



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - October 30, 2015

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	29-Aug	05-Sep	12-Sep	19-Sep	26-Sep	Sept Total	January - September YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
Total Canada	208	259	50	213	243	973	8,650	8,422	2.7%
<i>previous year</i>	300	217	285	119	138	1,059			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Apr 2015	May 2015	June 2015	July 2015	Aug 2015	Aug 2014	January - August YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
Alberta	109	88	81	125	71	93	751	945	-20.5%
Saskatchewan	10	10	20	15	9	7	160	107	49.5%
Manitoba/BC	33	36	76	48	45	52	382	509	-25.0%
Ontario/Quebec**	9	35	41	31	43	39	197	189	4.2%
Total	161	169	218	219	168	191	1,490	1,750	-14.9%

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

Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	% Change
	10,140	10,172	-0.3%

*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

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	January - August YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
Total Slaughter	23,809	19,149	13,048	13,587	14,388	14,371	9,167	9,113	0.6%
Total Live Exports	25,118	20,973	14,465	14,007	16,769	19,033	16,064	11,544	39.2%
Total Production	48,927	40,122	27,513	27,594	31,157	33,404	25,231	20,657	22.1%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	29-Aug	05-Sep	12-Sep	19-Sep	26-Sep	Sept Total	January - September YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
	997	1,080	756	952	948	4,733	39,119	39,083	0.1%
<i>previous year</i>	922	717	1,100	1,049	860	4,648			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	May-15	June-15	July-15	Aug-15	Sept-15	January - September YTD		
						2015	2014	% Change
Slaughter Male	510	691	789	914	419	6,018	5,520	9.0%
Slaughter Female	810	590	736	895	650	6,622	5,436	21.8%
Feeder Male	424	229	241	0	69	2,516	1,061	137.1%
Feeder Female	344	346	0	0	96	2,142	1,093	96.0%
Total	2,088	1,856	1,766	1,809	1,234	17,298	13,110	31.9%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		March 2015	April	May	June	July	August	January - August YTD		
								2015	2014	% Change
USA	Kg	42,010	13,854	27,506	47,985	15,839	47,541	243,425	132,623	83.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	615,178	260,080	401,157	643,435	303,802	1,009,863	4,015,705	1,857,243	116.2%
France	Kg	597	12,206	1,559	7,266	10,972	1,890	46,440	68,848	-32.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	10,329	195,558	26,355	124,922	174,127	37,773	761,725	1,066,592	-28.6%
Switzerland	Kg	7,108	3,748	1,844	8,461	2,169	5,600	33,324	23,641	41.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	358,606	106,828	52,568	241,136	101,307	227,245	1,254,397	1,105,453	13.5%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,137	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98,447	-
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,699	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	72,243	-
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	513	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,138	-
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	160	-	234	-	-	-	10,962	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	4,658	-	7,306	-	-	-	95,594	-	-
Total	Kg	49,875	29,808	31,143	63,712	28,980	55,031	334,151	246,461	35.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	988,771	562,466	487,386	1,009,493	579,236	1,274,881	6,127,421	4,215,116	45.4%

Bone-in

Total		March 2015	April	May	June	July	August	January - August YTD		
								2015	2014	% Change
Total	Kg	739	677	170	1,386	378	770	11,588	15,036	-22.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	7,789	7,105	1,759	27,099	4,131	20,149	102,633	162,053	-36.7%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	March 2015	April	May	June	July	August	January - August YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
Kg	50,614	30,485	31,313	65,098	29,358	55,801	345,739	261,497	32.2%
Value (\$Cdn)	996,560	569,571	489,145	1,036,592	583,367	1,295,030	6,230,054	4,377,169	42.3%

*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

wghtd avg

	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)
Sept 2014	405.63	393.40	338.00	285.00
Oct 2014	407.70	392.73	323.96	296.63
Nov 2014	408.78	394.14	328.90	296.82
Dec 2014	408.75	395.36	322.93	303.09
Jan 2015	409.17	396.14	325.85	298.78
Feb 2015	413.32	399.80	325.53	316.01
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

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Oct 2014	425-455	400-435	250-300	275-300
Nov 2014	425-455	400-435	250-300	275-300
Dec 2014	425-455	400-435	250-300	275-300
Jan 2015	425-455	400-435	275-325	275-325
Feb 2015	435-460	435-450	325-350	325-350
Mar 2015	469-500	435-480	325-350	325-350
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

