



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - February 25, 2020.

Weekly Federally Inspected Slaughter

	4-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	January Total	2020	Month of January		% Change
Total Canada	20	250	184	222	676	676	2019	578	17.0%
previous year	129	142	142	165	578				

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	August 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019	Dec 2018	January - December YTD		% Change
BC / Alberta	50	35	43	63	68	62	2019	2018	
Sask / Manitoba	38	16	20	29	21	22	711	817	-13.0%
Ontario / Quebec	39	31	33	39	31	28	310	272	14.0%
Canada Total	127	82	96	131	120	112	390	422	-7.6%
							1,411	1,511	-6.6%

Note: In order to protect the confidentiality of individual abattoirs, the provincial groupings have changed.

	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	676	578	17.0%

*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

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	January - December YTD		% Change
Total Slaughter	14,388	14,371	14,186	11,568	10,886	10,041	2019	2018	
Total Live Exports	16,769	19,033	26,162	18,364	17,600	17,342	9,499	10,041	-5.4%
Total Production	31,157	33,404	40,348	29,932	28,486	27,383	20,060	17,342	15.7%
							29,559	27,383	7.9%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

	4-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	January Total	2020	Month of January		% Change
for week ending:	871	1,132	1,090	1,179	4,272	4,272	2019	4,119	3.7%
previous year	792	1,001	1,189	1,137	4,119				

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	September - 19	October - 19	November - 19	December - 19	January - 20	2020	Month of January		% Change
Slaughter Male	576	1033	614	591	712	712	2019	700	1.7%
Slaughter Female	494	348	437	398	350	350	347	0.9%	
Feeder Male	0	63	0	0	188	188	665	-71.7%	
Feeder Female	0	0	0	0	101	101	278	-63.7%	
Total	1,070	1,444	1,051	989	1,351	1,351	1,990	-32.1%	

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

							January - December YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
Boneless	July 2019	August 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019			
United States	Kg 39,838	25,247	22,652	29,095	46,719	56,592	574,254	365,098	57.3%
	Value (\$Cdn) 681,494	400,034	353,731	479,471	649,271	714,996	9,179,537	7,082,429	29.6%
France	Kg 10,263	169	-	-	2,632	382	35,134	79,591	-55.9%
	Value (\$Cdn) 329,828	7,567	-	-	79,612	12,912	1,135,341	2,315,236	-51.0%
Switzerland	Kg 881	1,933	1,148	1,501	1,329	2,923	39,761	64,222	-38.1%
	Value (\$Cdn) 40,489	72,097	50,887	56,032	52,330	136,822	1,116,443	2,040,451	-45.3%
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Kg -	4,708	5,421	-	-	-	41,844	53,406	-21.6%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	48,229	49,277	-	-	-	400,057	483,285	-17.2%
Germany	Kg -	-	27,835	-	-	-	181,289	181,371	0.0%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	284,327	-	-	-	1,854,054	1,761,079	5.3%
Mexico	Kg -	-	17,148	-	-	-	61,685	68,688	-10.2%
	Value (\$Cdn) -	-	157,369	-	-	-	509,498	662,479	-23.1%
Netherlands	Kg 355	1,150	205	3,288	3,631	1,548	13,256	5,032	163.4%
	Value (\$Cdn) 11,983	25,853	2,914	96,268	112,040	65,438	422,677	138,378	205.5%
Other Countries	Kg 954	1,078	40,283	5,273	5,141	3,278	79,450	10,622	648.0%
	Value (\$Cdn) 43,672	34,551	535,177	153,414	151,839	91,684	1,454,846	279,855	419.9%
Total	Kg 52,291	34,285	114,692	39,157	59,452	64,723	1,026,673	828,030	24.0%
	Value (\$Cdn) 1,107,466	588,331	1,433,682	785,185	1,045,092	1,021,852	16,072,453	14,763,192	8.9%

Bone-in

							January - December YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
Total	July 2019	August 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019			
	Kg 5,702	18,517	7,672	7,409	11,688	6,467	118,191	409,058	-71.1%
	Value (\$Cdn) 38,625	117,148	56,656	52,355	85,562	54,044	1,010,129	4,278,772	-76.4%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

							January - December YTD		
							2019	2018	% Change
	July 2019	August 2019	Sept 2019	Oct 2019	Nov 2019	Dec 2019			
	Kg 57,993	52,802	122,364	46,566	71,140	71,190	1,444,864	1,237,088	-7.5%
	Value (\$Cdn) 1,146,091	705,479	1,490,338	837,540	1,130,654	1,075,896	17,082,582	19,041,964	-10.3%

