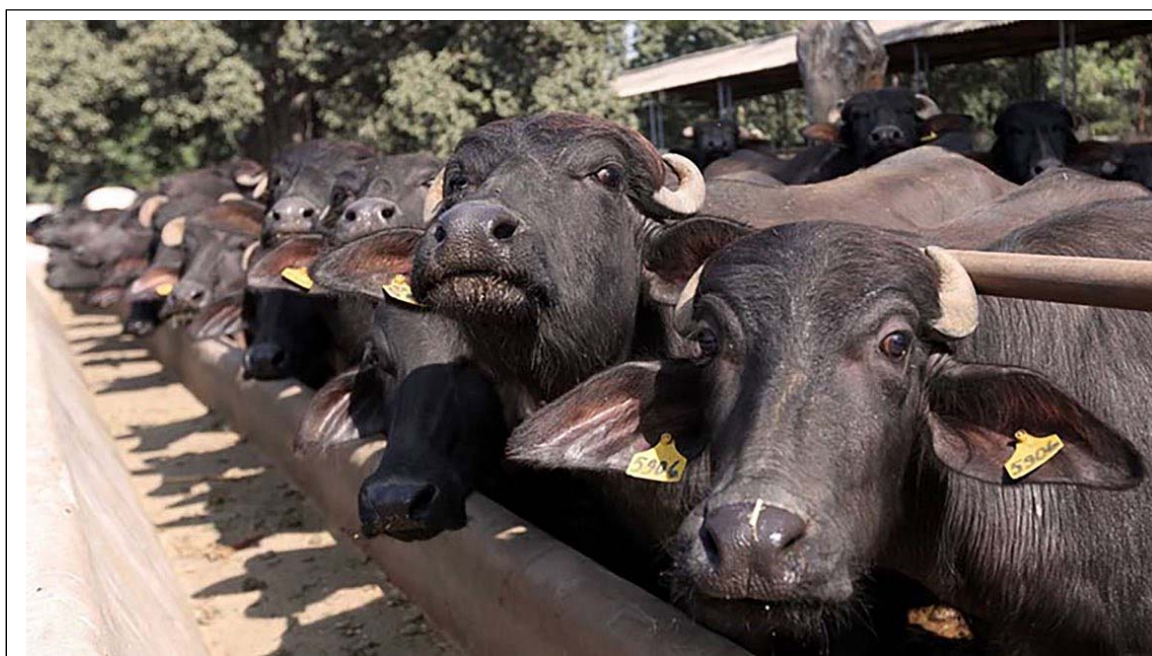


A Sneak Attack: **(Water) Buffalo in the U.S.** **Meat Marketplace**



You Don't Think So?....



Compiled by:
National Bison Association
8690 Wolff Court
Westminster, CO 80031
303.292.2833
info@bisoncentral.com

August, 2018

Package in Virginia Retail Outlets

August 2018



Product on sale at:

Food City #849
145 West Lee Highway
Chilhowie, VA 24319

Food City #860
736 North Beaver Dam Road
Damascus, VA 24236

Who is Thomas Foods International?

About Thomas Foods International¹

Thomas Foods International is one of the largest processors of Meat in Australia, we process approximately 115,000 head per week in our 4 family owned plants located throughout Australia. Thomas Foods International USA manages sales & distribution out of our Lakeside Processing Facility in New Jersey. Over the past 30 years, our premium meats have become recognized as some of the world's finest. Products and Services Includes: • Lamb, goat, mutton, grass fed beef, grain fed beef, wagyu beef, Angus Pure ABF beef & organic • Private labeling for your branded items • Sales support & marketing programs • Nationwide distribution • Lakeside processing facility: -Portioned control items: steaks, grinds, patties, cubes and chops -125,000 Square Foot Facility -Five production lines to ensure optimum shelf life -Grinding operation capable of 60,000 lbs. per shift

Company details

Website

<http://www.thomasfoods.com>

Headquarters

Palo Alto, CA

Company type

Privately Held

Company size

51-200 employees

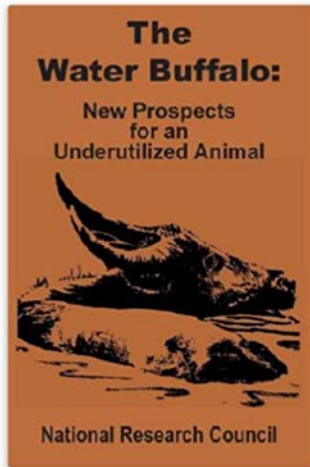
Specialties

Food Processing, Foodservice Supplier, Retail Market Supplier, Cold Storage, Organic Products, Grass Fed Products, Lamb, Beef, and Halal

