Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - May 18, 2010

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	10-Apr	17-Apr	24-Apr	01-May	Apr Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Total Canada	**270**	**381**	**313**	**334**	**1,298**	**6,393**	**7,382**	**-13%**
previous year	215	419	296	452	**1,382**			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Nov	Dec	Jan-10	Feb	Mar-10	Mar-09	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Alberta	169	133	205	108	151	257	464	656	-29%
Saskatchewan	34	15	33	38	34	40	105	137	-23%
Manitoba/BC	63	62	52	53	64	85	169	190	-11%
Ontario/Quebec	52	30	47	39	44	30	130	124	5%
Total	**318**	**240**	**337**	**238**	**293**	**412**	**868**	**1107**	**-22%**

*** 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*

	2010	2009	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter	**7,261**	**8,489**	**-14%**

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	10-Apr	17-Apr	24-Apr	01-May	Apr Total	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
	1201	**1025**	**1061**	**1089**	**4,376**	**18,943**	**17,813**	**6%**
previous year	1017	1023	1027	1028	**4,095**			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Jan-10	Feb-10	Mar-10	Apr-10	2010 YTD	2009 YTD	% Change
Slaughter Male	839	714	812	603	2,968	2,193	**35%**
Slaughter Female	694	936	773	430	2,833	3,157	**-10%**
Feeder Male	901	397	476	359	2,133	1,312	**63%**
Feeder Female	587	116	417	489	1,609	1,359	**18%**
Total	**3,021**	**2,163**	**2,478**	**1,881**	**9,543**	**8,021**	**19%**

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless

		November	December	January	February	March		YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
USA	Kg	48,093	25,396	23,963	47,302	50,036		121,301	102,680	**18%**
	Value ($Cdn)	373,907	211,430	203,620	380,341	414,742		998,703	821,469	**22%**
France	Kg	9,382	36,362	27,768	24,551	28,894		81,213	101,667	**-20%**
	Value ($Cdn)	115,935	383,923	211,581	285,401	358,500		855,482	1,312,963	**-35%**
Germany	Kg	2,305	3,655	576	742	709		2,027	2,421	**-16%**
	Value ($Cdn)	44,571	93,278	11,819	12,561	10,771		35,151	34,930	**1%**
Switzerland	Kg	3,801	2,281	2,901	2,904	4,288		10,093	13,213	**-24%**
	Value ($Cdn)	130,189	89,531	108,020	119,932	148,430		376,382	506,611	**-26%**
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
China P.Rep.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Hong Kong	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
United Arab Emirates	Kg	485	238	-	1,656	-		1,656	666	**149%**
	Value ($Cdn)	4,626	8,986	-	45,752	-		45,752	19,032	**140%**
Japan	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Moldova	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Taiwan	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		-	-	**N/A**
Total	**Kg**	**64,066**	**67,932**	**55,208**	**77,155**	**83,927**		**216,290**	**220,647**	**-2%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**669,228**	**787,148**	**535,040**	**843,987**	**932,443**		**2,311,470**	**2,695,005**	**-14%**

Bone-in

		November	December	January	February	March		YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**17,966**		**17,966**	**7,981**	**-2%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**49,162**		**49,162**	**31,336**	**57%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	November	December	January	February	March		YTD 2010	YTD 2009	% Change
Kg	**64,066**	**67,932**	**55,208**	**77,155**	**101,893**		**234,256**	**228,628**	**2%**
Value ($Cdn)	**669,228**	**787,148**	**535,040**	**843,987**	**981,605**		**2,360,632**	**2,726,341**	**-13%**

*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)
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
Jan 2010	241	222.99	161.3	158.77
Feb 2010	246.99	228.58	180.73	171.43
Mar 2010	246.53	238.7	185	165.1
Apr 2010	249.04	236.58	195	174.29

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
Feb 2010	240-255	220-240	140-155	140-155
Mar 2010	225-260	225-245	150-160	145-155
Apr 2010	245-260	240-255	150-160	150-160
May 2010	245-265	225-250	150-170	150-170

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	February		March		April		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	725-1225	977.67	750-1225	978.64	750-1225	976.46	0%	0%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	332-425	337.96	330-425	341.78	330-425	342.65	1%	0%
Striploin Fresh	720-1050	900.75	720-1050	898.18	650-1050	909.95	1%	1%
Tenderloin Fresh	1000-1650	1366.13	1050-1650	1239.63	1050-1650	1168.05	-14%	-6%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	330-390	333	300-395	340	300-395	331	-1%	-3%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	300-470	393.3	300-470	391.87	340-470	391.44	0%	0%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	325-440	368.71	345-435	418.15	345-440	374.98	2%	-10%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-February Pricing	Mid-March Pricing	Mid-April Pricing	Mid-May Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$36.00 - $49.50	$29.95 - $49.50	$35.90 - $47.00	$35.90 - $45.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$22.00 - $24.50	$19.95 - $26.00	$18.95 - $26.00	$18.95 - $28.00
Inside Round - Fresh	$10.00 - $15.00	$9.00 - $11.00	$9.65 - $12.70	$9.65 - $12.80
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$7.50 - $10.15	$8.45 - $10.15	$7.95 - $9.95	$7.95 - $9.95
Fresh Bison Trim	$7.00 - $7.78	$7.30 - $7.70	$7.50 - $8.25	$8.00 - $8.25

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Sekura Auctions (AB) (April 10, 2010)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average ($/cwt)
2007 Males	800-899	125.00
2008 Males	500-599	125.00
	600-699	120.00
	700-799	119.25
2009 Males	0-300	117.50
	300-400	134.58
	400-500	150.90
2008 Females	400-499	85.00
	500-599	105.50
	600-699	120.37
	700-799	124
2009 Females	0-300	118.66
	300-400	129.11
	400-500	137.20
Mature Bulls	1000-9999	104.00
Cows	0-999	93.54

