



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - August 19, 2015

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

| | 04-Jul | 11-Jul | 18-Jul | 25-Jul | July Total | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Total Canada | 59 | 330 | 69 | 251 | 709 | 6,684 | 6,484 | 3.1% |
| <i>previous year</i> | 136 | 111 | 272 | 125 | 644 | | | |

January - July YTD

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

| | Feb 2015 | Mar 2015 | Apr 2015 | May 2015 | June 2015 | June 2014 | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
|-------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| Alberta | 105 | 82 | 109 | 88 | 81 | 118 | 555 | 710 | -21.8% |
| Saskatchewan | 23 | 24 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 9 | 136 | 95 | 43.2% |
| Manitoba/BC | 54 | 53 | 33 | 36 | 76 | 69 | 289 | 387 | -25.3% |
| Ontario/Quebec** | 13 | 13 | 9 | 44 | 23 | 29 | 114 | 102 | 11.8% |
| Total | 195 | 172 | 161 | 178 | 200 | 225 | 1,094 | 1,294 | -15.5% |

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

| | YTD 2015 | YTD 2014 | % Change |
|--|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter * | 7,778 | 7,778 | 0.0% |

*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 | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Total Slaughter | 23,809 | 19,149 | 13,048 | 13,587 | 14,388 | 14,371 | 7,069 | 7,134 | -0.9% |
| Total Live Exports | 25,118 | 20,973 | 14,465 | 14,007 | 16,769 | 19,033 | 12,489 | 8,803 | 41.9% |
| Total Production | 48,927 | 40,122 | 27,513 | 27,594 | 31,157 | 33,404 | 19,558 | 15,937 | 22.7% |

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

US Federal Slaughter*

| | 04-Jul | 11-Jul | 18-Jul | 25-Jul | July Total | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| for week ending: | 885 | 1,062 | 1,102 | 1,061 | 4,110 | 30,421 | 30,663 | -0.8% |
| <i>previous year</i> | 753 | 943 | 1,086 | 1,026 | 3,808 | | | |

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

| | Mar-15 | Apr-15 | May-15 | June-15 | July-15 | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Slaughter Male | 910 | 761 | 510 | 691 | 789 | 4,685 | 4,167 | 12.4% |
| Slaughter Female | 756 | 1077 | 810 | 590 | 736 | 5,077 | 4,211 | 20.6% |
| Feeder Male | 552 | 542 | 424 | 229 | 241 | 2,447 | 987 | 147.9% |
| Feeder Female | 357 | 663 | 344 | 346 | 0 | 2,046 | 805 | 154.2% |
| Total | 2,575 | 3,043 | 2,088 | 1,856 | 1,766 | 14,255 | 10,170 | 40.2% |

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

| | | January 2015 | February | March | April | May | June | January - June YTD | | |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|
| | | | | | | | | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
| Boneless | USA | | | | | | | 180,045 | 101,859 | 76.8% |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | 275,729 | 506,461 | 615,178 | 260,080 | 341,612 | 702,980 | 2,702,040 | 1,455,971 | 85.6% |
| France | Kg | 7,405 | 4,545 | 597 | 12,206 | 1,559 | 7,266 | 33,578 | 55,030 | -39.0% |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | 118,930 | 73,731 | 10,329 | 195,558 | 26,355 | 124,922 | 549,825 | 921,320 | -40.3% |
| Switzerland | Kg | 1,200 | 3,194 | 7,108 | 3,748 | 1,844 | 8,461 | 25,555 | 17,128 | 49.2% |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | 51,730 | 114,977 | 358,606 | 106,828 | 52,568 | 241,136 | 925,845 | 785,604 | 17.9% |
| Mexico | Kg | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 18,137 | - |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 98,447 | - |
| Italy | Kg | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2,445 | - |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 65,355 | - |
| French Southern Terr. | Kg | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 513 | - |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 15,138 | - |
| Belgium | Kg | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other Countries | Kg | - | 10,568 | 160 | - | 234 | - | 10,962 | - | - |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | - | 83,630 | 4,658 | - | 7,306 | - | 95,594 | - | - |
| Total | Kg | 24,914 | 50,688 | 49,875 | 29,808 | 28,032 | 66,823 | 250,140 | 195,112 | 28.2% |
| | Value (\$Cdn) | 446,389 | 778,799 | 988,771 | 562,466 | 427,841 | 1,069,038 | 4,273,304 | 3,341,835 | 27.9% |