¹ Source: Thomas Foods International USA LinkedIn Page. <https://www.linkedin.com/company/thomas-foods-usa/>

2002: Water Buffalo Touted at an Opportunity in the Food System

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The Water Buffalo: New Prospects for an Underutilized Animal Paperback – June 1, 2002

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The water buffalo is an animal resource whose potential seems to have been barely recognized or examined outside of Asia. Throughout the world there are proponents and enthusiasts for the various breeds of cattle; the water buffalo, however, is not a cow and it has been neglected. Nevertheless, this symbol of Asian life and endurance has performed notably well in recent trials in such diverse places as the [United states](#), Australia, Papua New Guinea, Trinidad, Costa Rica, Venezuela, and Brazil. In Italy and Egypt as well as Bulgaria and other Balkan states the water buffalo has been an important part of animal husbandry for centuries. [In each of these places certain herds of water buffalo appear to have equalled or surpassed the local cattle in growth, environmental tolerance, health, and the production of meat and calves.](#)

Although these are empirical observations lacking painstaking, detailed experimentation, they do seem to indicate that the water buffalo could become an important resource in tropical, subtropical, and warm temperate zones in developing and developed countries.

If this is the case, then it is clear that many countries should begin water buffalo research. [Serious attention by scientists could help dispel the misperceptions and uncertainties surrounding the animal and encourage its true qualities to emerge.](#)

Today: The Water Buffalo Industry is Growing...and Exporting

8/8/2018

Indonesia looks to grow buffalo imports

FOOD
navigator-asia.com

Indonesia looks to grow buffalo imports

By Aidan Fortune

04-Sep-2016 - Last updated on 05-Sep-2016 at 15:28 GMT

RELATED TAGS: Buffalo meat, Import

The Indonesian Bureau of Logistics (Bulog) is promoting buffalo meat as an alternative to beef in an effort to keep prices down.



It is hoped that by importing buffalo meat, beef margins can be reduced and the price can be lowered in accordance with targets set by the government.

The country recently signed an agreement to import 80,000 tonnes of buffalo meat from India between now and the end of the year.

"We want to introduce the advantages of buffalo meat," said Bulog chairman Djarot Kusumayakti.

He claimed that, in Jakarta, buffalo meat is much better than beef and that consumers would not lose out if they switched.

He said he found it difficult to distinguish between the taste of buffalo meat and beef. According to him, both the meat textures were equally soft. "Even I found it difficult to distinguish between beef and buffalo meat," said Djarot.

According to Minister Rini Soemarno, the low price of buffalo meat could also become an option for people with low incomes. "Buffalo meat could be an alternative to beef, because this meat costs almost half the price of local meat; the price of beef right now is RP120,000 per kg, while buffalo meat is RP65,000 per kilogram," said Rini.

He added that imports of buffalo meat from India could also help to reduce the price of beef. "I look forward to the arrival of buffalo meat [as it] could depress the price of local beef, which is still above RP100,000 per kg."

India set to increase meat presence globally

By Ed Bedington

24-Jun-2014 - Last updated on 27-Aug-2014 at 08:29 GMT

RELATED TAGS: Milk, International trade, Export, India, World meat congress

India is poised to take a larger step on to the world stage when it comes to meat, delegates to the World Meat Congress were told.

The country is the largest bovine producer in the world, according to Nasser Ghulam Hamid Shaikh, vice-president of the Allana Group, referring to the country's huge reserves of buffalo meat.



Allana Group is the largest producer of halal bovine meat in the world, he told the conference in Beijing. India was now exporting to 65 countries around the world, and with beef production declining around the world, there was increased scope for India to play a greater role, he said, adding that they were keen to put "China on that list" of countries.

Richard Brown, director with market analysts Gira, said India was an increasing presence on the export market, and was offering a low-cost alternative to traditional beef supplies for a number of markets.

The Indian buffalo population was showing strong growth, and with increased demand within the dairy sector, he said that more buffalo would be available for the meat sector. **"Buffalo is referred to in India as black gold,"** he said. **"India is poised to emerge as the biggest producer and exporter of bovine meat in the years to come."**

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|-------------------|------|-----------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------|
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| MARKET STATS | | 37,996 ▲ 108.70 | 11,476 ▲ 26.90 | 29,615.0 ▲ 18.0 | 68.51 ▼ -0.17 |

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Indian buffalo meat exports may remain flat

By P K Krishnakumar, ET Bureau | Jul 13, 2018, 12:52 PM IST

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Comments



Buffalo meat exports rose 15% year-on-year in volume to 194,500 tonnes and 10% in value to Rs 3,928 crore in April and May. (Representative Image)

KOCHI: India's buffalo meat exports are likely to remain flat this fiscal year despite a remarkable 15% jump in the first two months.