Willowview Auctions (AB) (March 20, 2010)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average ($/cwt)
2009 Bull Calves	300-350	136-140
	400-450	152-156
	450-550	154-158
2009 Heifer Calves	300-350	130-135
	400-450	138-141
2008 Yearling Bulls	500-600	110-120
	600-650	128-135
	700-800	145-148
	800-900	146-148
2008 Yearling Heifers	500-600	120-125
	600-700	129-135
	700-800	135-138
Mature Bulls		83-90
Bison Cows		85-91

Sekura Auctions (AB) (March 6, 2010)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average ($/cwt)
2009 Males	0-299	141.64
	300-399	133.58
	400-500	153.28
	400-499	144.00
	500-599	149.24
2008 Males	500-599	114.46
	600-699	122.50
	700-799	145.19
	800-899	75.00
	900-999	125.00
2007 Males	1000-9999	88.10
2009 Females	0-300	102.00
	300-400	123.55
	400-500	139.26
2008 Females	500-600	126.63
	600-700	129.24
Cows		86.56
Bred Heifers		1071.43 / hd
Breeding Bulls		1559.22 / hd

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 diane.kelly@agr.gc.ca

Live bison prices continue to be strong with finished animals and animals for the ground market in short supply. Consumer demand remains particularly strong for ground bison products, with middle cuts starting to show some movement out of inventory as prices for these cuts have been reduced and the grilling season has begun. The US market demand for Canadian bison continues to be strong. Even though the Canadian dollar has hovered near par and prices for animals to the export market have been reduced compared to last year, returns to producers continue to be higher in the U.S. market.

The weak EURO and increased prices by marketers in order to preserve margins will likely reduce shipments into that market. This will make some product available for the North American market. The Middle Eastern Market remains strong. These factors have translated into strong prices for finished bison as well as trim. The shortage of animals continues to motivate marketers to lock in their supply of animals. Further pressures have been placed on the tight supplies as most producers have culled their herds and are holding animals back to build their herds in response to the strong demand. These tight supplies will require higher prices to ration available supply.

Nationally, federal slaughter is down 13.4% for the first 17 weeks of this year (6,393 in 2010 compared to 7,382 for the same period in 2009). Exports of live animals to the end of March jumped by 25% in 2010 when compared to the same period in 2009 (8,098 in 2010 compared to 6,477 in 2009). The average price per animal exported was down from $1,168 in 2009 to $1,060 in the first quarter – a decline of 9.2%. The strong demand for bison in the U.S. market combined with marketers locking in their supplies has contributed to the strong exports in the first quarter of 2010.

Total boneless bison meat exports for the first quarter of 2010 are down 2% with a slight decline in all markets except for the United Arab Emirates which showed a 149% increase in the first quarter of 2010 over 2009.

Chart 1

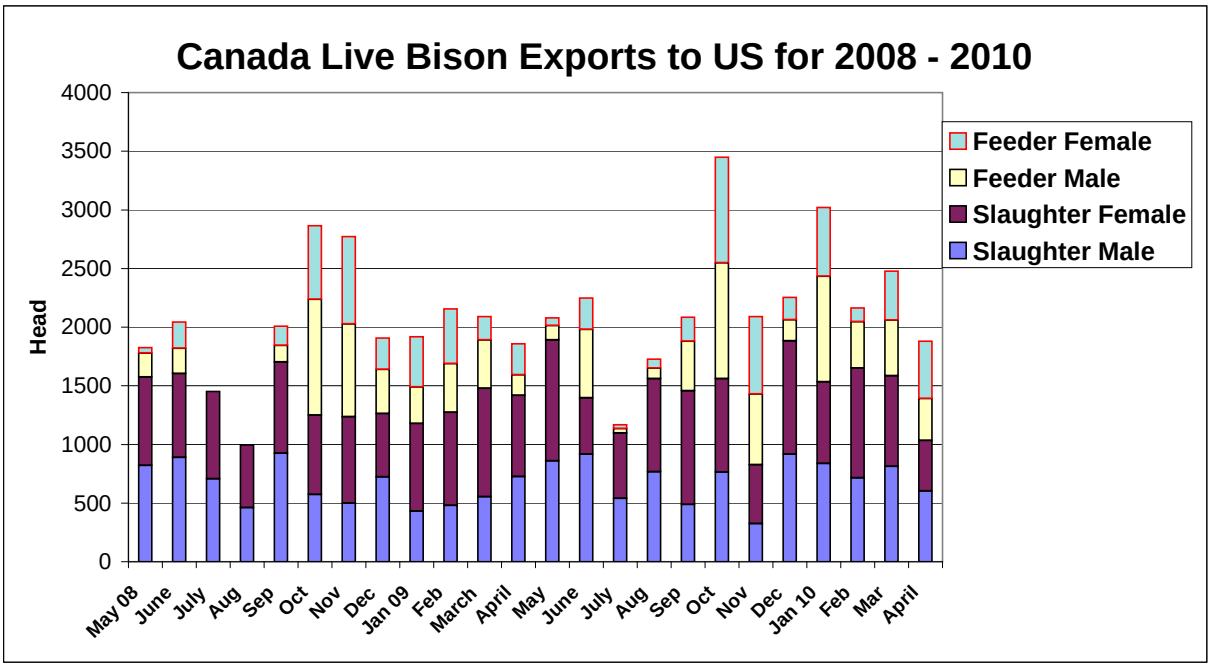


Chart 2

