



# BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - April 27, 2016

## Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	05-Mar	12-Mar	19-Mar	26-Mar	02-Apr	Mar Total	January - March YTD		
							2016	2015	% Change
<b>Total Canada</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>2,766</b>	<b>3,192</b>	<b>-13.3%</b>
<i>previous year</i>	363	255	279	153	254	1,304			

## Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Oct 2015	Nov 2015	Dec 2015	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	Feb 2015	January - February YTD		
							2016	2015	% Change
<b>Alberta</b>	86	81	73	72	70	105	142	195	-27.2%
<b>Saskatchewan</b>	8	4	11	6	13	23	19	72	-73.6%
<b>Manitoba/BC</b>	28	77	57	30	27	54	57	91	-37.4%
<b>Ontario/Quebec**</b>	21	19	18	5	18	13	23	25	-8.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>-37.1%</b>

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

	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	% Change
<b>Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *</b>	<b>3,007</b>	<b>3,575</b>	<b>-15.9%</b>

\*Source AAFC Red Meat Section : Due to varying provincial reporting schedules, total Fed. and Prov. has a one month delay in Prov. Data

## Canadian Production

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	January - February YTD		
							2016	2015	% Change
<b>Total Slaughter</b>	19,149	13,048	13,587	14,388	14,371	14,186	2,070	2,271	-8.9%
<b>Total Live Exports</b>	20,973	14,465	14,007	16,769	19,033	26,162	3,910	2,927	33.6%
<b>Total Production</b>	<b>40,122</b>	<b>27,513</b>	<b>27,594</b>	<b>31,157</b>	<b>33,404</b>	<b>40,348</b>	<b>5,980</b>	<b>5,198</b>	<b>15.0%</b>

\*source : Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Provincial Governments, and USDA APHIS

## US Federal Slaughter\*

for week ending:	05-Mar	12-Mar	19-Mar	26-Mar	02-Apr	Mar Total	January - March YTD		
							2016	2015	% Change
	<b>1,225</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,225</b>	<b>1,031</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>5,457</b>	<b>13,765</b>	<b>13,491</b>	<b>2.0%</b>
<i>previous year</i>	863	1,059	1,102	952	999	4,975			

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

## Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	January - March YTD		
						2016	2015	% Change
Slaughter Male	1194	765	514	559	919	1,992	1,934	3.0%
Slaughter Female	1244	558	348	645	678	1,671	1,864	-10.4%
Feeder Male	1350	375	500	598	999	2,097	1,011	107.4%
Feeder Female	1088	516	406	340	356	1,102	693	59.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,876</b>	<b>2,214</b>	<b>1,768</b>	<b>2,142</b>	<b>2,952</b>	<b>6,862</b>	<b>5,502</b>	<b>24.7%</b>

\*source : USDA, APHIS

## Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		September 2015	October	November	December	January 2016	February	January - February YTD		
								2016	2015	% Change
USA	Kg	34,527	33,441	39,573	58,772	45,157	34,211	79,368	49,339	60.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	544,129	610,578	749,009	1,143,766	918,451	632,391	1,550,842	798,019	94.3%
France	Kg	1,429	8,118	9,661	6,977	5,801	2,887	8,688	11,950	-27.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	25,326	131,676	158,314	143,331	92,860	51,361	144,221	192,661	-25.1%
Switzerland	Kg	6,508	-	8,682	7,858	1,647	5,694	7,341	4,394	67.1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	194,557	-	307,099	261,427	57,423	184,388	241,811	166,707	45.1%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	125	-	-	-	-	146	146	10,568	-98.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	3,714	-	-	-	-	6,368	6,368	83,630	-92.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>Kg</b>	<b>42,589</b>	<b>41,559</b>	<b>57,916</b>	<b>73,607</b>	<b>52,605</b>	<b>42,938</b>	<b>95,543</b>	<b>76,251</b>	<b>25.3%</b>
	<b>Value (\$Cdn)</b>	<b>767,726</b>	<b>742,255</b>	<b>1,214,422</b>	<b>1,548,524</b>	<b>1,068,734</b>	<b>874,508</b>	<b>1,943,242</b>	<b>1,241,017</b>	<b>56.6%</b>

