



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - February 25, 2021.

Weekly Federally Inspected Slaughter

	9-Jan	16-Jan	23-Jan	30-Jan	Jan Total	January - January YTD		
Total Canada	160	58	105	129	452	2021	2020	% Change
previous year	20	250	184	222	676	452	676	-33.1%

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	August 2020	Sept 2020	October 2020	November 2020	December 2020	December 2019	January - December YTD		
							2020	2019	% Change
BC / Alberta	70	59	97	72	80	68	967	711	36.0%
Sask / Manitoba	48	42	40	33	28	21	474	310	52.9%
Ontario / Quebec	55	33	47	81	28	25	565	476	18.7%
Canada Total	173	134	184	186	136	114	2,006	1,497	34.0%

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 *	7,859	9,585	-18.0%

*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

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	January - December YTD		
							2020	2019	% Change
Total Slaughter	14,371	14,186	11,568	10,886	10,041	9,585	7,859	9,585	-18.0%
Total Live Exports	19,033	26,162	18,364	17,600	17,342	20,060	24,574	20,060	22.5%
Total Production	33,404	40,348	29,932	28,486	27,383	29,645	32,433	29,645	9.4%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

	9-Jan	16-Jan	23-Jan	30-Jan	Jan Total	January - January YTD		
for week ending:	1,199	1,211	1,361	1,279	5,050	2021	2020	% Change
previous year	871	1,132	1,090	1,179	4,272	5,050	4,272	18.2%

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	August -20	September - 20	October - 20	November - 20	December -20	January -21	January - January YTD		
							2021	2020	% Change
Slaughter Male	1,116	943	937	1,090	1,021	1,076	1,076	712	51.1%
Slaughter Female	713	1,030	721	560	786	588	588	350	68.0%
Feeder Male	80	0	80	0	3	124	124	188	-34.0%
Feeder Female	85	0	49	0	9	159	159	101	57.4%
Total	1,994	1,973	1,787	1,650	1,819	1,947	1,947	1,351	44.1%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

								January - December YTD		
								2020	2019	% Change
Boneless										
United States	Kg	9,230	8,395	7,943	7,552	23,035	4,404	190,787	574,254	-66.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	145,498	140,637	140,751	118,861	279,747	71,489	2,585,521	9,179,537	-71.8%
France	Kg	527	1,149	-	850	469	1,323	8,557	35,134	-75.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	17,995	27,581	-	20,400	10,429	48,203	242,425	1,135,341	-78.6%
Italy	Kg	626	405	373	-	-	-	4,594	8,273	-44.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	17,711	19,321	17,907	-	-	-	167,662	315,025	-46.8%
Switzerland	Kg	-	405	247	411	-	245	4,577	39,761	-88.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	17,558	10,972	20,910	-	10,652	208,384	1,116,443	-81.3%
Netherlands	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,136	13,256	-83.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	62,512	422,677	-85.2%
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	795	8,823	-91.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,705	223,757	-87.2%
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	71	71	139,996	-99.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	3,484	3,484	1,429,450	-99.8%
Other Countries	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	134,044	-100.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,277,237	-100.0%
Total	Kg	10,383	10,354	8,563	8,813	23,504	6,043	211,517	953,541	-77.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	181,204	205,097	169,630	160,171	290,176	133,828	3,298,693	15,099,467	-78.2%

Bone-in

								January - December YTD		
								2020	2019	% Change
Total	Kg	3,625	14,617	5,696	33,734	23,195	5,733	158,835	17,455	810.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	38,063	152,607	59,795	409,387	243,548	74,480	1,736,352	288,507	501.8%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

								January - December YTD		
								2020	2019	% Change
	Kg	14,008	24,971	14,259	42,547	46,699	11,776	370,352	970,996	-61.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	219,267	357,704	229,425	569,558	533,724	208,308	5,035,045	15,387,974	-67.3%

*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 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
Sept 2020	396.19	386.83	336.00	328.26
Oct 2020	394.58	376.67	334.74	311.64
Nov 2020	393.03	386.84	336.13	325.24
Dec 2020	388.99	369.16	325.83	329.09
Jan 2021	393.52	369.16	325.47	329.09

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Feb 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
Oct 2020	350-400	350-375	250-325	250-325
Nov 2020	350-380	350-380	225-325	225-325
Dec 2020	350-380	350-380	225-325	225-325
Jan 2021	350-380	350-380	180-195	180-195
Feb 2021	350-380	350-380	180-195	180-195

*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
Oct 2020	500-525	480-500
Nov 2020	500-525	480-500
Dec 2020	500-525	480-500
Jan 2021	500-525	480-500
Feb 2021	480-500	460-480

