



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - April 20, 2011

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	05-Mar	12-Mar	19-Mar	26-Mar	02-Apr	Mar Total	2011	March YTD	% Change
Total Canada	335	138	147	247	186	1,053	3,051	5,095	-40.1%
previous year	575	458	519	200	247	1,999			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Oct 2010	Nov 2010	Dec 2010	Jan 2011	Feb 2011	Feb 2010	2011	February YTD	% Change
Alberta	114	135	112	55	77	108	132	313	-57.8%
Saskatchewan	11	10	9	14	28	38	42	71	-40.8%
Manitoba/BC	56	76	60	54	72	53	126	105	20.0%
Ontario/Quebec**	71	51	19	24	21	21	45	59	-23.7%
Total	252	272	200	147	198	220	345	548	-37.0%

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

	YTD 2011	YTD 2010	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	3,396	5,643	-39.8%

*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*

	05-Mar	12-Mar	19-Mar	26-Mar	02-Apr	Mar Total	2011	March YTD	% Change
for week ending:	780	913	825	898	920	4,336	11,453	2010	-21.4%
previous year	1147	1200	1062	1092	1299	5,800		14,567	

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Nov-10	Dec-10	Jan-11	Feb-11	Mar-11	2011	March YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	322	530	607	760	627	1,994	2,365	-15.7%
Slaughter Female	267	352	418	462	302	1,182	2,403	-50.8%
Feeder Male	629	702	147	343	431	921	1,774	-48.1%
Feeder Female	159	632	165	333	472	970	1,120	-13.4%
Total	1,377	2,216	1,337	1,898	1,832	5,067	7,662	-33.9%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		September	October	November	December	January 2011	February 2011	2011	2010	% Change
USA	Kg	85,087	34,190	43,017	45,712	39,978	32,352	71,766	71,265	0.7%
	Value (\$Cdn)	513,514	393,613	506,010	531,813	496,613	405,658	890,566	583,961	52.5%
France	Kg	2,258	451	3,514	16,808	1,609	5,557	7,166	52,319	-86.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	36,307	11,430	50,689	223,326	26,337	76,807	103,144	496,982	-79.2%
Switzerland	Kg	2,015	3,957	7,769	5,750	2,641	4,568	7,209	5,805	24.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	76,599	145,691	309,195	195,266	95,953	182,343	278,296	227,952	22.1%
Germany	Kg	431	1,416	635	397	369	312	681	1,318	-48.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	10,781	40,001	14,979	7,909	7,689	6,858	14,547	24,380	-40.3%
Egypt	Kg	-	-	13,496	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	201,221	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Arab Emirates	Kg	102	185	-	-	188	-	188	1,656	-88.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	2,199	9,925	-	-	3,515	-	3,515	45,752	-92.3%
Macau	Kg	-	-	-	1,052	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	20,433	-	-	-	-	-
Singapore	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
French S. Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
China P.Rep.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Kg	89,893	40,199	68,431	69,719	44,785	42,789	87,010	132,363	-34.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	639,400	600,660	1,082,094	978,747	630,107	671,666	1,290,068	1,379,027	-6.5%

Bone-in

		September	October	November	December	January 2011	February 2011	2011	2010	% Change
Total	Kg	-	-	-	17,116	17,567	7,083	24,650	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	52,429	54,789	82,497	137,286	-	N/A

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

		September	October	November	December	January 2011	February 2011	February YTD		
								2011	2010	% Change
Kg		89,893	40,199	68,431	86,835	62,352	49,872	111,660	132,363	-15.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	639,400	600,660	1,082,094	1,031,176	684,896	754,163	1,427,354	1,379,027	3.5%

*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)
Mar 2010	246.53	238.70	185.00	165.10
Apr 2010	249.04	236.58	195.00	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	225.00	224.74
Sept 2010	296.03	276.84	228.75	206.18
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

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
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