*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)
Jan 2019	453.49	456.39	403.36	376.26
Feb 2019	453.07	437.69	370.56	371.35
Mar 2019	464.80	423.39	407.71	373.54
Apr 2019	449.75	428.79	399.83	376.66
May 2019	449.32	432.90	395.10	356.30
June 2019	448.11	445.93	398.50	347.59
July 2019	444.15	442.50	391.49	351.55
Aug 2019	418.75	422.05	317.69	348.72
Sept 2019	431.53	418.72	348.11	352.59
Oct 2019	425.21	390.44	342.79	346.26
Nov 2019	430.59	395.18	335.61	339.92
Dec 2019	433.87	402.09	340.25	332.35
Jan 2020	415.16	390.24	346.38	336.09

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
May 2019	500-530	490-510	375-400	375-400
June 2019	500-520	480-500	375-400	375-400
July 2019	495-510	480-500	375-400	375-400
Aug 2019	495-510	480-500	350-380	350-380
Sept 2019	485-500	470-490	350-375	350-375
Oct 2019	480-500	470-490	350-380	350-380
Nov 2019	480-500	460-490	300-350	300-350
Dec 2019	480-500	460-490	300-350	300-350
Jan 2020	480-525	460-490	300-350	300-350
Feb 2020	425-525	400-490	300-350	300-350

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	November 2019		December 2019		January 2020		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,315-1,906	1,627.58	1,312-1,873	1,656.17	1,305-1,516	1,313.54	-19.3%	-20.7%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	650-690	673.14	650-700	674.18	620-770	660.10	-1.9%	-2.1%
Striploin Fresh	1,074-1,888	1,227.85	1,065-1,879	1,265.12	1,054-1,100	1,061.05	-13.6%	-16.1%
Tenderloin Fresh	2,038-2,160	2,083.27	1,944-2,385	2,134.23	1,995-2,351	2,092.25	0.4%	-2.0%
Grnd 85% Bulk, Frozen	620-771	681.15	585-756	706.35	645-998	753.00	10.5%	6.6%
Grnd 85% Patties, Fresh	760-784	764.01	760-784	766.01	640-760	751.92	-1.6%	-1.8%
Grnd 85% Patties, Frozen	635-783	712.25	726-771	754.46	565-765	689.04	-3.3%	-8.7%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-November 2019 Pricing	Mid-December 2019 Pricing	Mid-January 2020 Pricing	Mid-February 2020 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$50.00 - \$55.00	\$50.00 - \$55.00	\$50.00 - \$55.00	\$50.00 - \$55.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$32.95 - \$36.00	\$32.95 - \$36.00	\$33.00 - \$36.00	\$33.00 - \$36.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$18.45 - \$20.00	\$18.45 - \$20.00	\$19.00 - \$20.00	\$19.00 - \$20.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$16.95 - \$18.95	\$16.95 - \$18.95	\$16.95 - \$18.95	\$16.95 - \$18.95
Fresh Bison Trim	\$11.95 - \$16.50	\$11.95 - \$16.50	\$11.95 - \$16.50	\$11.95 - \$16.50

