



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - January 19, 2010

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	05-Dec	12-Dec	19-Dec	26-Dec	02-Jan	Dec Total	2009 YTD	09 vs 08 % Change
Total Canada	516	570	394	230	11	1,721	19,725	-6%
<i>previous year</i>	661	576	431	268	28	1,964	20,949	

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Nov-08	2009 YTD	2008 YTD	% Change
Alberta	223	150	169	220	169	197	2145	2652	-19%
Saskatchewan	20	15	26	25	34	17	327	N/A	
Manitoba/BC	71	74	73	96	63	77	815	828	-2%
Ontario/Quebec	49	59	62	49	51	56	573	621	-8%
Total	363	298	330	390	317	347	3860	4101	-6%

** 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

	2009	2008	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	23,585	25,050	-6%

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	05-Dec	12-Dec	19-Dec	26-Dec	02-Jan	Dec Total	2009 YTD	2008 YTD	% Change
	1572	1227	958	673	618	5,048	53,330	54,357	-2%
<i>previous year</i>	766	1309	1027	949	555	4,606			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Sept-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	2009 YTD	2008 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	488	763	324	916	7,765	8,348	-7%
Slaughter Female	968	798	502	968	9,260	8,423	10%
Feeder Male	423	988	603	180	4,339	5,190	-16%
Feeder Female	205	899	661	189	3,754	3,883	-3%
Total	2,084	3,448	2,090	2,253	25,118	25,844	-3%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless	July	August	September	October	November	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
USA	Kg 25,090	26,877	27,609	26,608	48,093	371,145	304,952	22%
	Value (\$Cdn) 216,082	216,995	232,014	231,321	373,907	3,068,236	2,111,455	45%
France	Kg 21,192	35,613	36,111	17,777	9,382	310,831	491,925	-37%
	Value (\$Cdn) 316,051	468,654	490,282	238,221	115,935	4,259,299	5,259,250	-19%
Germany	Kg 2,883	4,298	2,179	4,446	2,305	27,260	53,694	-49%
	Value (\$Cdn) 45,989	57,497	25,750	42,771	44,571	369,395	746,611	-51%
Switzerland	Kg 5,218	4,242	3,116	1,907	3,801	41,509	97,407	-57%
	Value (\$Cdn) 193,941	157,339	112,673	58,625	130,189	1,509,476	1,502,467	0%
Mexico	Kg -	-	-	-	-	423	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	16,165	-	N/A
China P.Rep.	Kg -	186	-	-	-	186	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	1,030	-	-	-	1,030	-	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Kg -	-	-	-	-	10,073	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	209,682	-	N/A
Belgium	Kg -	-	-	-	-	-	1,902	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	-	29,786	N/A
United Arab Emirates	Kg -	13	185	-	485	1,349	47	2770%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	361	5,285	-	4,626	29,304	756	3776%
Japan	Kg -	-	-	401	-	401	10,305	-96%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	1,603	-	1,603	74,727	-98%
Moldova	Kg -	-	1,008	-	-	1,008	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	15,760	-	-	15,760	-	N/A
Italy	Kg -	-	-	-	-	1,008	431	134%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	15,760	6,899	128%
French S. Terr.	Kg -	-	-	-	-	195	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	2,971	-	N/A
Total	Kg 54,383	71,229	70,208	51,139	64,066	764,380	960,663	-20%
	Value (\$Cdn) 772,063	901,876	881,764	572,541	669,228	9,482,921	9,731,951	-3%

Bone-in

	July	August	September	October	November	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
Total	Kg 315	54	16,465	789	-	26,471	66,805	-60%
	Value (\$Cdn) 4,354	563	171,118	10,147	-	225,771	264,457	-15%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	July	August	September	October	November	YTD 2009	YTD 2008	% Change
Total	Kg 54,698	71,283	86,673	51,928	64,066	790,851	1,027,468	-23%
	Value (\$Cdn) 776,417	902,439	1,052,882	582,688	669,228	9,708,692	9,996,408	-3%

*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)
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
Apr 2009	238.71	220.44	150	151.9
May 2009	239.33	221.12	159.5	154.78
June 2009	238.55	207.04	141.67	152.02
July 2009	239.39	219.85	154.38	149
Aug 2009	234.98	220.24	118	135.18
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

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
May 2009	240-270	240-265	120-170	120-170
June 2009	240-265	240-250	130-170	130-165
July 2009	255-280	235-265	125-165	130-165
Aug 2009	235-275	225-260	130-150	130-140
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

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	October		November		December		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
	Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	750-1225	960.49	700-1225	951	700-1225	939.05	-2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	320-425	338	335-390	340.32	240-440	341.2	1%	0%
Striploin Fresh	700-1050	925.22	700-915	897.64	700-1050	871.61	-6%	-3%
Tenderloin Fresh	900-1650	1218.56	900-1650	1267.1	950-1650	1325.21	9%	5%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	355-414	359.66	333-390	371.65	341-354	351.48	-2%	-5%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	300-445	374.17	332-445	384.06	300-445	370.94	-1%	-3%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	305-375	361.1	325-440	362.59	325-440	362.67	0%	0%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-October Pricing	Mid-November Pricing	Mid-December Pricing	Mid-January Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$31.95 - \$40.00	\$39.95 - \$40.00	\$38.00 - \$48.00	\$29.95 - \$43.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$18.95 - \$24.00	\$23.40 - \$26.01	\$21.95 - \$27.50	\$19.95 - \$27.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$8.45 - \$15.00	\$8.49 - \$12.75	\$8.45 - \$12.00	\$8.45 - \$12.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$7.25 - \$9.45	\$7.25 - \$9.45	\$7.45 - \$9.35	\$7.50 - \$7.58
Fresh Bison Trim	\$6.75 - \$7.35	\$7.25 - \$7.49	\$6.45 - \$7.30	\$7.25 - \$7.58

