Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

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

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	29-Nov	06-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec	03-Jan	Dec Total	2008 YTD	08 vs 07 % Change
Total Canada	**661**	**576**	**431**	**268**	**28**	**41**	**2,005**	**20,990**	**8%**
previous year	**697**	**682**	**466**	**251**	**14**	**-**	**2,110**	**19,417**	

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov-08	Nov-07	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
Alberta	236	205	197	198	197	396	2,652	4,230	-37%
Manitoba/BC	81	67	64	68	75	37	819	482	70%
Ontario/Quebec	64	39	52	33	56	47	623	574	9%
Total	**381**	**311**	**313**	**299**	**328**	**480**	**4,094**	**5,286**	**-23%**

**source AAFC Red Meat Section*

**Due to varying provincial reporting schedules, total Fed. and Prov. has a one month delay in Prov. data (Jan-Apr Federal, plus Jan-Mar Provincial for both years)*

	2008	2007	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	**25,084**	**24,703**	**2%**

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	29-Nov	06-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec	03-Jan	Dec Total	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
	N/A	**1,309**	**1,027**	**949**	**555**	**N/A**	3,840	**51,622**	**47,032**	**10%**
previous year	N/A	1,115	1,081	849	957	N/A	4,002			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Sep-08	Oct-08	Nov-08	Dec-08	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	924	572	500	722	8,348	8,412	**-1%**
Slaughter Female	778	679	735	541	8,423	6,036	**40%**
Feeder Male	143	986	791	376	5,190	2,647	**96%**
Feeder Female	164	629	747	269	3,883	1,706	**128%**
Total	**2,009**	**2,866**	**2,773**	**1,908**	25,844	18,801	**37%**

**source USDA*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless

		July	August	September	October	November 2008		YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
USA	Kg	18,932	47,502	18,194	33,760	49,699		**300,177**	**165,249**	**82%**
	Value ($Cdn)	155,265	253,776	136,815	235,298	390,958		**2,091,589**	**1,131,975**	**85%**
France	Kg	27,053	64,158	45,560	41,867	44,377		**491,925**	**449,402**	**9%**
	Value ($Cdn)	348,866	586,963	539,152	514,911	591,124		**5,259,250**	**3,927,259**	**34%**
Germany	Kg	3,815	4,858	6,027	4,679	4,616		**53,694**	**181,569**	**-70%**
	Value ($Cdn)	53,107	51,960	69,473	76,157	60,222		**746,611**	**2,279,127**	**-67%**
Switzerland	Kg	5,323	21,931	3,141	8,254	5,502		**97,407**	**28,175**	**246%**
	Value ($Cdn)	79,316	271,740	97,703	82,793	198,893		**1,502,467**	**519,789**	**189%**
Mexico	Kg	-	1,309	28,681	70,790	-		**100,780**	**258,380**	**-61%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	5,180	152,488	371,730	-		**529,398**	**963,834**	**-45%**
Japan	Kg	-	10,305	-	-	-		**10,305**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	74,727	-	-	-		**74,727**	**-**	**-**
Neth. Antilles	Kg	-	36	-	-	-		**122**	**979**	**-88%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	290	-	-	-		**1,183**	**15,291**	**-92%**
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**431**	**6,713**	**-94%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**6,899**	**121,095**	**-94%**
Other	Kg	-	-	-	1,414	488		**1,949**	**16,120**	**-88%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	15,876	13,910		**30,542**	**181,463**	**-83%**
Total	**Kg**	**55,123**	**150,099**	**101,603**	**160,764**	**104,682**		**1,056,790**	**1,106,587**	**-5%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**636,554**	**1,244,636**	**995,631**	**1,296,765**	**1,255,107**		**10,242,666**	**9,139,833**	**12%**