Bone-in

| | January 2015 | February | March | April | May | June | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Total | 6,049 | 1,419 | 739 | 677 | 170 | 1,386 | 10,440 | 13,773 | -24.2% |
| Value (\$Cdn) | 17,437 | 17,164 | 7,789 | 7,105 | 1,759 | 27,099 | 78,353 | 144,622 | -45.8% |

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

| | January 2015 | February | March | April | May | June | 2015 | 2014 | % Change |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Kg | 30,963 | 52,107 | 50,614 | 30,485 | 28,202 | 68,209 | 260,580 | 208,885 | 24.7% |
| Value (\$Cdn) | 463,826 | 795,963 | 996,560 | 569,571 | 429,600 | 1,096,137 | 4,351,657 | 3,486,457 | 24.8% |

*source Statistics Canada

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

wghtd avg

| | Bulls (UTM) | Heifers (UTM) | Bulls (OTM) | Cows (OTM) |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| July 2014 | 397.58 | 385.95 | 328.09 | 287.96 |
| Aug 2014 | 402.37 | 389.93 | 322.74 | 290.13 |
| 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 |

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

| | Bulls | Heifers | Mature Bulls | Mature Cows |
|-----------|---------|---------|--------------|-------------|
| Aug 2014 | 400-410 | 385-395 | 250-300 | 250-280 |
| Sept 2014 | 400-455 | 385-435 | 250-300 | 275-300 |
| 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 |

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

| | May 2015 | | June 2015 | | July 2015 | | % Change Current Month vs. | |
|----------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------------------------|---------------|
| | Range | Wt. Avg | Range | Wt. Avg | Range | Wt. Avg | 2 months prior | 1 month prior |
| Ribeye Lip-On Fresh | 1,250-1,679 | 1,393.80 | 1,050-1,650 | 1,366.09 | 1,050-1,650 | 1,267.77 | -9.0% | -7.2% |
| Chuckroll/Clod Fresh | 500-700 | 620.68 | 500-700 | 616.01 | 500-710 | 629.16 | 1.4% | 2.1% |
| Striploin Fresh | 850-1,650 | 1,371.94 | 850-1,650 | 1,309.97 | 875-1,650 | 1,192.16 | -13.1% | -9.0% |
| Tenderloin Fresh | 1,400-3,080 | 2,044.31 | 1,400-2,680 | 2,057.33 | 1,400-2,300 | 2,072.49 | 1.4% | 0.7% |
| Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh | 525-640 | 580.00 | 525-640 | 582.00 | 525-640 | 580.00 | 0.0% | -0.3% |
| Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen | 571-878 | 611.44 | 575-675 | 627.42 | 575-675 | 649.72 | 6.3% | 3.6% |
| Ground 85% Patties, Frozen | 500-802 | 621.46 | 500-675 | 639.69 | 500-675 | 656.52 | 5.6% | 2.6% |

*source USDA

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

| | Mid-May 2015 Pricing | Mid-June 2015 Pricing | Mid-July 2015 Pricing | Mid-August 2015 Pricing |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Tenderloin - Fresh | \$52.00 - \$56.00 | \$52.00 - \$57.95 | \$45.00 - \$57.95 | \$45.00 - \$60.00 |
| Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh | \$30.50 - \$32.00 | \$31.95 - \$32.00 | \$29.00 - \$34.00 | \$29.00 - \$34.00 |
| Inside Round - Fresh | \$15.25 - \$16.95 | \$15.50 - \$17.05 | \$15.75 - \$19.50 | \$15.75 - \$19.50 |
| Ground 90% Bulk Fresh | \$16.00 - \$16.95 | \$16.00 - \$16.95 | \$15.00 - \$15.95 | \$15.00 - \$15.95 |
| Fresh Bison Trim | \$14.00 - \$14.95 | \$14.00 - \$14.95 | \$14.00 - \$14.95 | \$14.00 - \$14.95 |

