



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - March 31, 2014

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	01-Feb	08-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	Feb Total	January - February YTD		
						2014	2013	% Change
Total Canada	267	247	122	224	860	1,644	2,065	-20.4%
<i>previous year</i>	247	309	319	209	1,084			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Sept 2013	Oct 2013	Nov 2013	Dec 2013	Jan 2014	Jan 2013	For the Month of January		
							2014	2013	% Change
Alberta	61	111	126	80	111	147	111	147	-24.5%
Saskatchewan	22	33	33	14	36	12	36	12	200.0%
Manitoba/BC	97	90	47	80	56	101	56	101	-44.6%
Ontario/Quebec**	51	27	26	16	11	15	11	15	-26.7%
Total	231	261	232	190	214	275	214	275	-22.2%

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

Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	% Change
	1,644	2,065	-20.4%

*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*

	01-Feb	08-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	Feb Total	January - February YTD		
						2014	2013	% Change
for week ending:	1010	995	1012	852	3,869	8,012	6,191	29.4%
<i>previous year</i>	768	810	852	701	3,131			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Oct-13	Nov-13	Dec-13	Jan-14	Feb-14	January - February YTD		
						2014	2013	% Change
Slaughter Male	410	451	314	436	598	1,034	1,108	-6.7%
Slaughter Female	389	334	471	602	486	1,088	1,191	-8.6%
Feeder Male	303	504	210	313	64	377	461	-18.2%
Feeder Female	22	445	80	237	78	315	231	36.4%
Total	1,124	1,734	1,075	1,588	1,226	2,814	2,991	-5.9%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		August 2013	September	October	November	December	January 2014	For the Month of January		
								2014	2013	% Change
USA	Kg	6,148	7,057	22,668	4,736	7,508	12,317	12,317	11,449	7.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	101,405	106,181	329,904	90,476	153,555	202,047	202,047	152,591	32.4%
France	Kg	14,601	3,339	13,231	9,811	19,045	8,803	8,803	4,720	86.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	250,615	60,305	232,889	166,456	232,143	146,726	146,726	80,920	81.3%
Switzerland	Kg	7,289	3,858	3,822	6,234	3,916	1,111	1,111	2,291	-51.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	270,759	173,081	166,106	294,630	177,743	48,540	48,540	101,893	-52.4%
Germany	Kg	1,598	-	771	944	820	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	41,549	-	22,082	25,530	21,417	-	-	-	-
Egypt	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	3,104	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	55,873	-	-	-	-	-
Republic of Moldova	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg	-	324	-	226	302	231	231	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	8,412	-	5,871	7,847	5,987	5,987	-	-
French Southern Terr.	Kg	44	-	-	-	-	218	218	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	1,072	-	-	-	-	6,536	6,536	-	-
Netherlands	Kg	335	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	8,702	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	15,788	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	161,130	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Kg	30,015	14,578	40,492	40,843	31,591	22,680	22,680	18,460	22.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	674,102	347,979	750,981	799,966	592,705	409,836	409,836	335,404	22.2%

Bone-in

	August 2013	September	October	November	December	January 2014	For the Month of January		
							2014	2013	% Change
Total	48	-	936	209	-	7,986	7,986	238	3255.5%
<i>Value (\$Cdn)</i>	741	-	13,373	2,219	-	83,857	83,857	3,098	2606.8%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	August 2013	September	October	November	December	January 2014	For the Month of January		
							2014	2013	% Change
Kg	30,063	14,578	41,428	41,052	31,591	30,666	30,666	18,698	64.0%
Value (\$Cdn)	674,843	347,979	764,354	802,185	592,705	493,693	493,693	338,502	45.8%

*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)
Feb 2013	389.80	376.15	274.29	272.58
Mar 2013	389.29	374.23	293.14	273.26
Apr 2013	389.47	373.08	288.78	277.77
May 2013	388.75	375.62	282.66	267.53
June 2013	388.23	374.56	296.25	285.05
July 2013	388.81	371.23	288.57	269.54
Aug 2013	389.93	372.40	275.39	267.56
Sept 2013	388.46	374.41	282.17	268.85
Oct 2013	389.73	371.10	284.94	272.84
Nov 2013	389.03	371.72	298.97	270.73
Dec 2013	388.62	370.20	278.85	274.48
Jan 2014	387.22	371.42	297.55	271.73
Feb 2014	388.55	367.87	296.54	275.15