## Bone-in

	September 2015	October	November	December	January 2016	February	January - February YTD		
							2016	2015	% Change
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,190</b>	<b>5,728</b>	<b>9,197</b>	<b>18,123</b>	<b>2,859</b>	<b>6,565</b>	<b>9,424</b>	<b>7,468</b>	<b>26.2%</b>
<b>Value (\$Cdn)</b>	<b>32,267</b>	<b>36,305</b>	<b>69,715</b>	<b>73,337</b>	<b>30,808</b>	<b>30,354</b>	<b>61,162</b>	<b>34,601</b>	<b>76.8%</b>

## Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	September 2015	October	November	December	January 2016	February	January - February YTD		
							2016	2015	% Change
<b>Kg</b>	<b>47,779</b>	<b>47,287</b>	<b>67,113</b>	<b>91,730</b>	<b>55,464</b>	<b>49,503</b>	<b>104,967</b>	<b>83,719</b>	<b>25.4%</b>
<b>Value (\$Cdn)</b>	<b>799,993</b>	<b>778,560</b>	<b>1,284,137</b>	<b>1,621,861</b>	<b>1,099,542</b>	<b>904,862</b>	<b>2,004,404</b>	<b>1,275,618</b>	<b>57.1%</b>

\*Source: Statistics Canada (HS Code 02013010 - Bison cuts boneless, fresh or chilled and HS Code 02012010 - Bison cuts bone in, fresh or chilled)

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)
Mar 2015	413.87	400.81	325.60	320.75
Apr 2015	421.84	407.93	326.80	316.41
May 2015	421.73	407.12	325.77	326.68
June 2015	423.32	407.03	340.00	329.73
July 2015	424.21	410.07	350.00	341.11
Aug 2015	423.71	411.66	350.00	359.07
Sept 2015	425.13	410.79	351.18	353.92
Oct 2015	424.47	410.61	360.90	353.09
Nov 2015	424.44	410.37	364.78	353.10
Dec 2015	424.94	413.08	364.25	369.73
Jan 2016	431.20	415.72	363.40	353.30
Feb 2016	432.26	417.32	372.72	362.10
Mar 2016	441.84	430.47	360.68	370.26

\*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Apr 2015	469-500	449-480	325-350	325-350
May 2015	475-505	445-485	325-350	325-350
June 2015	475-505	445-485	325-350	325-350
July 2015	500-520	480-500	350-375	340-360
Aug 2015	500-520	480-500	350-375	340-360
Sept 2015	500-530	480-510	400	400
Oct 2015	515-530	495-510	400	400
Nov 2015	530-550	510-530	410	410
Dec 2015	535-550	525-530	420-450	420-450
Jan 2016	535-550	525-530	420-450	420-450
Feb 2016	600-600	575-575	440-450	440-450
Mar 2016	600-600	575-575	475	475
Apr 2016	600-600	575-585	500	500

\*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	January 2016		February 2016		March 2016		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,075-1,500	1,309.66	1,110-1,361	1,333.20	1,140-1,414	1,349.92	3.1%	1.3%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	635-750	643.44	660-942	874.47	645-795	652.47	1.4%	-25.4%
Striploin Fresh	850-1,232	1,209.59	945-1,267	1,194.18	965-1,284	1,230.73	1.7%	3.1%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,400-2,605	2,084.37	1,660-2,684	2,122.80	1,680-2,408	2,117.69	1.6%	-0.2%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	598-598	598.00	599-720	603.46	575-680	599.00	0.2%	-0.7%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	635-762	679.87	640-762	688.38	641-764	687.70	1.2%	-0.1%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	575-715	690.76	659-745	704.31	680-745	704.77	2.0%	0.1%