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Sekura Auctions (AB) (January 9, 2010)			Sekura Auctions (AB) (December 5, 2009)			Kramer Auctions (SK) (December 2, 2009)				
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# Head	Average (\$/cwt)	
2009 Males	300-400	124.39	2009 Males	0-300	78.65	2006 + Bulls	1400-1600	4	49	
	400-500	148.91		300-400	113.01		2006/2007 Bulls	850-1000	7	87
2008 Males	500-600	127.34	2008 Males	500-600	110.00	2008 Bulls		1001-1300	3	75
	700-800	128.00		600-700	123.00		600-700	20	134	
2009 Females	0-300	85.00	2007 Males	700-800	80.00	2008 Heifers	701-800	32	141	
	300-400	112.00		2009 Females	0-300		97.32	801-900	33	142
	400-500	136.08			300-400		133.59	900 +	4	118
2008 Females	500-600	103.30	2008 Females	400-500	129.98	2009 Bulls	350-400	12	150	
		114.00		300-400	66.99		401-500	36	161	
		600-700		114.00	400-500		72.00	2009 Heifers	300-400	28
Feeder Cows	68.66	2007 Females	500-600	89.51	400-450	15	138			
			700-800	81.21	Feeder Cows	73.28				

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

Prices for grade "A" bison grain-fed youthful bulls and heifers have softened with heifers with excessive conditioning being discounted further. The strength of the Canadian dollar is continuing to place downward pressure on prices. Certain marketers are quoting prices of about 15 cents lower for bulls and heifers over thirty months old because marketing options are reduced. Buyers are also discounting over-conditioned heifers about 15-20 cent per pound. Prices for mature bulls and cows remain strong as the trim market for bison also remains very strong. Most marketers have little or no bison trim in inventory with trim moving domestically, into the US and Europe. Middle cuts inventory is still high but some cuts have been moving with demand being very unpredictable. The post Christmas demand for red meats tends to be softer with this year being no different.

Nationally federal slaughter for the year was down 6.0% (19,725 in 2009 compared to 20,949 for the same period in 2008). Exports of live animals to November 30, 2009 were down by 14.1% (23,576 in 2009 compared to 27,436 in 2008). The decline in live exports is attributed to the short supply of animals combined with the strong Canadian dollar.

Total boneless bison meat exports up to November 2009 were at 764,380 Kg compared to 960,663 Kg for the same period in 2008. Exports of meat have increased to the U.S., while exports to Europe have declined as significant amounts of Canadian bison continue to be shipped to the EU from the U.S.

Chart 1

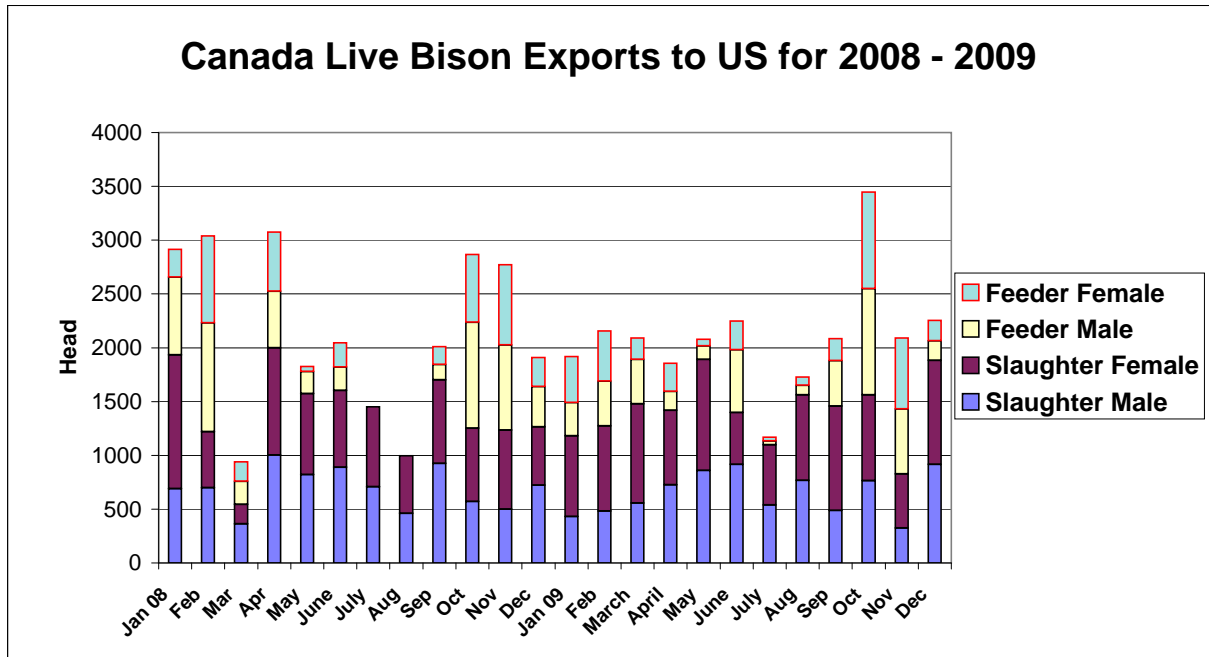


Chart 2