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

					\$/cwt live weight			
	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows	2012 Bulls	2012 Heifers	2013 Bulls	2013 Heifers
Mar 2013	350-375	340-360	150-180	150-170				
Apr 2013	350-370	340-360	150-180	150-170				
May 2013	350-370	340-360	130-150	130-150				
June 2013	350-370	325-350	125-150	125-150				
July 2013	350-370	325-360	no prices reported	no prices reported				
Aug 2013	360-370	340-355	no prices reported	no prices reported				
Sept 2013	360-370	340-355	no prices reported	no prices reported				
Oct 2013	360-375	340-360	225	200	180	170		
Nov 2013	365-375	345-360	200-230	200-230	180-190	170	200-220	185-200
Dec 2013	365-375	345-365	200-245	200-230	175-210	140-180	200-230	160-205
Jan 2014	365-385	345-365	200-245	200-245				
Feb 2014	365-390	355-380	220-250	220-250			180-220	180-220
Mar 2014	375-400	355-385	220-250	220-250			180-265	180-220

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	December 2013		January 2014		February 2014		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,250-1,650	1,289.53	1,200-1,650	1,347.83	1,250-1,650	1,354.65	5.0%	0.5%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-660	587.41	500-671	569.28	500-625	587.93	0.1%	3.3%
Striploin Fresh	900-1,650	1,323.00	775-1,650	1,257.31	775-1,650	1,254.46	-5.2%	-0.2%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,700-2,595	1,910.50	1,700-2,595	2,019.44	1,700-2,595	2,128.78	11.4%	5.4%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	525-640	585.71	525-633	595.05	525-640	572.87	-2.2%	-3.7%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	505-630	561.77	500-630	560.37	500-630	557.06	-0.8%	-0.6%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-687	624.70	500-650	559.21	500-650	569.93	-8.8%	1.9%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-December 2013 Pricing	Mid-January 2014 Pricing	Mid-February 2014 Pricing	Mid-March 2014 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$51.95 - \$55.85	\$51.95 - \$55.00	\$50.00 - \$54.95	\$50.00 - \$53.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$28.00 - \$30.00	\$28.00 - \$30.00	\$28.00 - \$34.00	\$28.00 - \$30.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$13.95 - \$14.05	\$13.95 - \$14.00	\$13.95 - \$18.00	\$14.00 - \$14.50
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$10.95 - \$12.50	\$10.95 - \$12.00	\$10.95 - \$12.00	\$10.95 - \$12.00
Fresh Bison Trim	\$9.25 - \$11.00	\$9.25 - \$10.50	\$9.75 - \$11.00	\$9.75 - \$11.00

