

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - September 16, 2008



Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	02-Aug	09-Aug	16-Aug	23-Aug	August Total	2008 YTD	08 vs 07 % Change
Total Canada	281	571	380	402	1,634	13,584	17%
<i>previous year</i>	255	395	360	574	1,584	11,647	

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Mar	April	May	June	July	July 2007	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
Alberta	255	322	195	223	236	317	1,619	2,491	-35%
Manitoba/BC	108	72	68	87	81	42	458	277	65%
Ontario/Quebec	42	63	58	101	64	77	411	364	13%
Total	405	457	321	411	381	436	2,488	3,132	-21%

*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	16,072	14,779	9%

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	02-Aug	09-Aug	16-Aug	23-Aug	Aug-08	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
	1,029	987	902	886	3,804	35,995	31,480	14%
<i>previous year</i>	1,000	921	889	912	3,722			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	May-08	Jun-08	July-08	Aug-08	2008 YTD	2007 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	821	889	708	461	5,630	5,952	-5%
Slaughter Female	752	715	743	536	5,690	3,408	67%
Feeder Male	205	216	-	-	2,894	1,016	185%
Feeder Female	48	225	-	-	2,074	676	207%
Total	1,826	2,045	1,451	997	16,288	11,052	47%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
USA	Kg 35,354	15,010	7,742	15,791	18,932	151,022	91,826	64%
	Value (\$Cdn) 225,285	80,141	78,210	132,646	155,265	1,074,742	611,228	76%
France	Kg 35,093	49,343	42,845	76,787	27,053	295,963	221,782	33%
	Value (\$Cdn) 392,315	568,750	453,883	602,737	348,866	3,027,100	2,006,369	51%
Germany	Kg 10,245	2,982	2,111	3,938	3,815	33,514	112,066	-70%
	Value (\$Cdn) 144,241	36,712	26,119	49,836	53,107	488,799	488,799	0%
Switzerland	Kg 1,675	11,913	8,943	19,419	5,323	58,579	19,310	203%
	Value (\$Cdn) 43,013	197,510	120,408	248,034	79,316	851,338	359,561	137%
Mexico	Kg 127,426	-	-	-	30,000	228,216	85,252	168%
	Value (\$Cdn) 469,471	-	-	-	128,162	885,016	344,934	157%
Japan	Kg -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neth. Antilles	Kg 86	-	-	-	-	86	867	-90%
	Value (\$Cdn) 893	-	-	-	-	893	13,800	-94%
Italy	Kg -	145	-	-	-	431	3,793	-89%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	2,321	-	-	-	6,899	68,046	-90%
Other	Kg 47	-	-	-	-	47	15,969	-100%
	Value (\$Cdn) 756	-	-	-	-	756	2,442,806	-100%
Total	Kg 209,926	79,393	61,641	115,935	85,123	767,858	550,865	39%
	Value (\$Cdn) 1,275,974	885,434	678,620	1,033,253	764,716	6,335,543	6,335,543	0%

Bone-in

	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
Total	Kg 146	17,422	11,810	3,642	10,719	94,863	109,077	-13%
	Value (\$Cdn) 1,534	39,191	35,632	21,946	37,867	266,097	430,636	-38%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	YTD 2008	YTD 2007	% Change
Kg	210,072	96,815	73,451	119,577	95,842	862,721	659,942	31%
Value (\$Cdn)	1,277,508	924,625	714,252	1,055,199	802,583	6,601,640	6,766,179	-2%

*source Statistics Canada

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

wgthtd avg	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)
Sept 2007	195.94	173.34	133.33	126.67
Oct 2007	200.68	192.31	134.65	130.87
Nov 2007	204.26	190.62	130.11	131.48
Dec 2007	203.27	194.39	134.74	128.14
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

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

wgthtd avg	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Heifers (OTM)
Oct	187.5	177.5	165	165
Nov	177.5	167.5	160	160
Dec	185	180	175	175
	Youthful Bulls		Youthful Heifers	
Jan 2008	180-200		175-185	
	Yearling Bulls	Heifers	Cows	Bulls
Feb	190-205	180-200	70	65
March	195-220	185-210	70	70
April	215-225	205-215	85	90
May	205-225	200-210	80-100	80-100
June	205-225	195-220	90-100	90-100
July	205-230	210-225	100-110	100-110
August	220-230	210-230	90-100	90-100
September	225-240	210-230	90-100	90-100

source CBA survey of marketers*USDA Key Cuts - Grain Fed Wholesale (\$US/cwt)**

	June		July		August		Change Current Month vs. 2 months prior 1 month prior	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg		
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	850-1200	954.75	825-1200	951.75	825-1200	888.56	-7%	-7%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	285-410	317.94	285-410	317.46	250-425	312.8	-2%	-1%
Striploin Fresh	700-1050	890.64	700-1050	922.03	700-1050	920.04	3%	0%
Tenderloin Fresh	1350-2410	1739.79	1450-2100	1626.79	1450-2250	1468.33	-16%	-10%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	235-400	316.21	300-325	315	300-350	324	2%	3%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	295-440	344.93	295-480	365.56	300-425	345.04	0%	-6%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	300-440	335.8	285-528	337.96	285-425	336.58	0%	0%

