



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - May 7, 2019.

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	2-Mar	9-Mar	16-Mar	23-Mar	30-Mar	March Total	January - March YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
Total Canada	356	46	396	52	197	1,047	1,334	1,385	-3.7%
<i>previous year</i>	135	293	127	311	77	943			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019	February 2018	January - February YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
Alberta	59	38	39	45	31	38	76	83	-8.4%
Saskatchewan	13	13	14	9	10	7	19	15	26.7%
Manitoba/BC	17	22	31	40	36	20	76	53	43.4%
Ontario/Quebec**	60	42	28	17	11	17	28	38	-26.3%
Total	149	115	112	111	88	82	199	189	5.3%

	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	1,533	1,574	-2.6%

*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

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	January - February YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
Total Slaughter	14,388	14,371	14,186	11,568	10,886	9,995	1,533	1,574	-2.6%
Total Live Exports	16,769	19,033	26,162	18,364	17,600	17,342	3,454	2,805	23.1%
Total Production	31,157	33,404	40,348	29,932	28,486	27,316	4,987	4,379	13.9%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	2-Mar	9-Mar	16-Mar	23-Mar	30-Mar	March Total	January - March YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
	1,096	1,074	1,033	1,131	1,076	5,410	13,348	12,146	9.9%
<i>previous year</i>	957	993	1,133	1,039	1,087	5,209			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	November-18	December - 18	January - 19	February - 19	March - 19	January - March YTD		
						2019	2018	% Change
Slaughter Male	438	368	700	648	761	2,109	1,164	81.2%
Slaughter Female	433	436	347	177	608	1,132	1,394	-18.8%
Feeder Male	415	226	665	500	221	1,386	1,191	16.4%
Feeder Female	307	61	278	139	230	647	630	2.7%
Total	1,593	1,091	1,990	1,464	1,820	5,274	4,379	20.4%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		September 2018	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019	January - February YTD		
								2019	2018	% Change
USA	Kg	17,735	18,124	28,314	22,070	65,489	110,089	65,489	30,862	112.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	304,612	416,698	590,369	325,605	912,749	1,760,963	912,749	532,004	71.6%
France	Kg	4,933	7,158	9,150	4,749	3,699	5,363	3,699	1,104	235.1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	140,765	216,946	344,996	163,422	110,811	153,875	110,811	49,244	125.0%
Switzerland	Kg	5,641	5,382	3,277	5,056	2,154	5,954	2,154	3,956	-45.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	166,035	158,379	107,658	160,462	61,269	129,292	61,269	113,847	-46.2%
Netherlands	Kg	955	-	-	1,580	-	-	-	446	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	27,228	-	-	17,293	-	-	-	18,543	N/A
Mexico	Kg	38,992	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	363,162	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
United Kingdom	Kg	20,232	56,918	20,021	52,032	17,864	36,440	17,864	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	197,158	553,834	197,248	510,221	172,642	372,716	172,642	-	N/A
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Kg	5,340	4,784	4,877	2,238	5,190	4,564	5,190	728	612.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	46,926	43,109	44,144	23,177	45,501	41,964	45,501	5,905	670.6%
Other Countries	Kg	35	211	4,108	5,781	3,415	495	3,415	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	858	2,145	110,776	160,450	74,416	14,122	74,416	-	N/A
Total	Kg	93,863	92,577	69,747	93,506	97,811	162,905	260,716	81,573	219.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	1,246,744	1,391,111	1,395,191	1,360,630	1,377,388	2,472,932	3,850,320	1,683,654	128.7%

Bone-in

	September 2018	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019	January - February YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
Total	33,582	33,359	24,056	16,235	17,191	6,745	23,936	139,125	-82.8%
	452,136	508,508	284,699	235,418	251,474	51,962	303,436	607,942	-50.1%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	September 2018	October 2018	November 2018	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019	January - February YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
Total	127,445	125,936	93,803	109,741	115,002	169,650	284,652	220,698	29.0%
	1,698,880	1,899,619	1,679,890	1,596,048	1,628,862	2,524,894	4,153,756	2,291,596	81.3%