**source CBA survey of marketers*

USDA Key Cuts - Grain Fed Wholesale (\$US/cwt)								Change Current Month vs.	
		January 2011		February 2011		March 2011		2 months prior	1 month prior
		Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg		
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh		900-1375	1,237.67	900-1375	1,251.23	900-1450	1,290.27	4.2%	3.1%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh		440-640	488.15	440-560	489.81	440-610	531.62	8.9%	8.5%
Striploin Fresh		750-1375	1,160.35	750-1375	1,176.35	800-1375	1,178.94	1.6%	0.2%
Tenderloin Fresh		1600-1850	1,749.74	1650-1900	1,767.67	1650-2000	1,860.41	6.3%	5.2%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh		409-504	501.04	450-585	515.00	450-585	519.56	3.7%	0.9%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen		510-635	550.81	524-635	571.51	500-665	572.33	3.9%	0.1%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen		523-668	543.01	525-668	564.07	500-730	564.88	4.0%	0.1%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-January 2011 Pricing	Mid-February 2011 Pricing	Mid-March 2011 Pricing	Mid-April 2011 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$39.95 - \$49.00	\$42.99 - \$60.00	\$45.00 - \$60.00	\$44.99 - \$60.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$22.95 - \$27.25	\$23.89 - \$36.00	\$23.89 - \$36.00	\$23.99 - \$36.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$12.25 - \$13.05	\$12.25 - \$15.50	\$12.75 - \$15.50	\$12.75 - \$15.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$11.79 - \$11.95	\$11.95 - \$14.00	\$11.95 - \$14.00	\$12.95 - \$13.50
Fresh Bison Trim	\$11.00 - \$11.99	\$11.50 - \$12.09	\$11.05 - \$12.05	\$11.85 - \$12.69

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Sekura Auctions (AB) (April 2, 2011)				Kramer Auctions (SK) (March 16, 2011)				Sekura Auctions (AB) (March 5, 2011)				
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	low per cwt	high per cwt	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)		
2010 Bulls	300-399	130	267.5	2008 Exposed Females	765-890	6	162	2008 Bulls	600-699	200		
	400-499	172.5	261						900-999	182.5		
	500-599	140	232						1000-9999	190		
2009 Bulls	600-699	192	192	2009 Bulls	565-745	16	214	2009 Bulls	600-699	222.06		
	700-799	157.5	157.5		800<	23	209		700-799	212.84		
	800-899	165	165		2009 Heifers	550-649	10		200	800-899	207.09	
2010 Heifers	0-299	180	192.5	2010 Bulls		650-735	12	221	2010 Bulls	400-499	241.93	
	300-399	117.5	198			2010 Heifers	300-399	37		265	2008 Heifers	600-699
	400-499	211	217.5		400-499		117	279		700-799		190
2009 Heifers	500-599	169	182.5	2010 Bulls	500-600		26	272	2009 Heifers	800-899		185
	600-699	180	180		2010 Heifers	<349	12	233		400-499	158.21	
	700-799	192	192			350-399	42	242		500-599	199.27	
2008 Heifers	600-699	175	175	2010 Heifers		400-449	80	240	2010 Heifers	300-399	217.5	
	700-799	180	180		450-570	33	241	400-499		206.29		
2007 Heifers	800-899	120	120		Mature Bulls Cows	800-9999 0-9999	175 172.5					
Mature Bulls	800-9999	1550	2400									

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

April live bison and meat prices remain strong with some prices moving marginally above March price levels. Producers are having difficulty delivering finished animals because of snow conditions and now excess runoff. This has magnified the shortage of animals for processing. The demand for trim continues to be strong in Canada and the U.S. with the demand for all other cuts being steady. The demand for prime cuts in the European market remains strong.

The supply of finished animals for processing continues to be tight with bison numbers being down and heifers being held back for breeding. When road and animals access conditions improve, a greater number of bison for processing should be available. Domestic consumer demand has shown some resistance at current prices. Certain meat processors are evaluating their bison program at current prices while others continue to look for steady supplies of product.

