



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - April 16, 2009

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	07-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar	28-Mar	04-Apr	Mar Total	2009 YTD	09 vs 08 % Change
Total Canada	612	340	472	379	449	2,252	6,002	5%
<i>previous year</i>	454	367	377	357	466	2,021	5,724	

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Oct	Nov	Dec-08	Jan-09	Feb-09	Feb-08	2009 YTD	2008 YTD	% Change
Alberta	198	197	142	186	213	316	399	624	-36%
Saskatchewan	34	17	26	40	57	N/A	97	N/A	
Manitoba/BC	68	77	55	42	63	88	105	127	-17%
Ontario/Quebec	33	56	35	67	36	73	103	147	-30%
Total	333	347	258	335	369	477	704	898	-22%

*source AAFC Red Meat Section

*Due to varying provincial reporting schedules, total Fed. and Prov. has a one month delay in Prov. Data

	2009	2008	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	6,706	6,622	1%

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	07-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar	28-Mar	Mar Total	2009 YTD	2008 YTD	% Change
	1,054	1,143	1,138	1,009	4,344	12,811	13,007	-2%
<i>previous year</i>	1,381	1,190	977	1,128	4,676			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Dec-08	Jan-09	Feb-09	Mar-09	2009 YTD	2008 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	722	431	481	555	1,467	1,750	-16%
Slaughter Female	541	749	792	924	2,465	1,945	27%
Feeder Male	376	310	415	411	1,136	1,948	-42%
Feeder Female	269	428	467	201	1,096	1,252	-12%
Total	1,908	1,918	2,155	2,091	6,164	6,895	-11%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless	October	November	December	January 2009	February	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
USA	Kg 34,136	54,098	18,069	50,633	24,887	75,520	64,893	16%
	Value (\$Cdn) 244,876	401,246	134,560	392,229	196,672	588,901	417,805	41%
France	Kg 41,867	44,377	43,840	37,657	13,964	51,621	67,759	-24%
	Value (\$Cdn) 514,911	591,124	509,241	389,926	222,463	612,389	700,933	-13%
Germany	Kg 4,679	4,616	2,105	592	831	1,423	19,304	-93%
	Value (\$Cdn) 76,157	60,222	23,885	7,936	13,893	21,829	304,468	-93%
Switzerland	Kg 8,254	5,502	2,888	2,749	3,026	5,775	4,639	24%
	Value (\$Cdn) 82,793	198,893	97,146	108,815	111,605	220,420	90,526	143%
Mexico	Kg 70,790	-	-	207,119	-	207,119	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn) 371,730	-	-	1,039,920	-	1,039,920	-	-
Neth. Antilles	Kg -	-	-	-	-	-	86	-100%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	-	893	-100%
Belgium	Kg 1,414	488	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn) 15,876	13,910	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg -	-	-	-	-	-	286	-100%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	-	4,578	-100%
United Arab Emirates	Kg -	-	-	647	19	666	47	1317%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	18,432	600	19,032	756	2417%
Total	Kg 161,140	109,081	66,902	299,397	42,727	342,124	157,014	118%
	Value (\$Cdn) 1,306,343	1,265,395	764,832	1,957,258	545,233	2,502,491	1,519,959	65%

Bone-in

	October	November	December	January 09	February	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
Total	Kg 12,044	1,275	749	7,776	205	7,981	17,686	-55%
	Value (\$Cdn) 46,843	12,285	7,839	29,181	2,155	31,336	52,756	-41%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	October	November	December	January 09	February	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
Total	Kg 173,184	110,356	67,651	307,173	42,932	350,105	174,700	100%
	Value (\$Cdn) 1,353,186	1,277,680	772,671	1,986,439	547,388	2,533,827	1,572,715	61%

*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)
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
Nov 2008	241.36	228.87	146.6	144.17
Dec 2008	241.11	226.38	150.7	143.66
Jan 2009	238.4	224.73	161.32	142.95
Feb 2009	238.08	221.62	149.43	142.82
Mar 2009	237.3	220.08	146.71	145.8

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Apr 2008	215-225	205-215	90	85
May 2008	205-225	200-210	80-100	80-100
June 2008	205-225	195-220	90-100	90-100
July 2008	205-230	210-225	100-110	100-110
Aug 2008	220-230	210-230	90-100	90-100
Sep 2008	225-240	210-230	90-100	90-100
Oct 2008	230-260	225-255	100-125	100-120
Nov 2008	230-275	225-265	125-130	120-130
Dec 2008	245-280	235-255	100-135	115-130
Jan 2009	235-280	220-260	100-130	100-130
Feb 2009	240-275	230-260	110-125	110-125
Mar 2009	240-270	230-260	115-145	110-145
Apr 2009	240-250	240-240	130-150	130-150

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	January		February		March		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	820-1225	990.73	825-1225	968.42	876-1225	984.08	-1%	2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	290-425	335.27	295-425	333.87	285-425	333.69	0%	0%
Striploin Fresh	720-1050	943.85	725-1050	928.2	675-1050	898.42	-5%	-3%
Tenderloin Fresh	1500-2050	1626.43	1295-2050	1636.82	1300-2050	1601.66	-2%	-2%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	300-335	326.98	250-335	326.45	280-375	323	-1%	-1%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	300-470	356.46	300-470	361.26	305-470	373.89	5%	3%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	285-354	343.52	285-470	343.64	310-425	354.08	3%	3%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-January Pricing	Mid-February Pricing	Mid-March Pricing	Mid-April Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$40.00 - \$52.00	\$39.95 - \$49.00	\$39.95 - \$51.00	\$39.00 - \$43.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$19.00 - \$30.00	\$19.00 - \$30.00	\$24.90 - \$29.40	\$19.95 - \$25.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$9.00 - \$12.50	\$7.95 - \$10.00	\$9.15 - \$13.00	\$8.95 - \$12.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$6.95 - \$7.85	\$6.95 - \$7.85	\$6.25 - \$8.35	\$6.25 - \$8.35
Fresh Bison Trim	\$5.75 - \$6.70	\$5.80 - \$6.35	\$6.20 - \$7.35	\$6.30 - \$7.60