Bone-in

		July	August	September	October	November		YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**10,719**	**1,353**	**8,130**	**12,044**	**1,275**		**66,805**	**116,701**	**-43%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**37,867**	**13,474**	**42,120**	**46,843**	**12,285**		**264,457**	**519,977**	**-49%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	July	August	September	October	November		YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
Kg	**65,842**	**151,452**	**109,733**	**172,808**	**105,957**	**-**	**1,123,595**	**1,223,288**	**-8%**
Value ($Cdn)	**674,421**	**1,258,110**	**1,037,751**	**1,343,608**	**1,267,392**	**-**	**10,507,123**	**9,659,810**	**9%**

**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 2008	206.42	194.98	135.17	131.62
Feb 2008	213.5	199.32	133.39	135
Mar 2008	220.94	207.49	144.83	132.11
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

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Heifers (OTM)
	Youthful Bulls		**Youthful Heifers**	
Jan 2008	180-200		175-185	
	Bulls	**Heifers**	**Cull Cows**	**Cull Bulls**
Feb 2008	190-205	180-200	70	65
Mar 2008	195-220	185-210	70	70
Apr 2008	215-225	205-215	85	90
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	100-120	100-125
Nov 2008	230-275	225-265	120-130	125-130
Dec 2008	245-280	235-255	115-130	100-135
Jan 2009	235-280	220-260	100-130	100-130

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	October		November		December		Change Current Month vs. 2 months prior	Change Current Month vs. 1 month prior
	Range	**Wt. Avg**	**Range**	**Wt. Avg**	**Range**	**Wt. Avg**		
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	800-1435	986.46	740-1,150	981.74	740-1,150	980.64	-1%	0%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	275-425	333.63	285-425	329.41	285-425	334.16	0%	1%
Striploin Fresh	690-1150	925.12	750-1,050	943.04	750-1,050	945.32	2%	0%
Tenderloin Fresh	1550-2150	1923.69	1,550-2,255	1,672.02	1,550-2250	1,651.47	-14%	-1%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	300-390	330	300-335	330	300-335	326	-1%	-1%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	300-415	356.36	295-400	365.36	295-470	345.67	-3%	-5%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	285-470	348.75	285-470	325.19	285-340	314.55	-10%	-3%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-October Pricing	Mid-November Pricing	Mid-December Pricing	Mid-January Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$41.95-49.50	$41.95-49.50	$41.95-45.00	$40.00-52.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$21.95-28.50	$21.95-28.50	$22.00-27.95	$19.00-30.00
Inside Round - Fresh	$8.80-11.75	$8.75-11.75	$8.79-11.80	$9.00-12.50
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$7.00-7.50	$7.00-7.90	$7.00-7.92	$6.95-7.85
Fresh Bison Trim	$5.90-6.50	$6.35-6.40	$6.35-7.30	$5.75-6.70

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Sekura Auction (AB) (Dec 6 2008, 458 head)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (cwt)
2008 Males	300-400	115.77
	400-500	119
2007 Males	400-500	91
	500-600	109
	600-700	57
	700-800	113
	900+	108
2008 Females	0-300	85.77
	300-400	103.95
	400-500	95.55
2007 Females	300-400	40
	400-500	73.22
	500-600	97.6
	600-700	100.42
	700-800	100.05
Feeder Cows		70.11

Sekura Auction (AB) (Jan 10, 2009, 79 head)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (cwt)
2008 Males	300-400	125.27
	400-500	121.08
2007 Males	600-700	115.5
2006 Males	800-900	94.08
	900-1000	90
2008 Females	0-300	89.29
	300-400	106.72
	400-500	122
2007 Females	500-600	85.99
Mature Bulls		60
Feeder Cows		56.37