\*source USDA

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

	Mid-January 2016 Pricing	Mid-February 2016 Pricing	Mid-March 2016 Pricing	Mid-April 2016 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$48.95 - \$60.00	\$48.00 - \$62.00	\$48.00 - \$62.00	\$45.00 - \$59.50
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$32.95 - \$36.00	\$34.00 - \$38.00	\$37.95 - \$38.00	\$36.00 - \$39.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$18.95 - \$19.50	\$19.00 - \$24.00	\$22.95 - \$23.50	\$22.95 - \$23.50
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$16.00 - \$16.95	\$19.00 - \$20.00	\$19.00 - \$20.95	\$21.95 - \$23.50
Fresh Bison Trim	\$15.95 - \$18.00	\$17.00 - \$19.00	\$19.00 - \$19.95	\$19.00 - \$20.50

\*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Kramer Auction Sales (SK) (Mar 9, 2016)			Kramer Auction Sales (SK) (Feb 10, 2016)			CLASS (# of head)	Avg (\$/lb)
578 Head			531 Head			<b>2015 HEIFER CALVES (Wood)</b>	
<b>CLASS</b>	<b>(# of head)</b>	<b>Avg (\$/lb)</b>	<b>CLASS</b>	<b>(# of head)</b>	<b>Avg (\$/lb)</b>		
<b>2015 BULLS CALVES</b>			<b>2014 BREEDING BULLS</b>				
600 + lbs	7	\$4.40				401-460 lbs (23 head)	\$6.45
550-599 lbs	29	\$4.82	4 head- ranged from \$3750-\$4500			351-400 lbs (12 head)	\$5.96
500-549 lbs	73	\$5.57	with weights of 1103-1203 lbs			350 or less lbs (6 head)	\$6.68
450-499 lbs	89	\$5.15				<b>2015 HEIFER CALVES (Plains, Wood X)</b>	
400-449 lbs	62	\$5.40	<b>2013 BREEDING BULLS</b>			501+ lbs (6 head)	\$4.35
under 400	26	\$5.04	5 head-Ranged from \$3750-\$4600			451-500 lbs (25 head)	\$4.83
			with weights of 1182-1328 lbs			401-450 lbs (41 head)	\$4.73
<b>2014 YEARLING BULLS</b>						351-400 (26 head)	\$4.51
1000 + lbs	2	\$3.17	<b>2013 BULLS</b>			350 or less (15 head)	\$4.40
900-999 lbs	3	\$3.45	1 head	\$2.80		<b>2014 YEARLING HEIFERS (Wood)</b>	
800-899 lbs	1	\$3.60				701+ lbs (5 head)	\$6.10
700-799 lbs	9	\$3.76	<b>Mature Cows</b>			<b>2014 YEARLING HEIFERS (Plains, Wood X)</b>	
600-699 lbs	4	\$3.67	500-599			601-700 lbs (11 head)	\$3.49
under 600	3	\$3.44	2 cows ranging from 990lb-1035lb			501-600 lbs (17 head)	\$3.74
<b>2015 HEIFER CALVES</b>			selling for \$1000 each			Under 500 lbs (9 head)	\$3.66
500 +	61	\$4.37				<b>BRED HEIFERS (Preg Tested) (Wood)</b>	
450-499 lbs	32	\$4.50				1001 + lbs (7 head)	\$5.41
400-449 lbs	91	\$4.49				901-1000 lbs (3 head)	\$3.71
350-399 lbs	45	\$4.46				850 or less (6 head)	\$3.86
349 & Under	8	\$4.16				<b>SUB ADULT COWS ( Preg Tested) (Plains)</b>	
<b>2014 YEARLING HEIFERS</b>						701-800 lbs (8 head)	\$3.04
800+	3	\$3.30				700 or less (4 head)	\$4.00
700-799	9	\$3.19				<b>MATURE COWS (Preg Tested) (Plains)</b>	
600-699	7	\$3.73				1001 + lbs (4 head)	\$1.71
500-599	12	\$3.41				901-1000 lbs (10 head)	\$3.03
under 500	1	\$3.20				800 - 900 lbs (12 head)	\$3.03
						<b>CULL COWS (Preg Test) (Wood) (4 head)</b>	\$2.33

**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

Prices offered to producers in mid-April were up to \$6.00 per pound HHW for Grade "A" bulls. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to \$6.00 Canadian with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives, and export costs. Canadian buyers are paying up to \$5.85 per pound HHW for Grade "A" heifers. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to Canadian prices with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives, and export costs. Some Canadian buyers have been offering prices in U.S. dollars to minimize currency risk.