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	July 2015		August 2015		September 2015		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,050-1,650	1,267.77	1,175-1,506	1,223.46	850-1,593	1,221.58	-3.6%	-0.2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-710	629.16	598-750	619.82	500-736	615.89	-2.1%	-0.6%
Striploin Fresh	875-1,650	1,192.16	920-1,195	1,134.12	875-1,450	1,119.86	-6.1%	-1.3%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,400-2,300	2,072.49	1,710-2,574	2,077.65	1,450-2,680	2,134.56	3.0%	2.7%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	525-640	580.00	598-1,630	603.37	575-700	598.00	3.1%	-0.9%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	575-675	649.72	630-722	664.17	575-950	661.67	1.8%	-0.4%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-675	656.52	647-716	670.68	575-885	673.58	2.6%	0.4%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-July 2015 Pricing	Mid-August 2015 Pricing	Mid-September 2015 Pricing	Mid-October 2015 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$45.00 - \$57.95	\$45.00 - \$60.00	\$52.00 - \$58.75	\$49.95 - \$58.75
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$29.00 - \$34.00	\$29.00 - \$34.00	\$31.95 - \$35.00	\$30.95 - \$35.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$15.75 - \$19.50	\$15.75 - \$19.50	\$16.25 - \$19.50	\$16.25 - \$19.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$15.00 - \$15.95	\$15.00 - \$15.95	\$15.00 - \$16.95	\$16.00 - \$16.95
Fresh Bison Trim	\$14.00 - \$14.95	\$14.00 - \$14.95	\$14.00 - \$15.95	\$15.50 - \$18.00

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK) (May 13th, 2015)				Great Spirit Show & Sale (MB) (Apr 4, 2015)			Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK) (March 11th, 2015)		
418 Head				Heartland Livestock Services			Cloverleaf Bison Sale		
Class	Total Weight	# of head	Avg (\$/lb)	Year, Sex	Breed	Price	Year, Sex, Lbs	# of head	Avg (\$/lb)
2014 BULLS CALVES				2012 BULLS			2014 BULLS CALVES		
600-699 lbs	36,820	58	\$3.36	Silver Creek	Wood X	\$9,500	551 + lbs	32	\$3.80
500-599 lbs	51,450	94	\$3.52				500-550 lbs	33	\$4.08
400-499 lbs	35,420	77	\$3.67				450-499 lbs	38	\$4.30
Under 399	5,350	16	\$2.94				400-449 lbs	46	\$4.33
2013 YEARLING BULLS				2013 BULLS			350-399 lbs		
820-915 lbs	6,120	7	\$2.97	Silver Creek	Wood X	\$8,000	349 & Under	14	\$2.97
620-750 lbs	12,720	18	\$2.77	Bison Spirit Rancl	Wood X	\$8,500	2013 BREEDING \$3000-\$4900 weighing 1130 lbs		
2013 BREEDING BULLS				Bison Spirit Rancl			\$4250-\$7700 weighing 1135 lbs		
2,180	2		\$3,400 (avg)	2014 BULLS			2013 YEARLING BULLS		
2012 BREEDING BULLS				Sandridge Bison			600-700 lbs		
8,595	8		\$3,325 (avg)	Shale Creek Bison	Wood	\$2,400	Off Types	6	\$3.30
2014 HEIFER CALVES				Sandridge Bison f			2012 BULLS		
500-650 lbs	23,965	44	\$3.35	2013 HEIFERS			2		
400-499 lbs	21,965	49	\$3.08	Shale Creek	Wood X	\$6,750	2014 HEIFER CALVES		
300-349 lbs	9,210	25	\$3.00	Beldon Bison Rar	Wood X	\$4,200	500 + lbs	25	\$3.47
Under 300	2,455	9	\$2.80	Beldon Bison Rar	Wood X	\$3,000	450-499 lbs	28	\$3.50
2013 YEARLING HEIFERS				2014 HEIFERS			400-449 lbs		
580-680 lbs	3,030	5	\$3.15	Rough Bark	Wood X	\$2,200	350-399 lbs	48	\$3.51
490-579 lbs	3,215	6	\$2.53	Sandridge Bison f	Wood X	\$1,950	349 & Under	19	\$3.63
				Rough Bark Bison			2013 YEARLING HEIFERS		
							600 + lbs		
							1		
							Off Types		
							3		
							2012 FEMALES		
							Off Types		
							2		
							CULL COWS Prices : Hi \$1,000 and Low \$800		

** 12 Off type calves/yearlings removed from averages

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 Canadian producers in mid-October were at \$5.30 per pound HHW for Grade "A" bulls. U.S. buyers offered \$4.25 U.S. with returns dependent on exchange rates, quality, transport incentives, and export costs. Canadian buyers paid up to \$5.10 per pound HHW for Grade "A" heifers. U.S. buyers were offering \$4.10 U.S. with returns dependent on exchange rates, quality, and export costs.

Nationally, federal slaughter was up 4.0% for the first 41 weeks of 2015 (week ending October 10, 2015) when compared to the same time period in 2014 (9,142 animals in 2015 compared to 8,794 animals in 2014). Live animal exports for the first 9 months of 2015 were 17,298 head – up by 32% when compared to the 13,110 head exported in the first nine months of 2014. This significant increase has been driven by strong consumer demand and the lower value of the Canadian dollar relative to the US dollar.

Marketers report that there is continued strong demand for bison trim. There are reports of some orders for ground products being shorted. There are reports of the build-up of inventories of some middle and hip cuts. In Canada, demand is steady with some consumer price resistance being reported. European demand is reported to be steady with some marketers preparing for the Christmas Season.

Some reports indicate that present supplies of finished bison are tight while others see a shortage of live bison for processing. Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue to be sensitive to Canada - US exchange rates.

Increased exports of feeder animals to the US are expected to create shortages in the Canadian market next year.

