

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

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

Weekly Federally Inspected Slaughter

	1-Aug	8-Aug	15-Aug	22-Aug	August Total	January - August YTD		
Total Canada	54	59	120	76	309	2020	2019	% Change
previous year	196	50	248	3	497	3,904	5,325	-26.7%

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	July 2019	January - July YTD		
							2020	2019	% Change
BC / Alberta	73	88	75	109	80	82	575	452	27.2%
Sask / Manitoba	31	44	34	67	55	33	283	186	52.2%
Ontario / Quebec	32	41	34	42	48	43	271	270	0.4%
Canada Total	136	173	143	218	183	158	1,129	908	24.3%

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 *	5,033	6,233	-19.3%

*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

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	January - July YTD		
							2020	2019	% Change
Total Slaughter	14,371	14,186	11,568	10,886	10,041	9,585	4,724	5,736	-17.6%
Total Live Exports	19,033	26,162	18,364	17,600	17,342	20,060	15,351	14,401	6.6%
Total Production	33,404	40,348	29,932	28,486	27,383	29,645	20,075	20,137	-0.3%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

	1-Aug	8-Aug	15-Aug	22-Aug	August Total	January - August YTD		
for week ending:						2020	2019	% Change
	1,218	1,210	1,154	1,229	4,811	40,933	35,295	16.0%
previous year	1,017	973	1,016	1,098	4,104			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	April - 20	May - 20	June - 20	July - 20	August - 20	January - August YTD		
						2020	2019	% Change
Slaughter Male	1,121	806	1,306	1,402	1,116	7,652	6,374	20.1%
Slaughter Female	743	493	495	506	713	4,707	3,724	26.4%
Feeder Male	1,034	225	161	0	80	2,754	3,509	-21.5%
Feeder Female	571	700	210	0	85	2,232	1,899	17.5%
Total	3,469	2,224	2,172	1,908	1,994	17,345	15,506	11.9%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

								January - July YTD		
								2020	2019	% Change
Boneless	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020				
United States	Kg	37,346	25,877	293	790	19,038	9,230	139,458	393,949	-64.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	299,362	403,313	13,942	24,084	267,209	145,498	1,834,036	6,582,034	-72.1%
France	Kg	44	1,525	663	690	625	527	4,766	31,951	-85.1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	2,289	48,987	15,912	8,278	12,024	17,995	135,812	1,035,250	-86.9%
Switzerland	Kg	1,068	873	-	-	754	-	3,269	30,927	-89.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	47,789	40,321	-	-	34,946	-	148,292	748,275	-80.2%
Saint Pierre and Miquelon	Kg	-	-	142	-	-	-	142	31,715	-99.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	2,103	-	-	-	2,103	302,551	-99.3%
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	37,344	37,344	112,161	-66.7%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	349,601	349,601	1,145,123	-69.5%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	44,537	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	352,129	N/A
Netherlands	Kg	-	1,260	-	-	-	-	2,136	3,434	-37.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	29,173	-	-	-	-	62,512	120,164	-48.0%
Other Countries	Kg	1,949	795	-	-	523	626	4,611	11,770	-60.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	67,716	28,705	-	-	13,864	17,711	159,139	219,184	-27.4%
Total	Kg	40,407	30,330	1,098	1,480	20,940	47,727	191,726	660,444	-71.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	417,156	550,499	31,957	32,362	328,043	530,805	2,691,495	10,504,710	-74.4%

Bone-in

Bone-in							January - July YTD			
	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	2020	2019	% Change	
Total	Kg	59,466	599	337	3,900	6,266	3,625	75,860	14,690	416.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	624,400	6,292	3,539	40,942	65,797	38,063	796,535	251,706	216.5%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in							January - July YTD		
	Feb 2020	Mar 2020	Apr 2020	May 2020	June 2020	July 2020	2020	2019	% Change
Kg	99,873	30,929	1,435	5,380	27,206	51,352	267,586	675,134	-60.4%
Value (\$Cdn)	1,041,556	556,791	35,496	73,304	393,840	568,868	3,488,030	10,756,416	-67.6%

*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)
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
Feb 2020	407.21	398.16	346.48	337.96
Mar 2020	408.09	403.90	349.59	340.84
Apr 2020	396.56	378.99	340.26	341.21
May 2020	392.40	376.11	343.62	343.42
June 2020	397.89	395.50	339.29	335.70
July 2020	399.04	382.52	338.59	337.53
Aug 2020	400.16	373.40	338.43	336.98

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
Mar 2020	425-525	400-490	300-350	300-350
Apr 2020	400-450	375-400	300-350	300-350
May 2020	350-450	350-425	250-300	250-300
June 2020	350-400	350-375	250-300	250-300
July 2020	350-400	350-375	250-325	250-325
Aug 2020	350-400	350-375	250-325	250-325
Sept 2020	350-400	350-375	250-325	250-325