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Sekura Auction (AB) (March 7, 2009)						Kramer Auction (SK) (March 11, 2009)			
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of Head	Average (\$/lb)
2008 Males	0-300	81.73	2007 Females	400-500	60	2006 Bulls	>900	6	1.13
	300-400	114.83		500-600	95.54	2007 Bulls	>650	17	1.24
	400-500	122.24		600-700	109.5		600-650	21	1.11
	500-600	125				<600	12	0.79	
2007 Males	500-600	97.59	2006 Bred Heifers	700-800	425-770 per hd	2007 Heifers	500-550	6	0.59
	600-700	116.25	800-900	770-785 per hd		550-600	24	1.06	
	800-900	117				600-700	12	1.23	
2006 Males	800-900	104	Feeder Cows		70.41		>700	5	1.21
	900-999	100	Feeder Heifers		72		<500	3	0.60
2008 Females	0-300	91.78	Mature Bulls		57	2008 Bulls	300-400	57	0.81
	300-400	104.91					400-450	15	1.10
	400-500	106.67					450-500	27	1.46
	500-600	105.04					500-550	44	1.5
							>550	16	1.49
						2008 Heifers	350-400	12	1.12
							400-500	13	1.39
							>500	17	1.30
							<350	39	0.63

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

Marketers report continued strong demand for bison trim in the United States and Canada with U.S. prices being \$1.00 per kilo higher. Marketers are also reporting that middle cuts are more difficult to sell. This has resulted in lower prices for these cuts. Some marketers are now starting to build a frozen inventory.

The strong trim prices have resulted in an increase in the prices of mature bulls and cows with prime bull and heifer prices showing some weakness because of the weakness shown in the price of middle cuts.

Nationally federal slaughter for the first 12 weeks was up 5.1% (5,553 in 2009 compared to 5,258 for the same period in 2008). Exports of live animals for January were down by 26.3% in February (4,286 in 2009 compared to 5,821 in 2008).

Total bison meat exports for January and February were much stronger in 2009 than in 2008 (342,124 Kg. in 2009 compared to 157,014 Kg. in 2008). There has been growth in bison meat exports to the U.S. and France with significant exports to Mexico. The United Arab Emirates appear to have become a new market for Canadian bison.

Chart 1

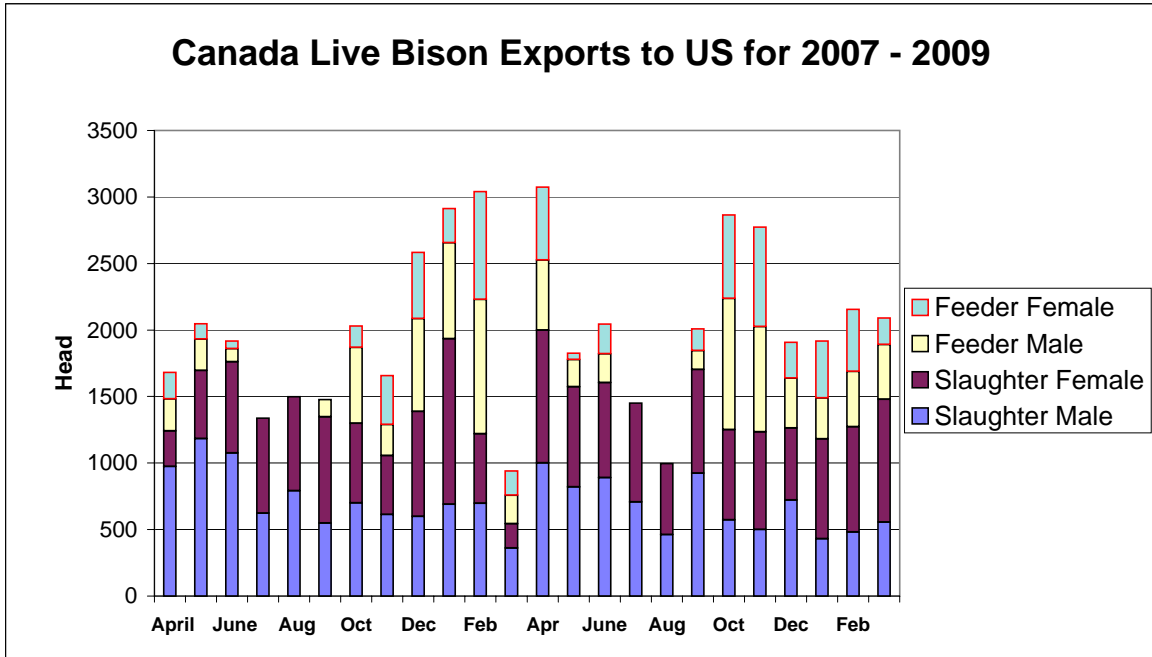


Chart 2