Chart 1

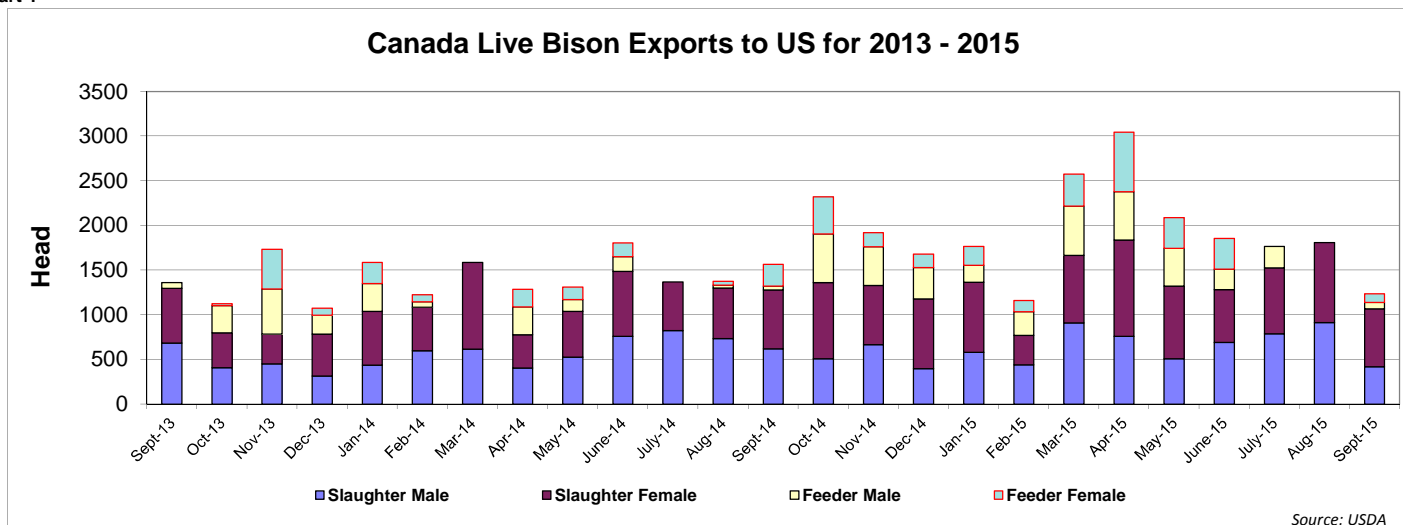
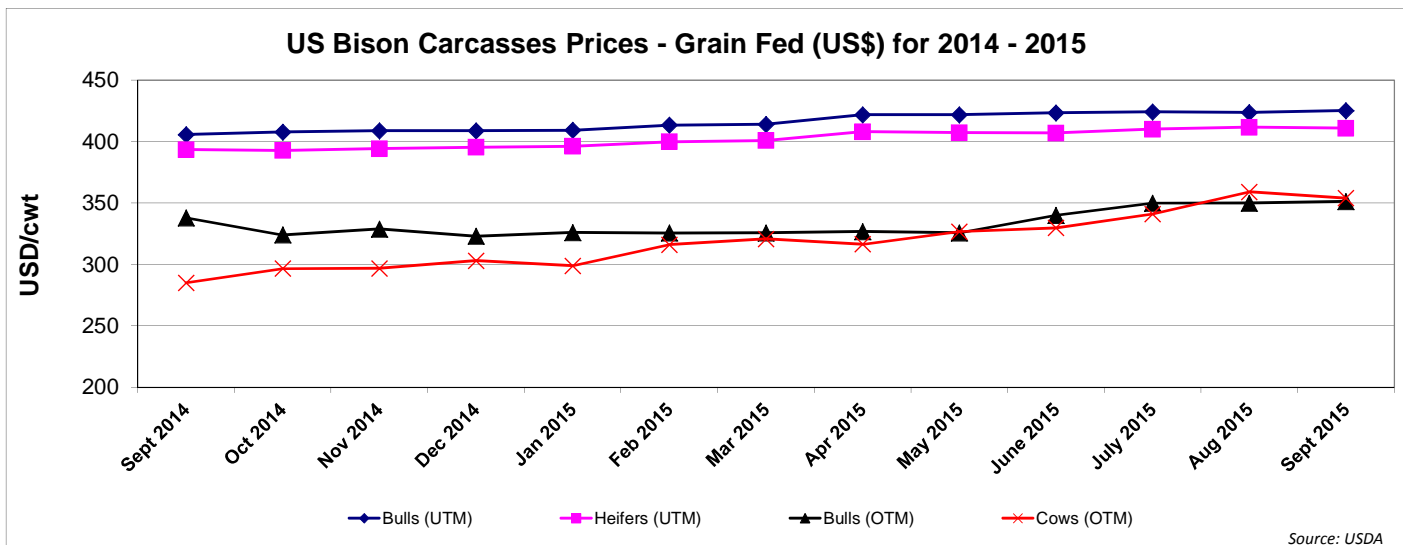


Chart 2



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, the number of farms reporting is too small for public disclosure.