*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

weight avg

	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)
Mar 2018	482.80	479.99	409.63	397.03
Apr 2018	492.86	471.57	398.08	414.52
May 2018	489.88	468.65	409.47	401.40
June 2018	489.69	471.90	411.00	391.22
July 2018	485.10	479.08	409.58	397.52
Aug 2018	482.59	476.64	414.90	394.15
Sept 2018	487.11	479.72	401.67	425.25
Oct 2018	479.69	464.02	408.68	405.13
Nov 2018	486.60	469.44	400.74	395.74
Dec 2018	484.50	477.56	410.18	389.25
Jan 2019	453.49	456.39	403.26	376.26
Feb 2019	453.07	437.69	370.56	371.35
Mar 2019	464.80	423.39	407.71	373.54

**source USDA*

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

weight avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Apr 2018	575-600	575-600	460-500	460-500
May 2018	580-600	580-600	460-490	460-490
June 2018	575-600	575-600	460-500	460-500
July 2018	575-600	575-600	460-500	460-500
Aug 2018	575-600	575-600	425-470	425-470
Sept 2018	575-600	575-600	425-470	425-470
Oct 2018	575-600	575-600	425-460	425-460
Nov 2018	575-600	555-580	400-450	400-450
Dec 2018	560-575	550-565	400-450	400-450
Jan 2018	550-570	530-550	400-450	400-450
Feb 2019	530-560	510-530	400-450	400-450
Mar 2019	530-560	510-530	400-450	400-450
Apr 2019	520-550	500-520	400-450	375-450

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	January 2019		February 2019		March 2019		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1300-1575	1393.22	1100-1568	1315.25	1395-1883	1784.06	28.1%	35.6%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	620-800	666.83	620-800	655.76	633-775	700.00	5.0%	6.7%
Striploin Fresh	900-1450	1092.24	995-1316	1056.48	1025-1877	1469.10	34.5%	39.1%
Tenderloin Fresh	1800-2450	2210.17	2043-2600	2272.19	1900-2436	2158.25	-2.3%	-5.0%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	600-750	630.00	600-750	707.46	0	0.00	-100.0%	-100.0%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	650-733	687.62	580-804	705.46	580-803	701.88	2.1%	-0.5%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	655-753	695.48	590-803	697.20	590-920	697.20	0.2%	0.0%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-January 2019 Pricing	Mid-February 2019 Pricing	Mid-March 2019 Pricing	Mid-April 2019 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$51.00 - \$62.95	\$51.00 - \$62.95	\$51.00 - \$64.95	\$51.00 - \$64.95
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$30.95 - \$36.00	\$30.95 - \$36.00	\$30.95 - \$36.00	\$30.95 - \$36.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$17.95 - \$21.40	\$17.95 - \$21.40	\$17.95 - \$21.00	\$17.95 - \$21.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$18.95 - \$20.95	\$18.95 - \$19.95	\$16.95 - \$18.95	\$16.95 - \$18.95
Fresh Bison Trim	\$14.95 - \$18.00	\$14.95 - \$16.00	\$14.50 - \$17.50	\$14.50 - \$17.50

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (November 17, 2018)			Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (January 19, 2019)			Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (March 16, 2019)		
Head Sold: 189			Head Sold: 372			Head Sold: 189		
Calves	Bulls	Heifers	Calves	Bulls	Heifers	Calves	Bulls	Heifers
500 lbs +			500 lbs +	\$300.00 - \$380.00	\$220.00 - \$310.00	500 lbs +	\$305.00 - \$340.00	\$275.00 - \$325.00
400 - 499 lbs	\$380.00 - \$435.00	\$350.00 - \$390.00	400 - 499 lbs	\$360.00 - \$410.00	\$270.00 - \$310.00	400 - 499 lbs	\$310.00 - \$380.00	\$320.00 - \$335.00
300 - 399 lbs	\$380.00 - \$435.01	\$350.00 - \$390.01	300 - 399 lbs	\$360.00 - \$400.00	\$270.00 - \$325.00	300 - 399 lbs	\$300.00 - \$370.00	\$260.00 - \$305.00
Under 300 lbs			Under 300 lbs	\$315.00 - \$340.00	\$240.00 - \$260.00	Under 300 lbs	\$275.00 - \$305.00	\$200.00 - \$265.00
Yearlings	Bulls	Heifers	Yearlings	Bulls	Heifers	Yearlings	Bulls	Heifers
700 - 799 lbs	\$250.00 - \$300.00	\$250.00 - \$280.00	700 - 799 lbs	\$270.00 - \$305.00	\$230.00 - \$250.00	700 - 799 lbs	\$305.00 - \$300.00	
600 - 699 lbs	\$250.00 - \$300.00	\$250.00 - \$280.00	600 - 699 lbs	\$300.00 - \$330.00	\$220.00 - \$270.00	600 - 699 lbs	\$310.00 - \$330.00	\$240.00 - \$265.00
500 - 599 lbs	\$270.00 - \$330.00	\$270.00 - \$315.00	500 - 599 lbs	\$300.00 - \$380.00	\$200.00 - \$250.00	500 - 599 lbs	\$170.00 - \$330.00	\$160.00 - \$275.00
400 - 499 lbs	\$270.00 - \$330.00	\$270.00 - \$315.00	400 - 499 lbs	\$290.00 - \$310.00	\$200.00 - \$310.00	400 - 499 lbs	\$215.00 - \$355.00	\$175.00 - \$265.00
Under 400 lbs			Under 400 lbs			Under 400 lbs		\$175.00 - \$260.00
Mature Bulls			Mature Cows			Mature Bulls		
1250 lbs +		— - \$180.00	1250 lbs+		\$165.00 - \$195.00	1250 lbs +		\$195.00 - \$2200.00
950 - 1249 lbs		\$180.00 - \$200.00	950 - 1249 lbs		\$165.00 - \$195.01			
Younger Breds		\$2,600.00 - \$2,650.00	Mature Cows			Younger Cows		
Older Breds		\$1,700.00 - \$2,000.00	750 - 949 lbs		\$165.00 - \$215.00	700 - 949 lbs		— - \$180.00
Younger Pairs		— - \$2,800.00	Older Bred		\$1600.00 - \$1900.00			