*source CBA survey of marketers

For the U.S. Market

	Bulls	Heifers
June 2020	500	480
July 2020	500	480
Aug 2020	500	480
Sept 2020	500-525	480-500

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

	June 2020		July 2020		August 2020		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 mnths prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,145-1,204	1,203.82	1,138-1,250	1,152.85	1,010-1,400	1,023.70	-15.0%	-11.2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	637-650	637.08	640-660	642.25	595-665	599.25	-5.9%	-6.7%
Striploin Fresh	1,037-1,134	1,037.64	950-1,200	1,008.42	849-1,250	947.30	-8.7%	-6.1%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,572-1,812	1,612.31	N/A	N/A	1,183-1,806	1,233.55	-23.5%	N/A
Grnd 85% Bulk, Frozen	570-756	641.71	N/A	N/A	565-785	641.90	0.0%	N/A
Grnd 85% Patties, Fresh	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Grnd 85% Patties, Frozen	580-762	647.28	590-791	650.30	570-775	608.94	-5.9%	-6.4%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-June 2020 Pricing	Mid-July 2020 Pricing	Mid-August 2020 Pricing	Mid-September 2020 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$50.00 - \$56.90	\$50.00 - \$56.90	\$45.00 - \$54.00	\$45.00 - \$54.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$27.50 - \$33.00	\$27.50 - \$33.00	\$24.00 - \$28.00	\$24.00 - \$32.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$19.00 - \$20.00	\$19.00 - \$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 - \$14.50	\$11.95 - \$14.50	\$11.95 - \$14.00	\$11.95 - \$14.00

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Jack Auction Group (SK) (August 10, 2020)			Jack Auction Group (SK) (July 6, 2020)			Jack Auction Group (SK) (June 1, 2020)		
Head Sold: 222			Head Sold: 53			Head Sold: 94		
Class	# of head	Average/lb	Class	# of head	Average/lb	Class	# of head	Average/lb
2018 Bulls Cross (1,150 Base)	10	2.26	2018 Bull Yrlg Cross (1,150 Base)	29	2.32	2018 Bull Yrlg Cross (1,075 Base)	48	2.26
2018 Bulls Cross (1,050 Base)	14	2.26						
2019 Hfrs Cross (675 Base)	50	2.16	2018 Hfrs Yrlg Cross (875 Base)	18	1.91	2018 Bull Yrlg Cross (975 Base)	35	2.21
2018/19 Mixed Cross (650 Base)	53	1.85	Aged Cows Cull (1,000 Base)	6	1.00	2018 Bull Yrlg Cross (1,000 Base)	11	2.21
2018 Mixed Cross (500 Base)	37	1.71						
2019 Mixed Cross (350 Base)	25	1.50						
Mature Cows Cross (800 Base)	31	1.47						
Mature Bulls Cross (1,750 Base)	2	1.00						

Commentary

By Terry Kremeniuk, 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

Prices offered by Canadian buyers for slaughter in Canada range between \$3.50 - \$4.00/lb HHW for Grade "A" bison on light trading. Heifers are priced at similar levels, again on light trading. Canadian buyers purchasing bulls for slaughter in the U.S. market are paying CDN \$5.00/lb HHW when slaughter dates are available. Heifers are priced at about 20 cents per pound lower. Carcasses that do not fall within buyers' specifications may be discounted. Final returns need adjustment for quality, transportation, and export costs.

U.S. buyers are offering USD \$4.00/lb HHW for prime bulls from Canada for slaughter in the U.S. They are offering USD \$3.80/lb for heifers. Returns to the producers are dependent on exchange rates, quality, transportation, and export costs.

From January 1st to September 12th, 2020 4,277 bison were slaughtered in federally-inspected plants in Canada – 1,531 head or 26% below the 5,808 slaughtered during the same period in 2019.

Impacted by COVID-19, Canadian bison slaughter from April 4, 2020 to September 12, 2020 totalled 1,803 head; down 47.4% compared to the 3,427 head slaughtered during the same period in 2019. Continued soft foodservice demand for bison products in the domestic and European markets, combined with limited available slaughter spaces for bison, will continue to keep Canadian bison slaughter at current levels.

Total North American slaughter at federally-inspected plants for the first eight months reached 44,837 head or 10.4% above the 40,620 head slaughtered last year during the same period. U.S. slaughter was up 16.0%, while Canadian slaughter was down by 26.7%.

Live bison exports at 17,345 head for the first eight months of 2020 are 11.9% ahead of the 15,506 live animals exported during the first eight months of 2019. A major part of the increase has been in slaughter animals.