**source CBA survey of marketers*

Live Auction Reports *most recently reported; may not reflect current market

Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (SK) (February 12, 2020)			Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (SK) (January 29, 2020)			Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (SK) (December 11, 2019)		
Head Sold: 605			Head Sold: 334			Head Sold: 432		
Sweet Heart Bison Auction			New Year's Bison Auction					
Class	# of head	Average/PD	Class	# of head	Average/PD	Class	# of head	Average/PD
2019 Bulls (600 lbs plus)	5	3.16	2019 Bulls (500 lbs plus)	35	1.97	2019 Bulls (500 lbs plus)	10	2.58
2019 Bulls (500-599 lbs)	131	2.32	2019 Bulls (400-499lbs)	30	1.68	2019 Bulls (400-499lbs)	70	2.47
2019 Bulls (400-499 lbs)	164	2.10	2019 Bulls (300-399lbs)	15	1.59	2019 Bulls (300-399lbs)	38	2.17
2019 Bulls (300-399 lbs)	12	1.59	2018 Bulls (900 lbs plus)	5	2.07	2019 Bulls (under 300lbs)	2	1.76
			2018 Bulls (800-900lbs)	7	2.13	2018 Bulls (900 lbs plus)	9	2.09
2018 Year. Bulls (600 lbs plu:	2	1.55	2018 Bulls (under 700lbs)	31	1.86	2018 Bulls (800-899lbs)	22	2.40
2018 Year. Bulls (500-599 lb:	1	1.49	2017 Bulls (800-1000 lbs)	4	1.87	2018 Bulls (700-799lbs)	36	2.28
			2017 Bulls (700-799 lbs)	2	1.85	2018 Bulls (600-699lbs)	19	1.77
2017 Bulls (900 lbs plus)	2	1.87				2018 Bulls (500-599lbs)	6	1.74
2017 Bulls (800-899 lbs)	2	1.70	OTM Bulls (over 1500 lbs)	1	1.13	2018 Bulls (under 500lbs)	2	1.60
			OTM Bulls (1000-1250 lbs)	5	1.61	2017 Bulls (1000lbs plus)	8	1.69
2019 Heifers (450-550 lbs)	127	1.92				2017 Bulls (under 1000lbs)	28	1.84
2019 Heifers (400-449 lbs)	83	1.77	2019 Heifers (500 lbs plus)	3	2.13	2014/2015 Bulls (1000lbs+)	7	1.22
2019 Heifers (300-399 lbs)	27	1.58	2019 Heifers (400-499lbs)	47	1.74	2019 Heifers (400-499lbs)	41	2.27
2019 Heifers (under 300 lbs)	4	1.58	2019 Heifers (300-399lbs)	34	1.29	2019 Heifers (300-399lbs)	43	1.99
			2019 Heifers (under 300lbs)	8	1.33	2019 Heifers (under 300lbs)	6	1.45
2018 Heifers (700 lbs plus)	6	1.75	2018 Heifers (800-899 lbs)	12	1.67	2018 Heifers (700-799 lbs)	1	1.64
2018 Heifers (600-699 lbs)	6	1.50	2018 Heifers (700-799 lbs)	19	1.66	2018 Heifers (600-699 lbs)	14	1.73
2018 Heifers (under 600 lbs)	10	1.29	2018 Heifers (600-699 lbs)	12	1.49	2018 Heifers (500-599 lbs)	6	1.53
			2018 Heifers (500-599 lbs)	8	1.35	2018 Heifers (under 500lbs)	7	2.16
Bred Cows (Preg tested)	11	1.03	2018 Heifers (under 500lbs)	3	1.17	2018 Heifers (Preg test) 650-750lbs	10	1.89
945-1095 lbs			Bred Heifers (Preg tested) 800-1100 lbs	42	1.82	2017 Bred Heifers (900-1008lbs)	26	2.72
Mature Cows (Open)	12	1.03	Mature Cows (Preg test) 900-1100 lbs	11	1.05	2017 Bred Heifers (700-899lbs)	18	2.18
825-975 lbs			Mature Cows (Open) 900 lbs plus	4	1.48	2017 Heifers (1025 lbs)	1	1.56
						Bred Mature Cows (895-930lbs)	2	1.48

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 diane.blandford@canada.ca

Bison prices to mid-February were experiencing downward pressure in certain markets. Prices offered by Canadian buyers for slaughter in Canada ranged from \$4.25 – \$4.60/lb HHW for Grade "A" bison. Heifers are priced at about 25 cents lower.

Canadian buyers purchasing bulls for slaughter in the U.S. market are paying from \$5.00 - \$5.25/lb HHW when slaughter dates are available. Heifers are priced at about 25 cents lower. Carcasses that do not fall within buyers' specifications may be discounted. Final returns may need adjustment for quality, transportation, and export costs.

U.S. buyers are offering \$3.85 - 4.15/lb US HHW for prime bulls from Canada for slaughter in the U.S. Heavier carcass bulls may be discounted. Returns to the producers are dependent on exchange rates, quality, transportation, and export costs.

Older cows and bulls are being priced at \$3.00 to \$3.50 Canadian HHW.

With a surplus of finished bulls and heifers, 2019 bull calves in the 500 lb range are being purchased at about \$2.00 per pound with some sales higher.

Nationally, federal slaughter in Canada for the 52 weeks of 2019 reached 8,088 head – down 5.2% from the 8,530 animals slaughtered in 2018. Federal slaughter for the first six weeks in 2020 (week ending Feb 8) at 1,013 head is up 8.2% compared to the 2019 slaughter of 936 head for the same period. Live animal exports to the US for the 12 months of 2019 totaled 20,060 head – up 15.7% when compared to the 17,342 bison exported during 2018.

Marketers report that the demand for bison trim has been steady. The demand for tenderloins and rib-eyes is steady, while the demand for striploins continues to be slow. US demand continues to be steady. Data also shows that although there has been a decrease in meat exports to France and Switzerland, exports to Germany and the Netherlands have increased. Total exports to Europe have increased by about 10% (almost four-fold), while exports to the Netherlands increased by 160%. Canadian bison being shipped from the U.S. to Europe is not included in this data.

The Canadian marketers indicate that present supplies of finished bison continue to be more than adequate for the next six months.