Industry experts said the improved performance may not extend to the rest of the year as uncertainties continue to plague the market.

Buffalo meat exports rose 15% year-on-year in volume to 194,500 tonnes and 10% in value to Rs 3,928 crore in April and May, data from the Agriculture & Processed Food

Products Export Development Authority (Apeda) shows.

"New issues keep cropping up, dragging the exports down," said Priya Sud, partner at Al-Noor Exports, a Delhi-based exporter of frozen buffalo meat. "We need to shed the conservative approach to buffalo meat exports for the shipments to go up."

Earlier, the government's demonetisation exercise and a ban on the sale of cattle for slaughter had hit exports of buffalo meat. The latter was scrapped in April this year, much to the industry's relief.

But, according to the industry, other problems like the foot and mouth disease (FMD) need to be dealt with effectively to raise the exports.



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"At present, China, a large consumer, is not buying directly from us because of fear of FMD. But our exports are going via Vietnam to that country," said Fauzan Alavi, vice president and spokesperson of All India Meat and Livestock Exporters Association. Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia are among the top buyers of Indian buffalo meat.

He said Maharashtra and Telangana have been declared FMD-free states but the bulk of the production takes place in Uttar Pradesh, where the problem persists.



Are these free range, grass-fed buffalo?

Banking



India's public sector banks have a serious hiring problem

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8/8/2018

Indian buffalo meat exports may remain flat

...the new meat will command a good price from big exporters like China and the US, Alavi said.

crore

Another issue cropping up is the proposed closure of tanneries in Uttar Pradesh from December 2018 to March 2019 on account of the [Kumbh Mela](#) at Allahabad. As raw hide export, a meat by-product, attracts heavy duty, it mostly goes to the tanneries.

"We should be allowed to export raw hide without duty as closure will rob us the income from raw hide," Alavi said.

About four years ago, India had become the world's top supplier of buffalo meat, overtaking Brazil with the annual export touching over Rs 29,000 crore. The exports, however, fell to Rs26,688 crore in 2015-16 and remained stagnant at around Rs 26,000 crore in the subsequent two years.

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Comments

Read more on

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BRAZIL? ... Look on the next page for more information on water buffalo in South America

Buffaloes breeding in Brasil

O. Bernardes 

Pages 162-167 | Published online: 15 Mar 2016

 Download citation  <https://doi.org/10.4081/ijas.2007.s2.162>

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Abstract

Differently from what one could formerly imagine, that buffalo breeding activity would be solely directed to fill the so called cattle breeding gaps determined by inadequate environmental conditions for ordinary cattle breeding, it has been actually seen that in those areas where breeders could successfully organize industrial-agricultural chains, either on meat or milk and its related products production, there has been an expressive expansion. Buffalo breeding has shown to be an important alternative not only in farms of higher technological level as also, and mainly, on small farms where it has become a key factor for increasing the average income, besides keeping labor

Background on water buffalo in South America

Water buffalo were introduced into the [Amazon River](#) basin in 1895. They are now extensively used there for meat and dairy production. In 2005, the buffalo herd in the [Brazilian Amazon](#) stood at roughly 1.6 million head, of which 460,000 were located in the lower Amazon floodplain.^[37] Breeds used include Mediterranean from Italy, Murrah and Jafarabadi from India, and Carabao from the Philippines.

During the 1970s, small herds were imported to [Costa Rica](#), [Ecuador](#), [Cayenne](#), [Panama](#), [Surinam](#), [Guyana](#), and [Venezuela](#).^[38]

ABZ Agro woos Saudi investors for buffalo meat venture

By Eliot Beer

15-Jun-2014 - Last updated on 15-Jun-2014 at 22:40 GMT

RELATED TAGS: Saudi arabia

Indian meat processing firm ABZ Agro is hunting for Saudi investors for a new buffalo meat production plant.

Wow...Even Asians
consider bison as buffalo



The firm gave a presentation to potential investors in Jeddah this month, outlining the project for the factory, based in Bihar, India. ABZ Agro estimates the minimum potential annual return on investment at 27%.

Buffalo meat from the facility would primarily be for export. Key markets for the meat include Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and UAE.

"ABZ Agro Foods Ltd. is a professionally managed company in New Delhi, with adequate experience and expertise in manufacture and export of frozen boneless buffalo meat with contacts in major meat markets of the world," said a statement from the company.