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Kramer Auctions Ltd. (SK) (January 29th, 2014)				Vold, Jones & Vold Auctions Co. Ltd. (AB) (February 24th, 2014)		Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK) (February 12th, 2014)				
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Avg (\$/cwt)	290 Head		Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Avg (\$/cwt)	
2013 BULLS	550+ lbs	18	\$291	2013 Bulls	500-600 lbs	2013 BULLS	501-550 lbs	18	\$234	
	500-549 lbs	41	\$266		400-500 lbs		401-500 lbs	51	\$242	
	450-499 lbs	66	\$266		300-400 lbs	\$230 - \$246	under 400 lbs	19	\$245	
	400-449 lbs	30	\$264		300lbs and under	\$235 - \$247	2012 BULLS	801-905 lbs	10	\$195
	351-399 lbs	57	\$224				701-800 lbs	7	\$183	
	Under 350	20	\$173				under 700 lbs	19	\$155	
2012 BULLS	700+ lbs	10	\$196	2012 Bulls	900-1000 lbs	\$185	2011 BULLS	\$1850-\$4400 with weights from 1148-1280 lbs		
	650-699 lbs	3	\$225		800-900 lbs	\$192 - \$194	3-5YR OLD BULL	901-1000 lbs	14	\$140
2012 BREEDING BULLS	Range \$2600-\$5200 and wts from 1238-1260 lbs				700-800 lbs	\$190 - \$192		801-900 lbs	16	\$159
2011 BULLS		5	\$188		600-700 lbs	\$192 - \$194		under 800 lbs	4	\$92
2013 HEIFERS CALVES	450-525 lbs	43	\$222		600lbs and under	\$150 - \$171	MATURE BULLS	\$1003.75 (Avg) with weights from 1110-4730 lbs		
	400-449 lbs	65	\$218	2013 Heifers	400-500 lbs	\$175 - \$197	2013 HEIFERS	401-475 lbs	30	\$223
	350-399 lbs	42	\$204		300-400 lbs	\$175 - \$210		376-400 lbs	8	\$221
	300-349 lbs	43	\$193					322-375 lbs	21	\$232
	Under 299 lbs	12	\$160	2012 Heifers	700-800 lbs	\$160	2012 HEIFERS	801-900 lbs	2	\$190
2012 HEIFERS	600+ lbs	7	\$200		600-700 lbs	\$170		701-800 lbs	6	\$166
	550-599 lbs	3	\$167		500-600 lbs	\$167		601-700 lbs	13	\$191
2011 OPEN HEIFERS		3	\$180		500lbs and under	\$120 - \$160		500-600 lbs	18	\$139
EXPOSED FEMALES		4	\$61	2011 Bulls	1035 lbs	\$169		under 500 lbs	8	\$96
				2011 Heifers	700-800 lbs	\$160 - \$172	2011 BRED HEIF	\$1887.50 (Avg) with weights from 1890-2020 lbs (Preg Tested)		
					600-700lbs	\$163 - \$167		MATURE FEMAL Range from \$500-\$1100/hd (Preg Tested)		
					600lbs and under	\$141 - \$160		OPEN FEMALES Range from 0.70-\$1.00/lb		

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

Finished bison prices in mid-February continued to show strength. Producers in Canada received up to \$4.00 per pound HHW for bison bulls and up to \$3.85 per pound HHW for heifers with appropriate adjustments for weight and quality. Marketers report that there is an adequate supply of finished animals with 2012 finished animals coming to market a little later than expected. Excessive snowfall and cold temperatures have resulted in some delays in marketing. The strength in the marketplace is in part attributed to the strong US dollar as well as stronger Canadian demand.

Wholesale prices for middle and prime cuts remained strong with continued good movement into the market. European market demand is steady with all high-end cuts in good demand. US demand is stable.

Domestic markets for bison meat are remaining strong in Eastern Canada and on the West coast. The burdensome trim inventories have been reduced. The food service market is stable with strong demand from the retail sector.

Nationally, federal slaughter was 20.4% below year-ago levels for the first 8 weeks of 2014 (week ending February 22, 2014) when compared to 2013 (1,644 animals in 2014 compared to 2,065 animals in 2013). Live animal exports for the first two months of 2014 at 2,814 head are down 5.9% when compared to the 2,991 bison exported for the same period in 2013.

