



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - June 29, 2012

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	05-May	12-May	19-May	26-May	May Total	2012	May YTD 2011	% Change
Total Canada	222	287	136	263	908	4,370	4,208	3.8%
previous year	326	87	56	228	697			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Dec 2011	Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Mar 2012	Apr 2012	Apr 2011	2012	April YTD 2011	% Change
Alberta	80	58	62	102	101	111	323	318	1.6%
Saskatchewan	23	22	17	19	4	14	62	62	0.0%
Manitoba/BC	94	53	56	68	51	50	228	315	-27.6%
Ontario/Quebec**	32	33	15	29	26	39	103	101	2.0%
Total	229	166	150	218	182	214	716	796	-10.1%

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

	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	5,086	5,004	1.6%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	05-May	12-May	19-May	26-May	May Total	2012	May YTD 2011	% Change
	696	838	864	949	3,347	16,821	18,332	-8.2%
previous year	849	1053	808	773	3,483			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Jan-12	Feb-12	Mar-12	Apr-12	May-12	2012	May YTD 2011	% Change
Slaughter Male	576	355	671	376	361	2,339	2,913	-19.7%
Slaughter Female	487	256	245	334	211	1,533	1,660	-7.7%
Feeder Male	494	261	616	103	215	1,689	1,604	5.3%
Feeder Female	341	162	460	117	158	1,238	1,518	-18.4%
Total	1,898	1,034	1,992	930	945	6,799	7,695	-11.6%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		2011						April YTD		
		November 2011	December	January 2012	February	March	April	2012	2011	% Change
USA	Kg	7,605	13,315	20,747	11,876	12,297	20,679	65,599	133,786	-51.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	85,838	167,073	152,534	136,258	95,384	254,011	638,187	1,702,003	-62.5%
France	Kg	31,579	11,328	-	2,496	6,519	21,401	30,416	14,089	115.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	543,762	177,976	-	41,724	104,669	238,623	385,016	196,182	96.3%
Switzerland	Kg	4,423	4,652	1,504	1,501	2,117	3,412	8,534	13,609	-37.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	172,643	201,504	67,633	65,594	92,905	133,480	359,612	517,705	-30.5%
Germany	Kg	-	-	96	132	-	339	567	1,876	-69.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	3,097	3,160	-	8,427	14,684	51,796	-71.7%
Egypt	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	188	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,515	N/A
Macau	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Singapore	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg	-	-	602	170	286	-	1,058	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	13,359	4,852	8,159	-	26,370	-	N/A
Sweden	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	Kg	401	463	-	-	-	-	-	26,326	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	11,319	8,565	-	-	-	-	-	133,492	N/A
Others	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Kg	44,008	29,758	22,949	16,175	21,219	45,831	106,174	189,874	-44.1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	813,562	555,118	236,623	251,588	301,117	634,541	1,423,869	2,604,693	-45.3%

Bone-in

	November 2011	December	January 2012	February	March	April	2012	April YTD 2011	% Change
Total	34,985	-	-	-	5,374	13,341	18,715	31,662	-40.9%
Value (\$Cdn)	135,961	-	-	-	52,449	127,498	179,947	172,591	4.3%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	November 2011	December	January 2012	February	March	April	2012	April YTD 2011	% Change
Kg	78,993	29,758	22,949	16,175	26,593	59,172	124,889	221,536	-43.6%
Value (\$Cdn)	949,523	555,118	236,623	251,588	353,566	762,039	1,603,816	2,777,284	-42.3%

*source Statistics Canada

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

Prices for all bison meat cuts and live animals continued to be stable through to mid-June 2012. Finished bison prices at \$3.65 - \$3.90 per pound hot hanging weight were comparable to last month's prices. At current prices, marketers believe there are sufficient animals to meet near-term market demand. Marketers indicate that they have adequate supplies for the summer. There are also reports that certain marketers are marketing trim at discounted prices. Although there may be some inventory build-up of some cuts, with anticipated tight supplies of animals to process in the future, the inventory does not appear to be problematic.

Nationally, federal slaughter was up 9.2% for the first 23 weeks of 2012 (week ending June 9, 2012) when compared to the first 23 weeks of 2011 (4,930 animals in 2012 compared to 4,515 animals in 2011). Live bison exports to the U.S. were down in the first four months of 2012 by 16.9% - 6,265 compared to 7,535 bison for the same period in 2011.

The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers has remained at previous month levels of \$3.90 per pound with the lower part of the range falling to \$3.65 per pound.