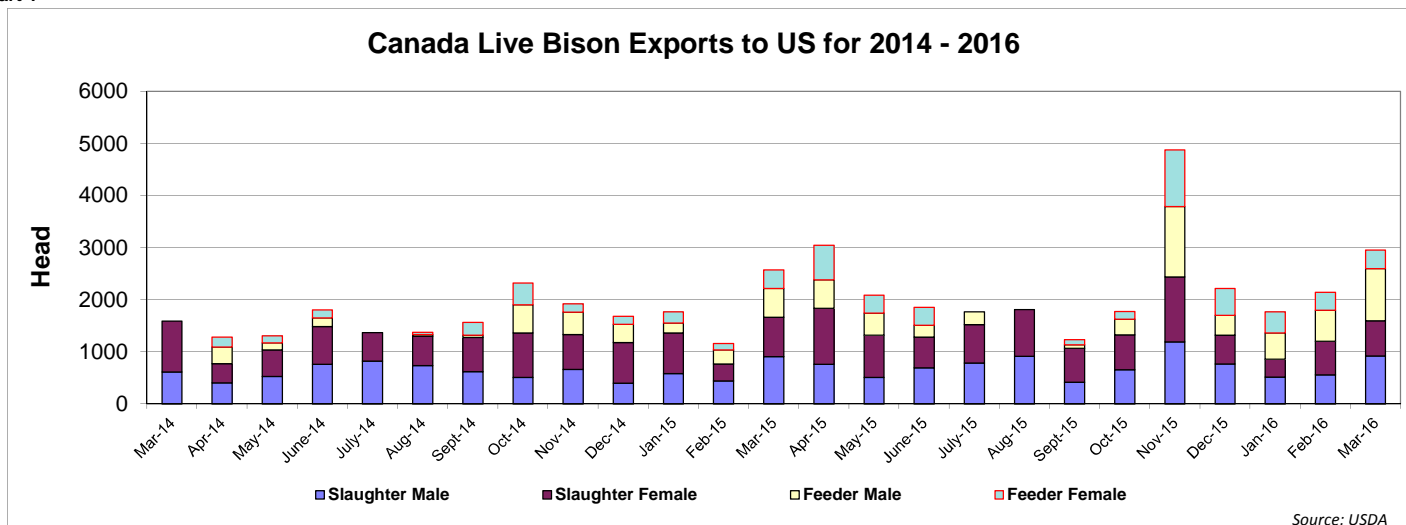
Nationally, federal slaughter in Canada for the first 13 weeks of 2016 (week ending April 2, 2016) was down 13.3% when compared to the same period in 2015 (2,766 animals in 2016 compared to 3,192 animals in 2015). Live animal exports for the first three months of 2016 were 6,862 head – up by 24.7% when compared to the 5,502 head exported during the first three months of 2015. This increase continues to be driven by strong consumer demand and the strength of the US dollar.

Marketers report that there is continued strong demand for bison trim. Orders for ground products continue to be shorted in some markets. There is presently some build up of middle cuts for some marketers. Some exporters are experiencing good demand in Europe while others see some consumer resistance at current prices. Canadian demand for bison products is soft because of high prices and a soft economy. Marketers continue to prepare for the 2016 grilling season.

The Canadian buyers indicate that present supplies of finished bison are very tight. Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue to be sensitive to Canada - US exchange rates with more animals moving south with the lower Canadian dollar. Some marketers report limited access to finished animals.