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

	November 2020		December 2020		January 2021		2 mnths prior	1 month prior
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg		
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,160-1,195	1,178.96	1,148 - 1,190	1,171.63	1,143 - 1,195	1,154.10	-2.1%	-1.5%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	N/A	N/A	615 - 665	615.67	630 - 660	630.44	N/A	2.4%
Striploin Fresh	980-1,380	1,017.65	996 - 1,004	999.00	947 - 1,300	964.65	-5.2%	-3.4%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,610-1,738	1,654.75	1,454 - 1,776	1,537.89	1,182 - 1,667	1,403.63	-15.2%	-8.7%
Gmd 85% Bulk, Frozen	515 - 751	585.07	505 - 752	586.22	520 - 733	615.26	5.2%	5.0%
Gmd 85% Patties, Fresh	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gmd 85% Patties, Frozen	520-707	623.18	510 - 743	645.74	540 - 733	646.92	3.8%	0.2%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-November 2020 Pricing	Mid-December 2020 Pricing	Mid-January 2021 Pricing	Mid-February 2021 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$45.00 - \$56.00	\$45.00 - \$56.00	\$45.00 - \$56.00	\$45.00 - \$56.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$24.00 - \$32.00	\$26.00 - \$28.00	\$26.00 - \$28.00	\$26.00 - \$28.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$18.00 - \$20.00	\$17.50 - \$20.00	\$17.50 - \$20.00	\$17.50 - \$19.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$16.25 - \$16.25	\$16.25 - \$16.25	\$16.25 - \$16.25	\$16.25 - \$16.25
Fresh Bison Trim	\$13.50 - \$14.50	\$13.50 - \$14.50	\$12.60 - \$14.00	\$12.60 - \$14.00

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Ritchie Bros. Acutioneers (SK) (January 27, 2021)			Jack Auction Group (SK) (Jan 11, 2021)			Jack Auction Group (SK) (December 7, 2020)		
Head Sold: 40			Head Sold: 481			Head Sold: 367		
Class	# of head	Average/lb	Class	# of head	Average/lb	Class	# of head	Average/lb
2020 Bulls (500 Base)	5	2.29	2020 Bulls Cross (500 Base)	212	2.87	2019 Bulls Cross (925 Base)	19	2.18
2020 Bulls (400-499)	35	2.31	2020 Heifers Cross (470 Base)	212	2.04	2019 Heifers Cross (825 Base)	30	1.92
			2020 Bulls Plains (440 Base)	10	1.87	2018 Bulls Cross (1,050 Base)	35	1.88
			2020 Heifers Plains (390 Base)	10	1.50	2018 Bulls Cross (900 Base)	35	1.66
			2019 Bulls Plains (785 Base)	12	2.27	2018 Bulls Cross (870 Base)	24	1.77
			2019 Heifers Plains (700 Base)	23	1.76	2019 Bull Plains (760 Base)	13	1.77
			2010 Bulls Plains (1900 Base)	2	1.00	2019 Heifers Plains (690 Base)	15	1.57
						2019 Heifers Cross (625 Base)	8	1.80
						2019 Mixed Plains (600 Base)	18	1.36
						2019 Bulls Cross (745 Base)	14	1.66
						2018 Irish Creek Premium Bred		
						Heifers	5	4300.00
						2018 Irish Creek Premium Bred		
						Heifers	10	4150.00
						2018 Irish Creek Premium Bred		
						Heifers	30	4150.00

		2014 J&B Taylor		
		Herd Dispersal Cows	9	2525.00
		Herd Dispersal Cows	9	2350.00
		2020 Bulls Plains		
		(485 Base)	22	2.12
		(435 Base)	11	1.91
		2020 Mixed Cross		
		(400 Base)	10	2.06
		2020 Mixed Plains		
		(400 Base)	25	1.75
		2020 Mixed Plains		
		(400 Base)	25	1.75

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 carmine.bianco@canada.ca

The Canadian market continues to be soft. Canadian buyers continue to pay \$3.50 - \$3.80/lb. HHW on light trading. Buyers were paying \$1.80 – \$1.95/lb. HHW for mature cows. To February 13, 2021 there were 739 bison slaughtered at federally inspected plants in Canada – down 27% from the 1,013 slaughtered for the same period in 2020.

Canadian buyers purchasing bulls for slaughter in the U.S. market are paying up to \$5.00/lb. HHW Canadian when slaughter dates are available. Heifers are priced 20 cents 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 up to \$4.00 /lb. US HHW for prime bulls and up to \$3.80 /lb. U.S. for heifers from Canada for slaughter in the U.S. where slaughter times have been booked. Returns to the producers are dependent on exchange rates, quality, transportation and export costs.

Total live bison exports to the US in 2020 at 25,733 head are 20% above the 21,354 exported in 2019.

Total exports of bison meat to the US and Europe are down substantially. The final 2020 data will be provided in the next report.

It is reported that most of the middle cuts are being sold but there is a burdensome build-up of trim plus some build-up of prime cuts. As the Canadian bison trim inventories grow, the appetite to slaughter more bison in Canada decreases - leaving a growing inventory of finished bison on the farms.

In the Canadian marketplace, fresh bison continues to be available through many of the major retail outlets in Canada, from local outlets as well as from farm gate market activities.