Chart 1

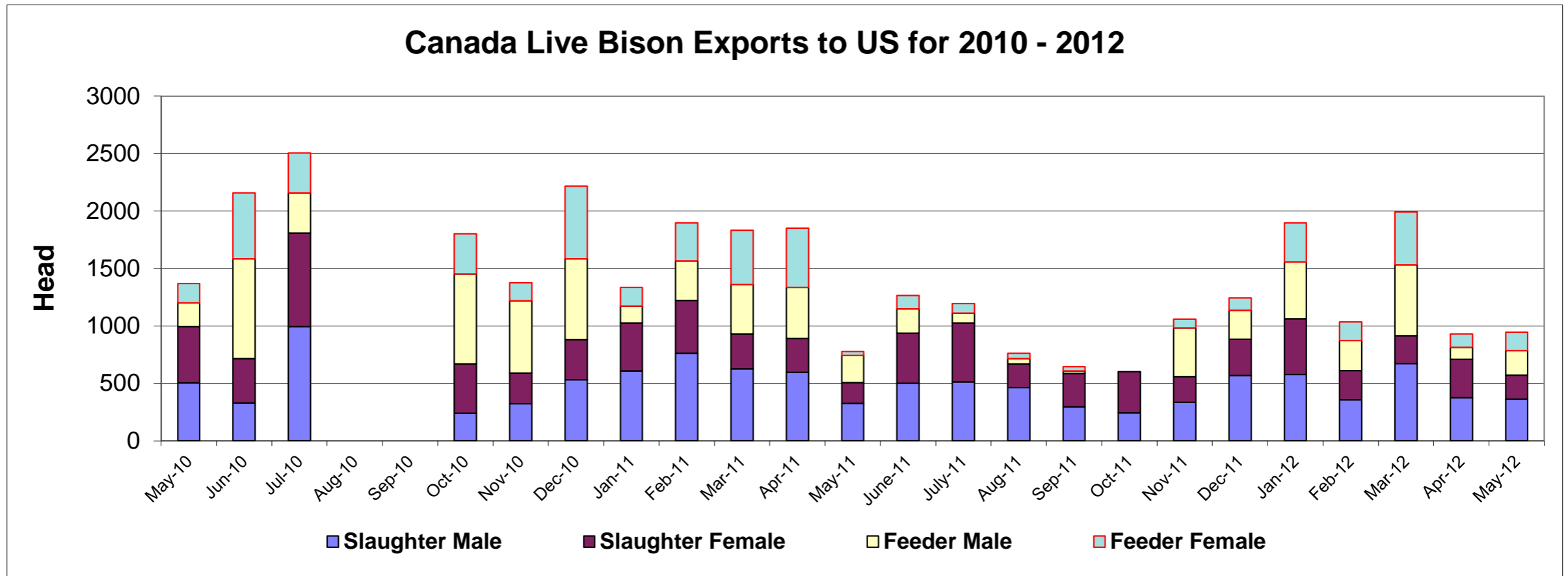
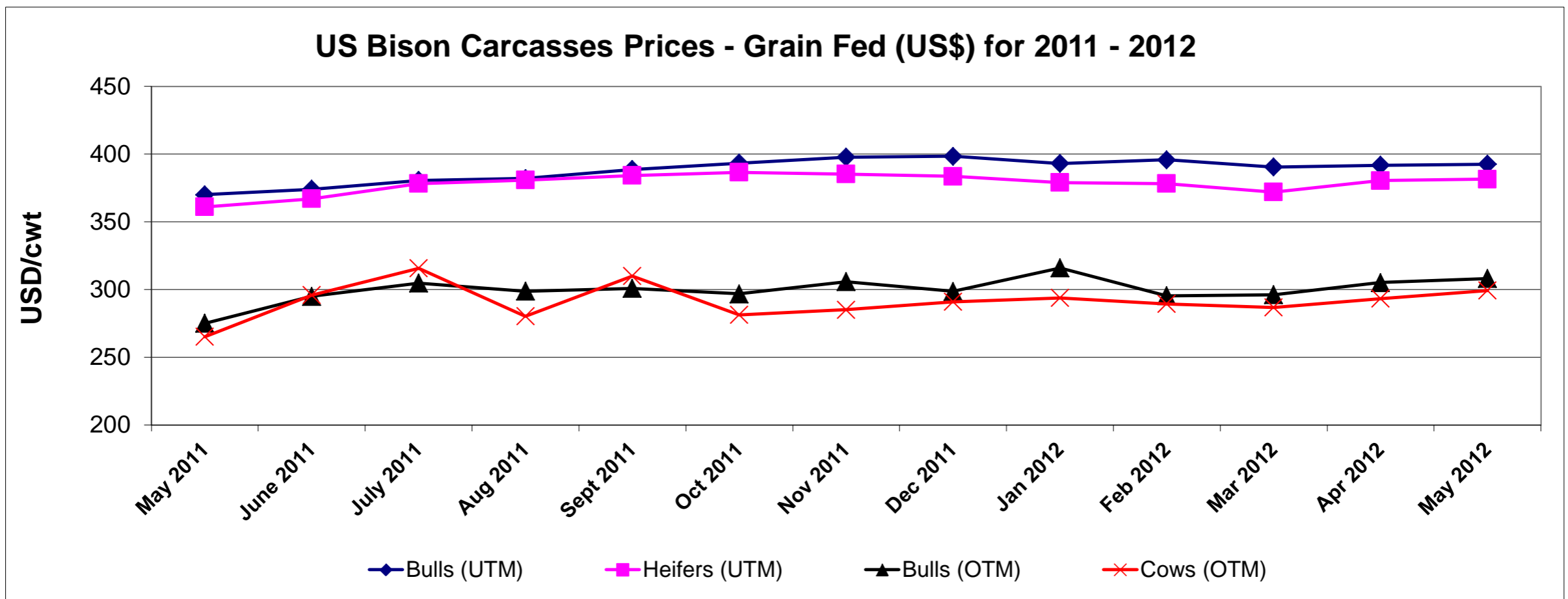


Chart 2



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%
Canada Total	1,211	1,898	-36.2%	125,142	195,728	-36.1%

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

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