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 canadianbison@sasktel.net or stefan.schneider@canada.ca

Prices offered to producers to mid-April were softer with most sales at \$5.20 - \$5.50 per pound HHW for Grade "A" bulls. Some contracted animals may be priced at \$5.60/lb. HHW U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to \$5.50 Canadian per pound HHW with returns dependent on quality and export costs. Canadian buyers are paying up to \$5.00 - \$5.20 per pound HHW for Grade "A" heifers. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to Canadian prices with returns dependent on quality and export costs.

Nationally, federal slaughter in Canada for the first 15 weeks of 2019 reached 2,568 head – down 6.2% from the 2,738 animals slaughtered in 2018 during the same period. Live animal exports to the US for the first three months of 2019, January-March totaled 5,602 head compared to 4,971 in March of 2018 – an increase of 12.7%.

Marketers report that although the demand for bison trim has increased with the upcoming grilling season, trim inventory continues to be burdensome. The demand for tenderloins and rib-eyes is steady while the demand for striploins continues to be slow. US demand continues to be steady. With the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement with the European Union in effect since September 21, 2017, European demand continues to adjust to the CETA agreement with Brexit create some uncertainty in Europe. European demand has increased.

Canadian demand is soft but, the Canadian marketers indicate that present supplies of finished bison continue to be more than adequate for the next six months.

Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue to be sensitive to Canada - US exchange rates with price changes expected as the value of the Canadian dollar changes.