On February 19, 2021, USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service announced that it had accepted \$6.93 million in bids for ground bison meat from four U.S. bison processors under the Section 32 surplus removal program. The awards include 1 million lbs. of ground bison, with prices ranging from \$6.46/lb. to \$7.48/lb US (About \$5.00 per kilo above Canadian prices). The product is scheduled to be delivered from March 1 through June 30, 2020 and will be used in the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FPIR), the national school nutrition program, the Temporary Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and other federal nutrition programs. USDA will be issuing a second round of solicitations to supply products between July 1 and September 30, 2020.

Chart 1

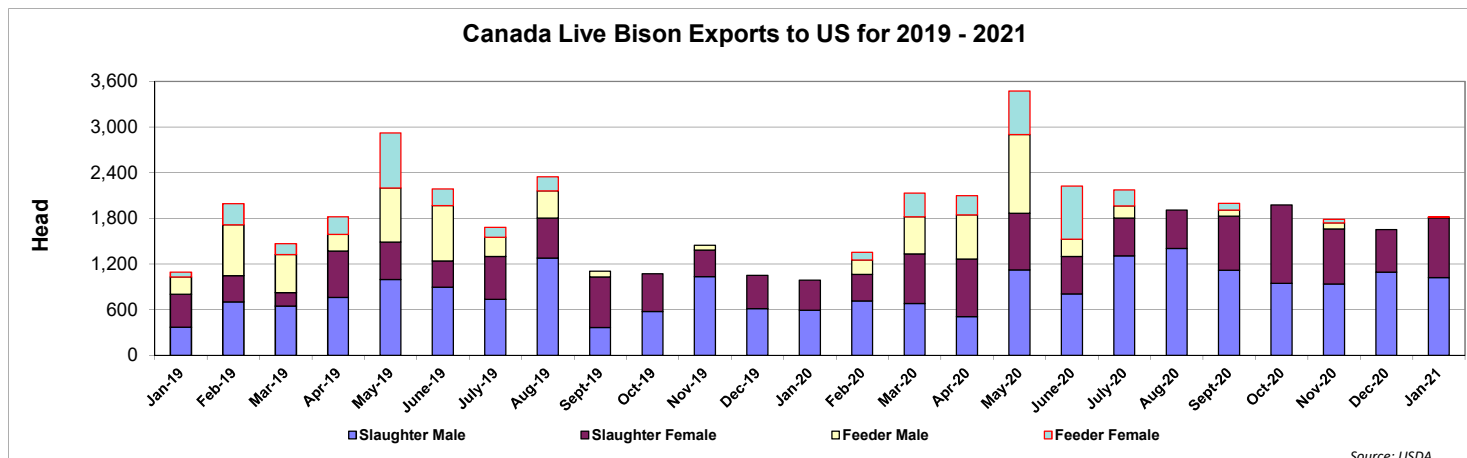
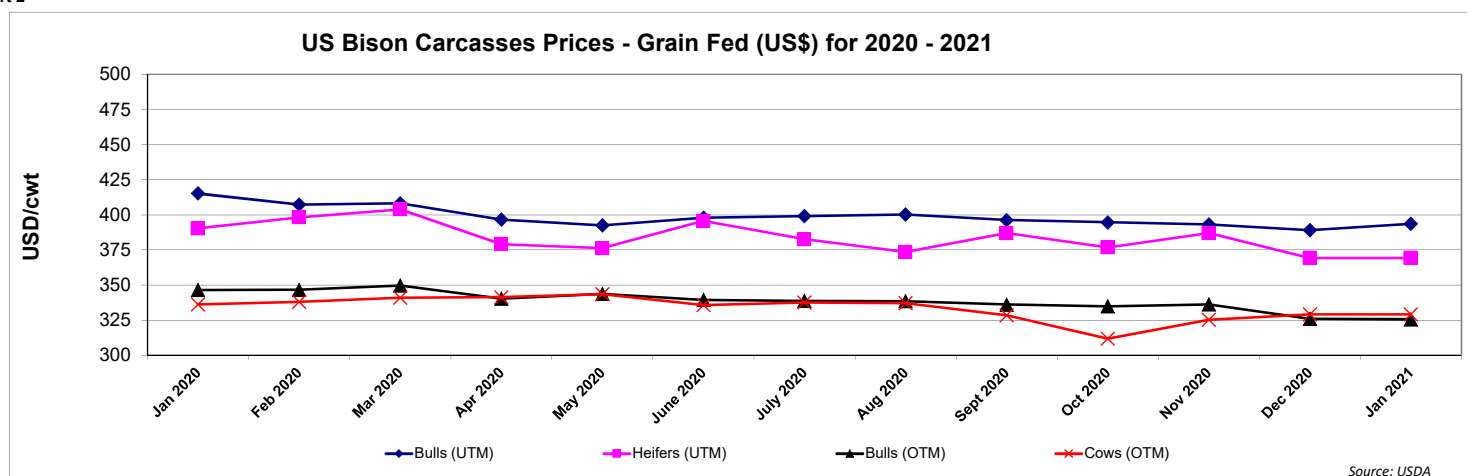


Chart 2



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 disclose the number of bison