*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 | | | 380 Head | | |
| 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 | \$4.12 |
| 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) | | Wood X | \$7,500 | 2013 YEARLING BULLS | | |
| 2012 BREEDING BULLS | | | | 2014 BULLS | | | 600-700 lbs | | |
| 8,595 | 8 | | \$3,325 (avg) | Sandridge Bison | Wood X | \$3,500 | Off Types | 3 | \$2.27 |
| 2014 HEIFER CALVES | | | | Shale Creek Bison | | | 2012 BULLS | | |
| 500-650 lbs | 23,965 | 44 | \$3.35 | Sandridge Bison I | Wood X | \$2,800 | 2 | | \$2.40 |
| 400-499 lbs | 21,965 | 49 | \$3.08 | 2013 HEIFERS | | | 2014 HEIFER CALVES | | |
| 300-349 lbs | 9,210 | 25 | \$3.00 | Shale Creek | Wood X | \$6,750 | 500 + lbs | 25 | \$3.47 |
| Under 300 | 2,455 | 9 | \$2.80 | Beldon Bison Rar | Wood X | \$4,200 | 450-499 lbs | 28 | \$3.50 |
| 2013 YEARLING HEIFERS | | | | Beldon Bison Rar | | | 400-449 lbs | | |
| 580-680 lbs | 3,030 | 5 | \$3.15 | | Wood X | \$3,000 | 350-399 lbs | 48 | \$3.51 |
| 490-579 lbs | 3,215 | 6 | \$2.53 | | Wood X | | 349 & Under | 19 | \$3.63 |
| | | | | 2014 HEIFERS | | | 2013 YEARLING HEIFERS | | |
| | | | | Rough Bark | | | 600 + lbs | | |
| | | | | Sandridge Bison I | | | Off Types | | |
| | | | | Rough Bark Bisor | | | 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 producers in mid-August increased to \$5.25 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 \$5.05 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 4.9% in the first 31 weeks of 2015 (week ending August 1, 2015) when compared to 2014 levels (6,925 animals in 2015 compared to 6,601 animals in 2014). Live animal exports for the first 7 months of 2015 were 14,255 head – up by 40.2% when compared to the 10,170 head exported in the first seven 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 and certain hip cuts in the United States and Canada. In Canada, demand for other cuts is steady with some consumer price resistance being reported. There are reports of some orders for ground products being shorted. European demand is reported to be steady. There is an inventory build-up of strip loins and tenderloins.

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 is expected to create shortages in the Canadian market next year.