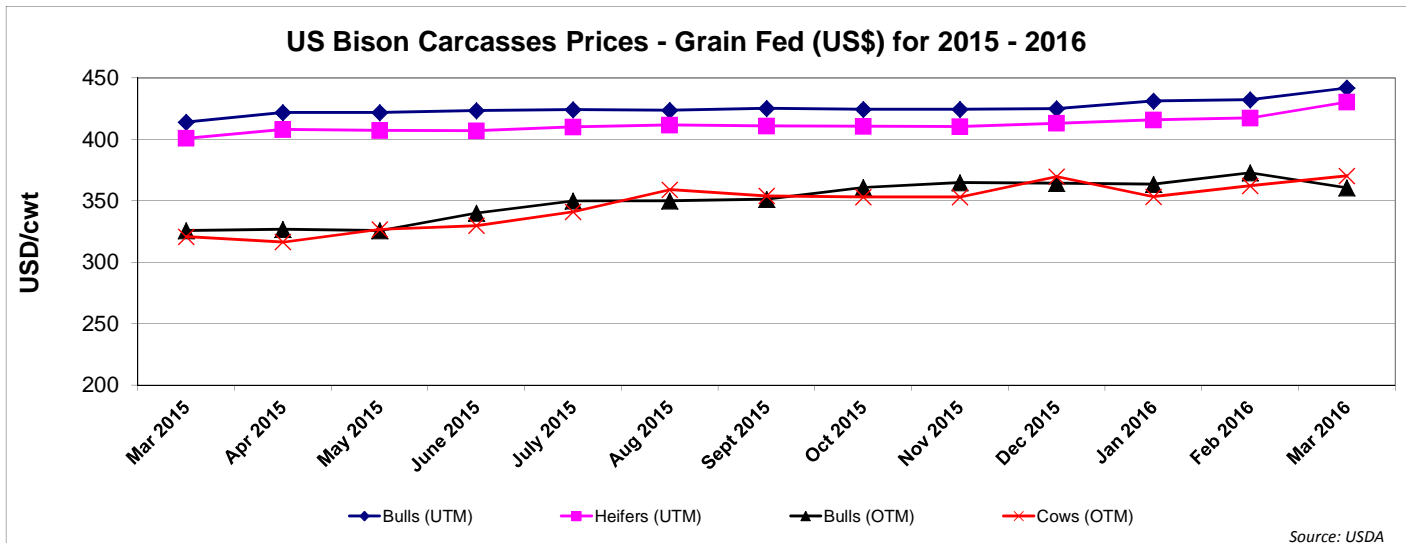
Continued exports of feeder animals to the US are expected to create shortages in the Canadian marketplace.

Chart 1



Source: USDA

Chart 2



Source: USDA

**The Canadian Bison Industry by the Numbers.....**

On another note, the 2011 Canadian Census of Agriculture was released on May 10, 2011. Nationally, the number of bison farms and ranches reporting bison was at 64% of the 2006 levels. The number of bison reported on farms and ranches in 2011 was also reported to be at about 64% of 2006 levels. According to the data, the average bison herd has remained at 103 head.

Excluding the Atlantic region, there were declines in the number of farms and ranches ranging from 15.5% to 41.3% with the greatest decline in British Columbia and the smallest decline in Ontario.

Again excluding the Atlantic Region, there were declines in the number of bison on farms and ranches in Canada ranging from 27.3% to 44.9% with the greatest decline in QC and the smallest decline in BC.

	FARMS REPORTING BISON			NUMBER OF BISON REPORTED		
	2011	2006	% Change	2011	2006	% Change
Newfoundland and Labrador	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prince Edward Island	0	1	-100.0%	-	-	-
Nova Scotia	2	1	100.0%	-	-	-
New Brunswick	2	3	-33.3%	-	-	-
Quebec	45	69	-34.8%	2,380	4,322	-44.9%
Ontario	60	71	-15.5%	2,320	4,106	-43.5%
Manitoba	108	166	-34.9%	14,116	19,609	-28.0%
Saskatchewan	352	597	-41.0%	39,343	57,395	-31.5%
Alberta	571	869	-34.3%	57,483	97,366	-41.0%
British Columbia	71	121	-41.3%	9,206	12,656	-27.3%
<b>Canada Total</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>-36.2%</b>	<b>125,142</b>	<b>195,728</b>	<b>-36.1%</b>

Note: In Atlantic Provinces, the number of farms reporting is too small for public disclosure.