U.S. consumer demand for bison products continues to be stronger than that experienced in Canada, although there are marketers experiencing softer markets. Demand for ground and fresh trim is steady with a buildup of tenderloins, middle cuts, and some trim.

In Canada, the demand for bison meat products is steady with some retailers offering fresh bison products and others offering frozen products.

Bison meat exports continue to Europe. As the European economy recovers, it is expected that demand for bison products will continue to increase.

Market uncertainty is expected to continue as the world and the marketplace adjust to the consequences of COVID-19.

Chart 1

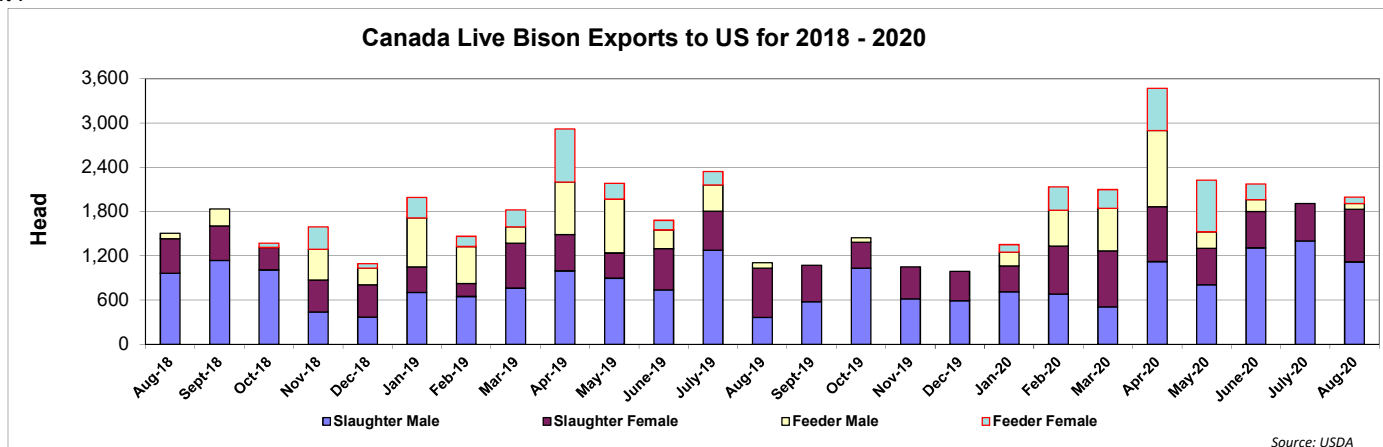
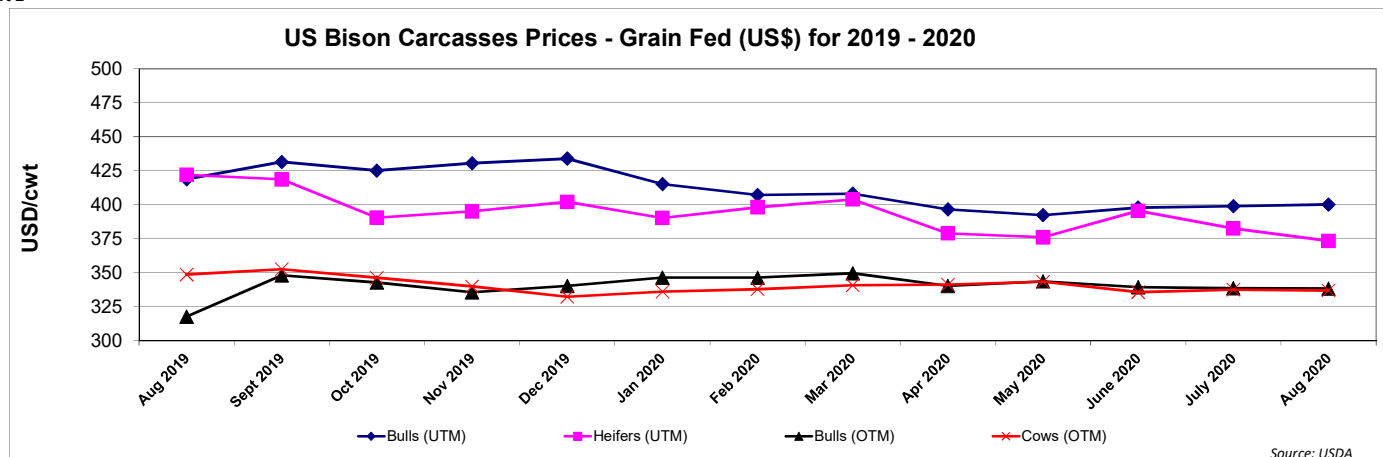


Chart 2



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