Chart 1

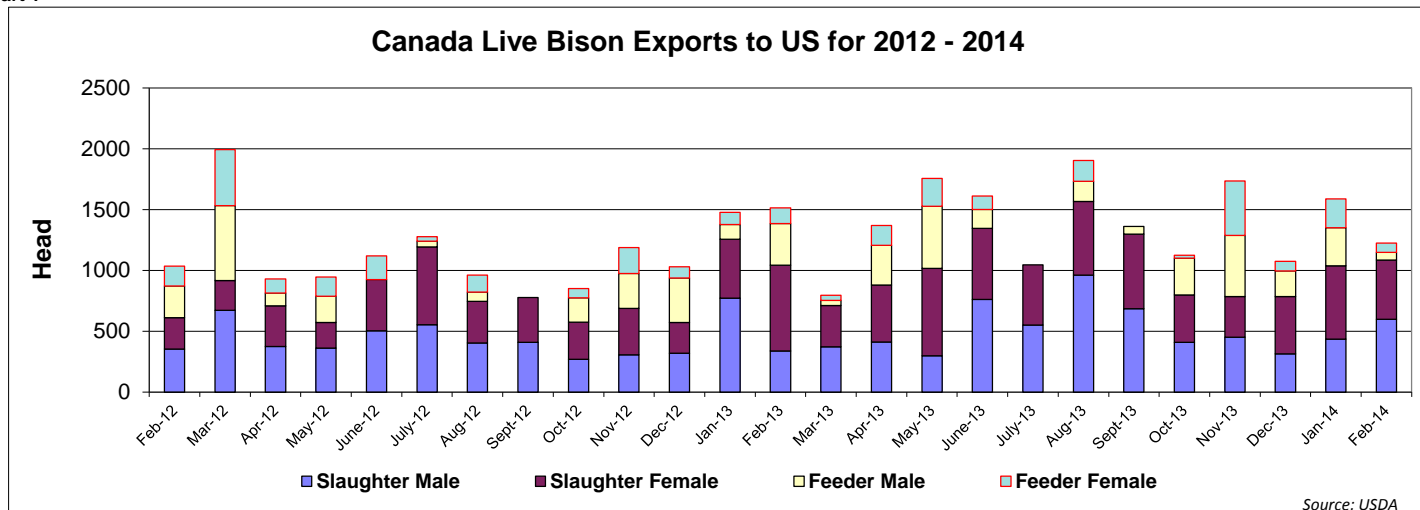
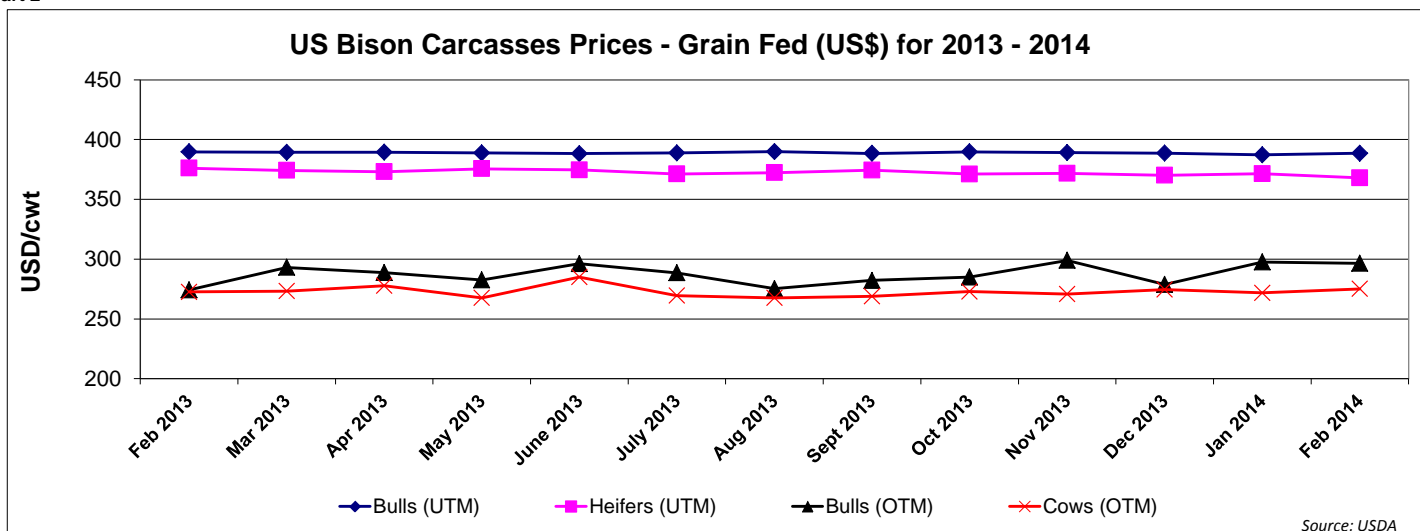


Chart 2



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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