Nationally, federal slaughter was down 40% in the first 13 weeks of 2011 when compared to 2010 (3,051 animals in 2011 compared to 5,095 animals for 2010). Live bison exports to the U.S. are down by almost 39% - 3,271 for the first two months of 2011 compared to 5,342 bison for the same period in 2010. The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers continues to be strong at \$3.70 - \$3.85 per pound in April 2011 compared to \$2.45 - \$2.60 per pound in April 2010. Mature bulls in mid-April 2011 ranged from \$2.60 - \$2.90 per pound compared to the \$1.50 - \$1.60 reported in April 2010. Today's price for fresh bison trim at \$12.69 per kg is 62% higher than the \$8.25 reported in April 2010.

Prices for 2010 bison calves have been very strong with one sale reporting prices of \$2.40 - \$2.50 per pound live weight with some going higher. Bred heifer prices are being reported at \$1,700 - \$2,200.

Chart 1

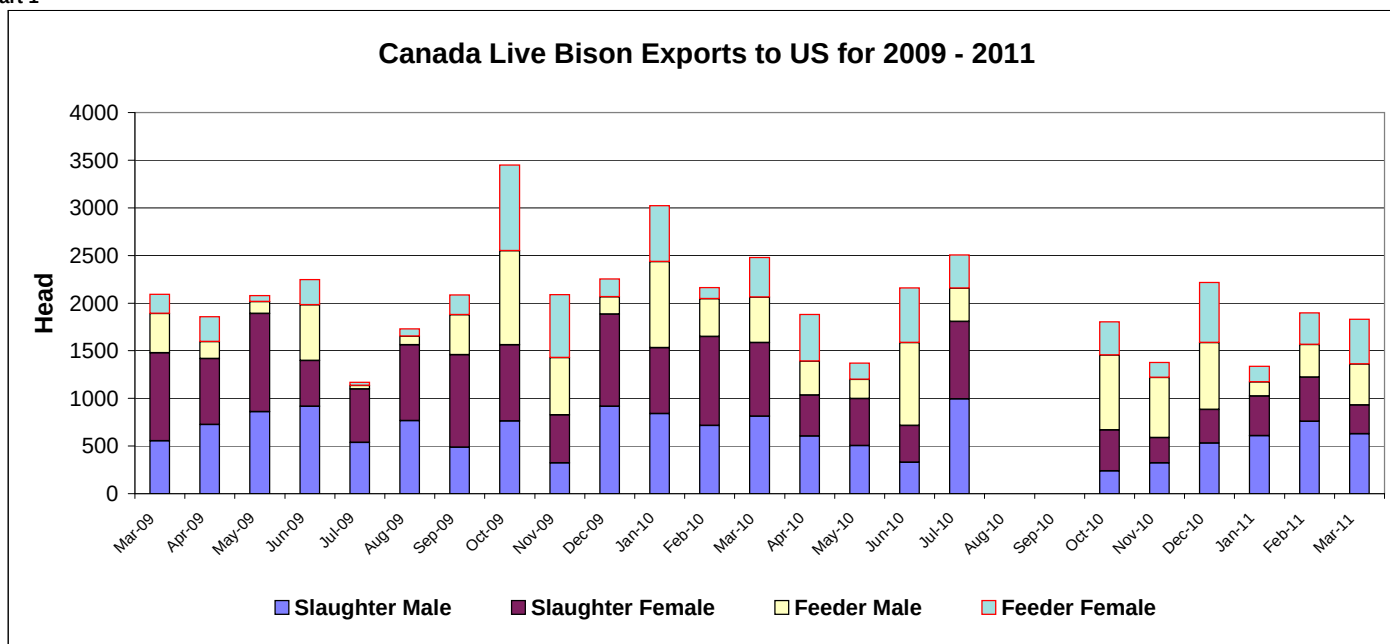


Chart 2