February prices for quality bison calves weighing 500 lbs (bull calves) were reported at about \$2.30/lb live weight, with some prices higher.

Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue to be sensitive to Canada - US exchange rates. Returns to Canadian producers will fluctuate as the value of the Canadian dollar changes.

Chart 1

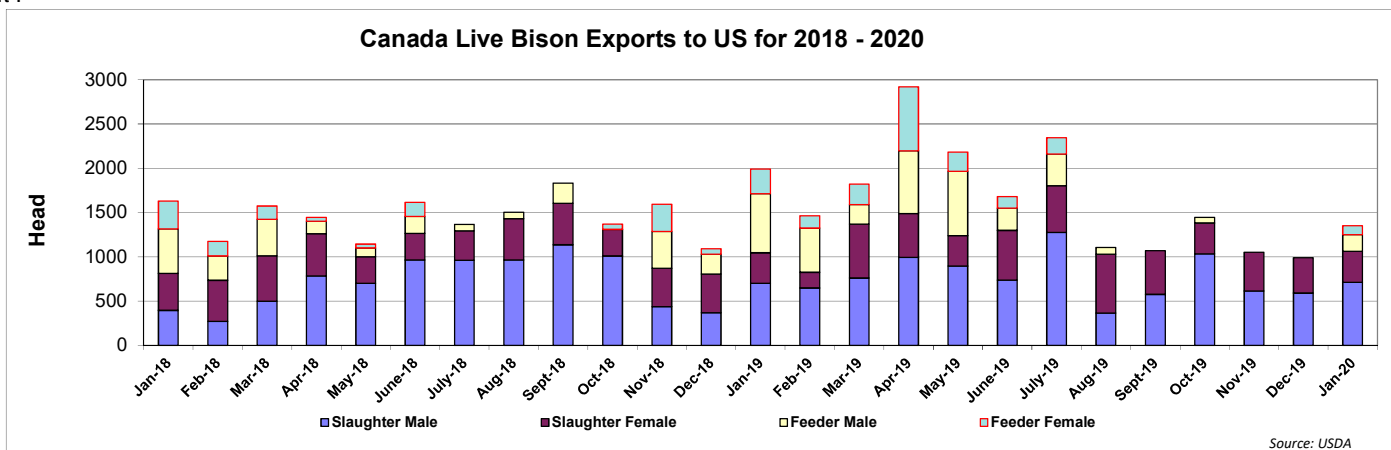
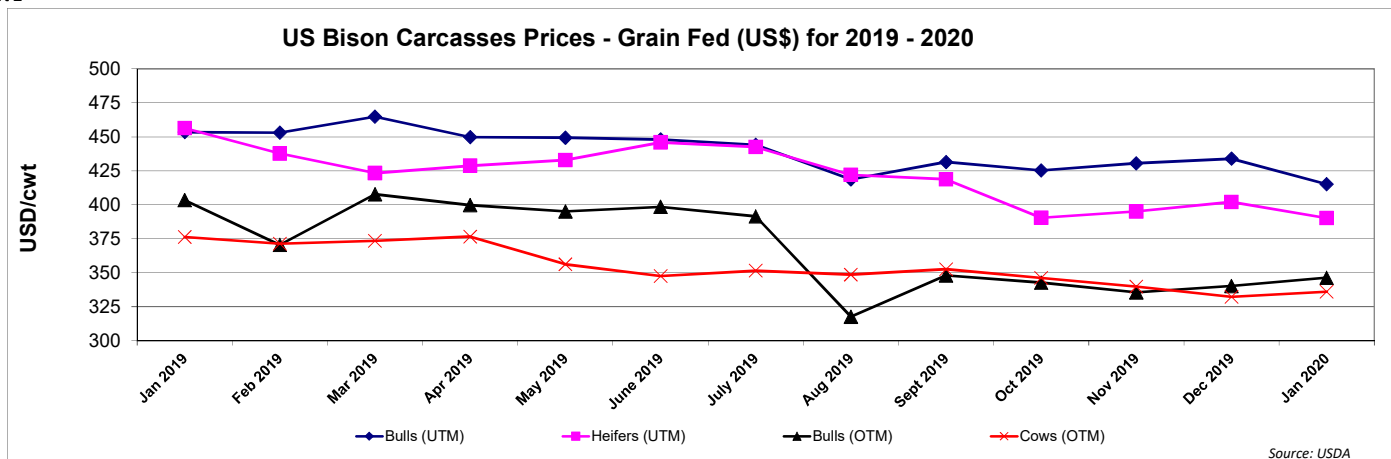


Chart 2



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 disclosure the number of bison