Chart 1

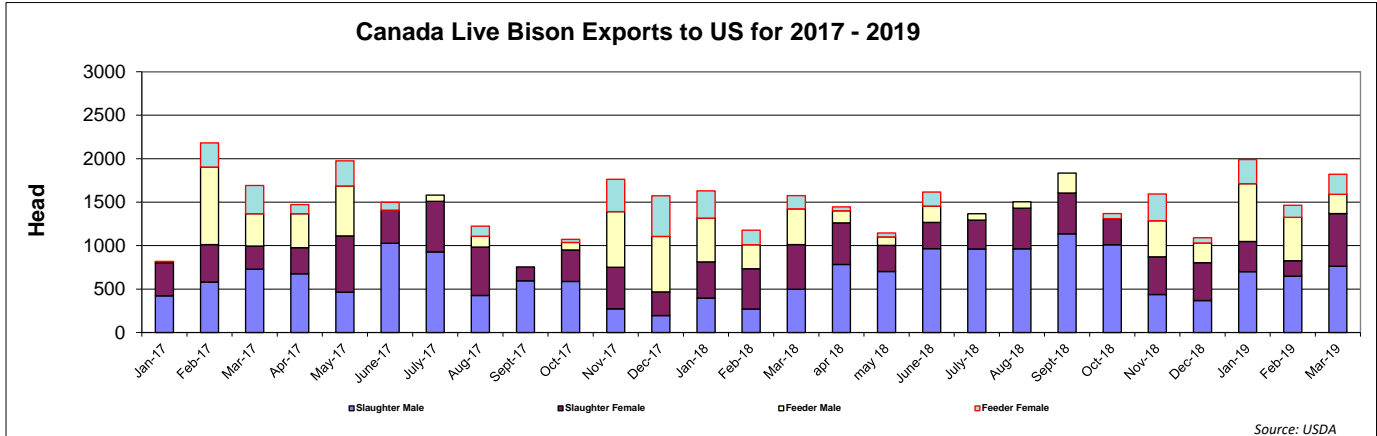
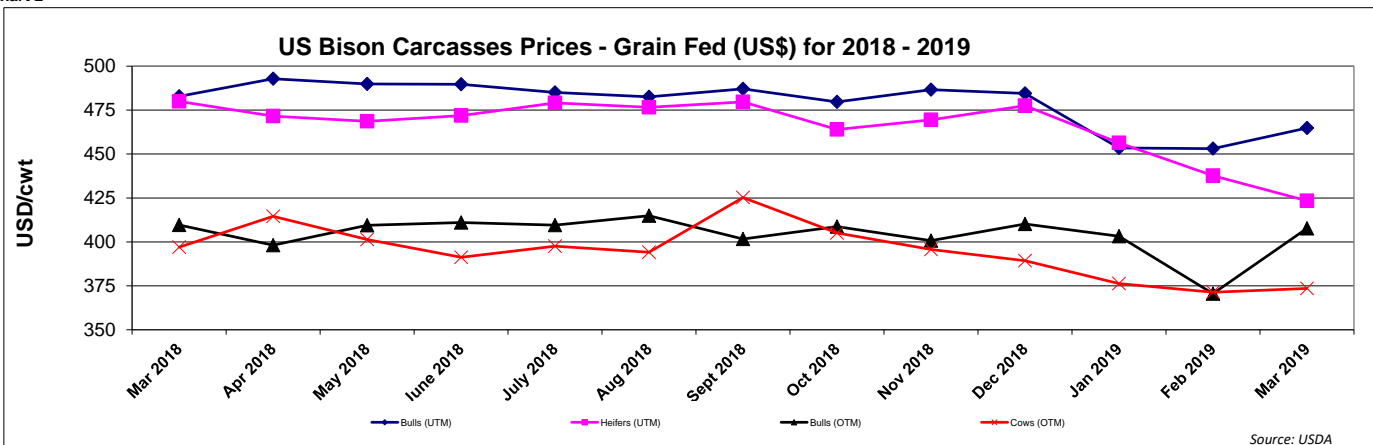


Chart 2



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

On another note, the 2016 Canadian Census of Agriculture data was released on May 10, 2017. Nationally, the number of bison farms and ranches reporting bison was at 81% of the 2011 levels. The number of bison reported on farms and ranches in 2016 was reported to be at about 95% of 2011 levels. According to the data, the average bison herd increased to 122 head.

Excluding the Atlantic region, there were declines in the number of farms and ranches ranging from 13.9% to 24.4% with the smallest decline in Saskatchewan and the greatest decline in Quebec.

Again excluding the Atlantic Region, the only province to report an increase in the number of bison was Saskatchewan (+2.7%), while Quebec reported the largest decrease (-35.4%).

	FARMS REPORTING BISON				NUMBER OF BISON REPORTED			
	2016	2011	2006	% Chg '16 vs '11	2016	2011	2006	% Chg '16 vs '11
Nfld and Labrador	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
Prince Edward Island	0	0	1	-	0	0	*	-
Nova Scotia	2	2	1	0.0%	*	*	*	-
New Brunswick	1	2	3	-50.0%	*	*	*	-
Quebec	34	45	69	-24.4%	1,538	2,380	4,322	-35.4%
Ontario	49	60	71	-18.3%	1,843	2,320	4,106	-20.6%
Manitoba	86	108	166	-20.4%	14,025	14,116	19,609	-0.6%
Saskatchewan	303	352	597	-13.9%	40,418	39,343	57,395	2.7%
Alberta	445	571	869	-22.1%	54,907	57,483	97,366	-4.5%
British Columbia	55	71	121	-22.5%	6,504	9,206	12,656	-29.4%
Canada Total	975	1,211	1,898	-19.5%	119,314	125,142	195,728	-4.7%

* Note: In Atlantic Provinces, the number of farms reporting is too small to publically disclose the number of bison