Chart 1

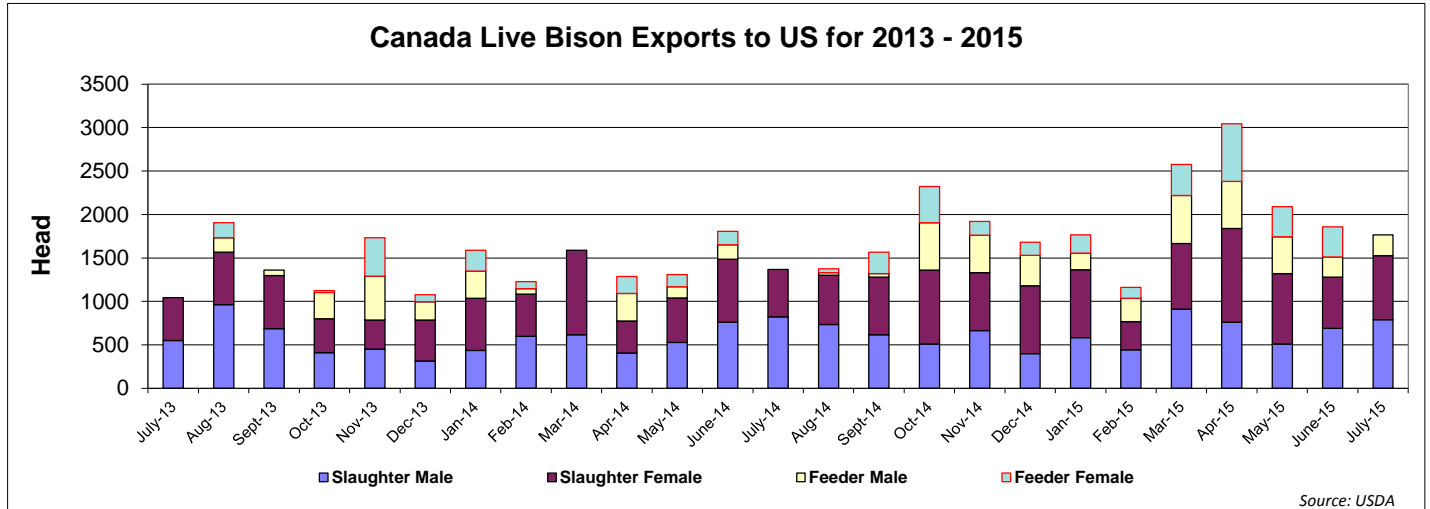
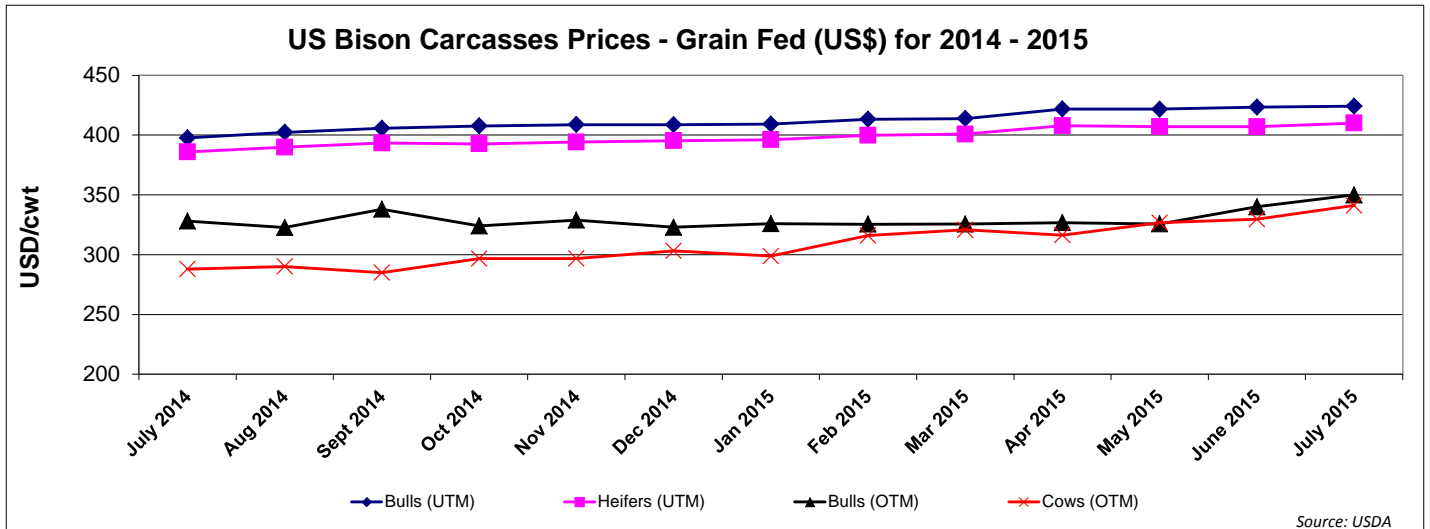


Chart 2



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 number of farms reporting too small for public disclosure.

Prepared by: Red Meat Section, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

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