Kramer Auction (SK) (Dec 10 2008)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of Head	Average ($/lb)
2007 Bulls	500-600	9	0.71
	600-650	13	1.10
	650-700	16	1.28
	700-800	40	1.33
	800+	34	1.34
2007 Heifers	500-600	8	1.10
	600-650	16	0.91
	>650	13	1.31
	<500	13	0.77
2008 Bulls	300-400	10	1.12
	400-450	14	1.47
	450+	20	1.67
	<300	7	0.85
2008 Heifers	300-400	26	0.83
	400-450	33	1.25
	<300	10	0.66
Mature Bulls	1000+	6	0.71
	<1000	10	0.58

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 isteadc@agr.gc.ca

Although strong, there are reported signs of weakening for prime slaughter bulls and heifers in January compared to the December averages. Some market participants have also indicated some softening of prices offered for mature bulls and cows in some markets. There are also reports that there is some retail price resistance in some markets. The market in the U.S. remains relatively strong despite the problems in the economy. In the Canadian market, the value of the Canadian dollar has assisted in maintaining the market at present levels. Nationally federal slaughter for 2008 was up 8% (20,990 in 2008 compared to 19,424 for the same period in 2007). Exports of live animals to the end of November were up 48% (27,436 in 2008 compared to 18,527 in 2007). Total boneless bison meat exports to the end of November 2008 have declined by 4.5% (1,056,790 Kg. in 2008 compared to 1,106,587 Kg. in 2007). There has been continued growth in bison meat exports to the U.S. and France. This data does not reflect the Canadian bison slaughtered in the U.S. where the meat is exported to Europe. Such data is not readily available.

Chart 1

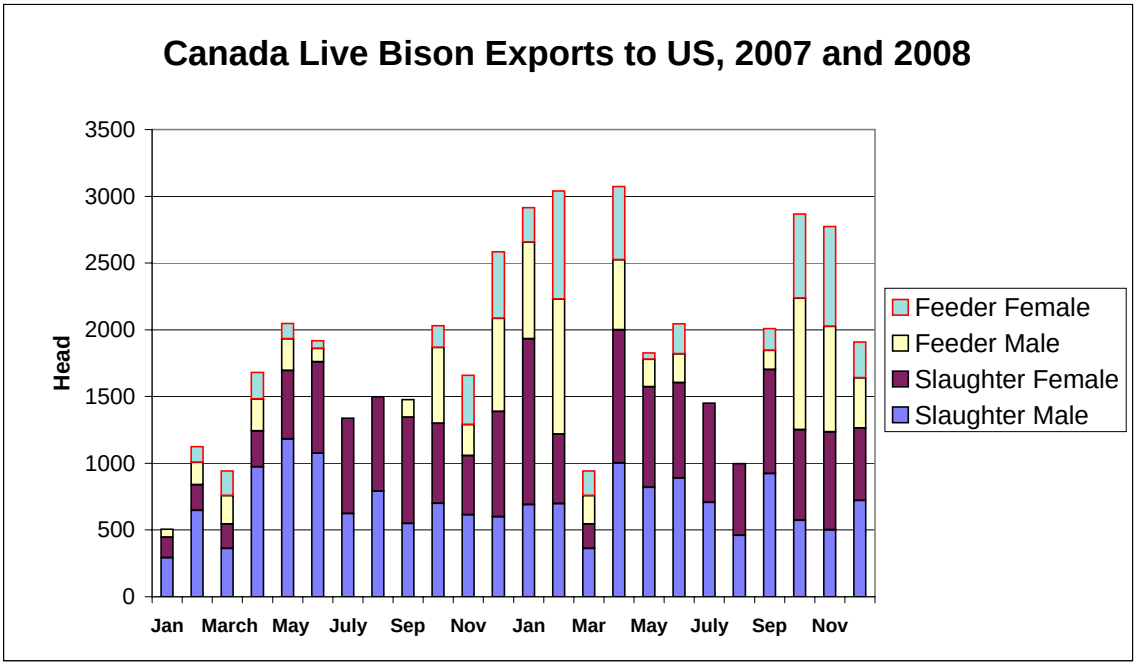


Chart 2

