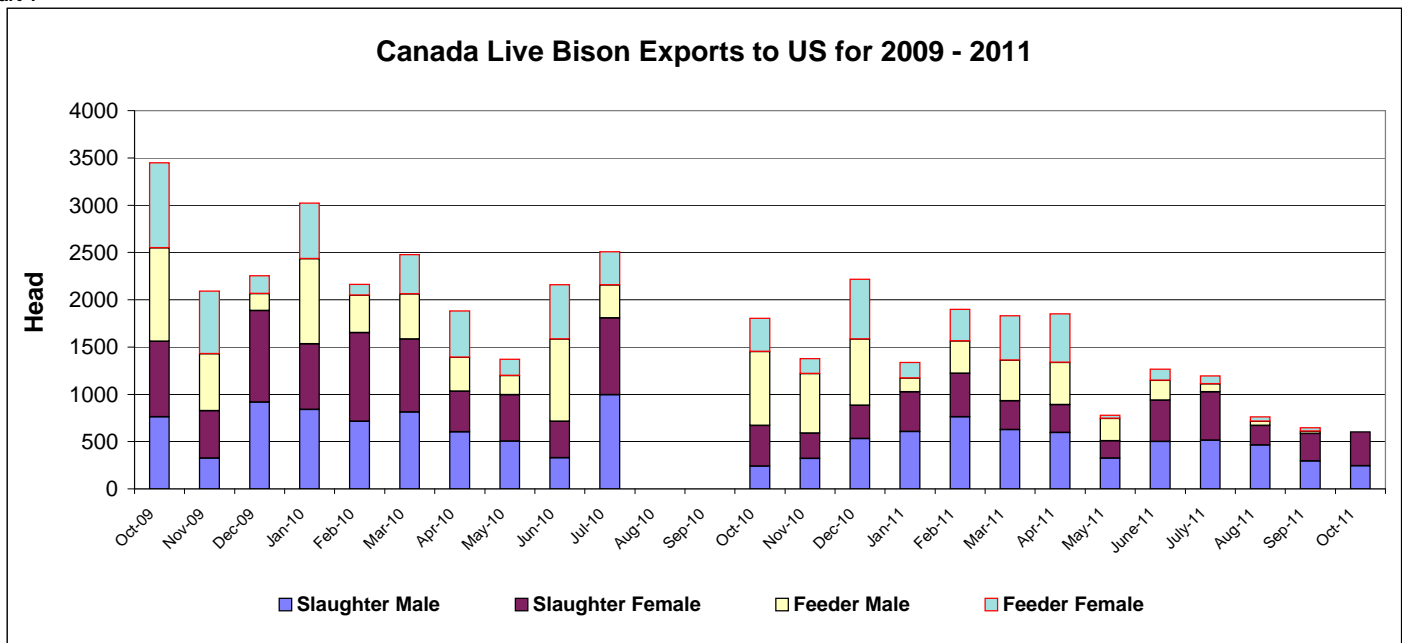


Chart 2