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

	Mid-June Pricing	Mid-July Pricing	Mid-August Pricing	Mid-September Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$44.83-49.50	\$44.83-49.50	\$41.95-49.00	\$41.95-49.95
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$23.86-28.50	\$23.86-28.50	\$21.95-28.00	\$21.95-27.95
Inside Round - Fresh	\$7.73-11.90	\$7.73-11.90	\$8.75-12.00	\$8.95-12.45
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$5.94-7.45	\$5.94-7.45	\$6.95-7.85	\$6.95-7.85
Fresh Bison Trim	\$5.10-6.28	\$5.10-6.28	\$5.85-5.95	\$5.95-6.25

source CBA survey of marketers*Live Auction Reports *most recent reported, may not reflect current market**

Sekura Auction (AB) (04/05/08, 267 head)			Kramer Auction (SK) (03/19/08)			Kramer Auction (SK) (05/14/08)				
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of Head	Average (\$cdn/lb)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of Head	Average (\$cdn/lb)
2007 Males	0-300	90.00	2005 Bulls	1000+	5	0.96	2006 Bulls	850	9	1.17
	300-400	101.26		700-800	8	0.89	2006 Heifers	500-600	3	0.98
	400-500	112.27		800-900	4	1.04	2006 Heifers	600-650	9	1.20
2006 Males	300-400	55.00	2006 Bulls	900-1000	4	0.96	2006 Heifers	650-700	6	1.21
	400-500	73.91		500-550	7	0.66	2006 Heifers	700+	5	1.25
	500-600	84.92		550-600	25	0.81	2007 Bulls	350-450	18	1.34
	600-700	100.12		600-700	35	1.04	2007 Bulls	450-550	9	1.32
	700-800	96.62		700+	14	1.19	2007 Bulls	500+	22	1.38
2005 Males	1000+	32.00		Under 500	9	0.62	2007 Heifers	400-450	20	1.22
2007 Females	0-300	76.77	2006 Heifers	500-600	51	0.74	2007 Heifers	450+	24	1.17
	300-400	84.98		over 600	22	0.84	2007 Heifers	under 400	14	1.27
	400-500	92.15		under 500	26	0.52				
2006 Females	400-500	69.52	2007 Bulls	300-350	14	0.70				
	500-600	81.74		350-400	25	0.99				
	700-800	83.00		400-450	17	1.25				
	800-900	92.00		500+	4	1.25				
Feeder Cows		43.95	2007 Heifers	300-350	19	0.87				
				350-400	26	0.90				
				400+	13	0.99				
				under 300	16	0.69				

NB - the next Sekura Auction will be October 4, 2008

NB - the next Kramer Auction is expected in November 2008

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 isteadc@agr.gc.ca

Average prices paid for prime slaughter bulls moved upward by nearly 10 cents a pound hot hanging weight in September as processors compete for quality animals to meet consumer demand. Prime heifer prices were also up by equal amounts. Nationally federal slaughter for the first 36 weeks of 2008 was up 13.3% (14,207 in 2008 compared to 12,540 for the same period in 2007) while exports of live animals to the end of July were up 52% (17,977 in 2008 compared to 11,789 in 2007). Although many animals went for slaughter, processors are also ensuring that they have sufficient supply for 2009. Marketers in Canada report a shortage of prime animals with tight supply until later in the year when more animals are expected to come on to the North American market.

Chart 1

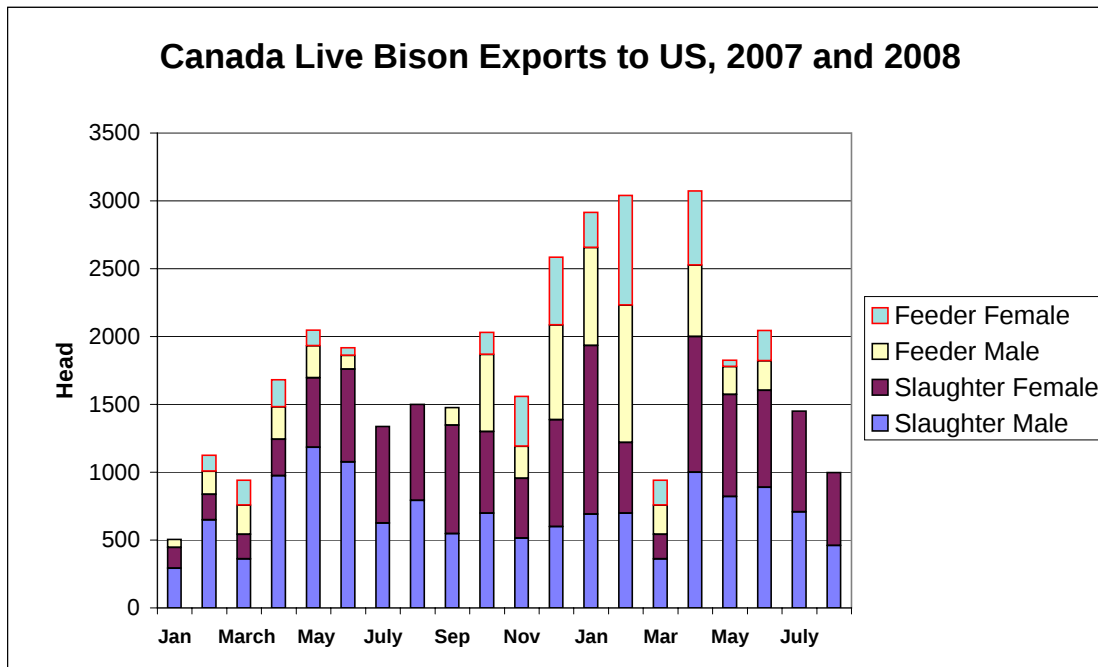


Chart 2

