



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - December 19, 2017.

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	04-Nov	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	Nov Total	January - November YTD		
Total Canada	147	293	168	288	896	2017	2016	% Change
previous year	283	185	192	297	957	8,572	9,083	-5.6%

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	June 2017	July 2017	Aug 2017	Sept 2017	Oct 2017	Oct 2016	January - October YTD		
Alberta	53	40	64	42	20	51	2017	2016	% Change
Saskatchewan	6	3	6	5	5	0	498	712	-30.1%
Manitoba/BC	46	22	25	22	28	39	57	69	-17.4%
Ontario/Quebec**	52	34	48	48	29	26	345	328	5.2%
Total	157	99	143	117	82	116	336	176	90.9%
							1,236	1,285	-3.8%

	YTD 2017	YTD 2016	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	9,808	10,368	-5.4%

*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

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	January - October YTD		
Total Slaughter	13,048	13,587	14,388	14,371	14,186	11,568	2017	2016	% Change
Total Live Exports	14,465	14,007	16,769	19,033	26,162	18,364	8,912	9,411	-5.3%
Total Production	27,513	27,594	31,157	33,404	40,348	29,932	14,266	16,230	-12.1%
							23,178	25,641	-9.6%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

	04-Nov	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	Nov Total	January - November YTD		
for week ending:	921	1,012	1,070	823	3,826	2017	2016	% Change
previous year	887	1,037	1,133	794	3,851	47,611	48,248	-1.3%

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	July-17	August-17	September-17	October-17	November-17	January - November YTD		
						2017	2016	% Change
Slaughter Male	927	426	595	588	272	6,703	6,544	2.4%
Slaughter Female	583	558	159	362	478	4,549	4,772	-4.7%
Feeder Male	71	124	0	86	641	3,164	4,081	-22.5%
Feeder Female	0	115	0	36	371	1,612	2,092	-22.9%
Total	1,581	1,223	754	1,072	1,762	16,028	17,489	-8.4%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

		May 2017	June	July	August	September	October	January - October YTD		
								2017	2016	% Change
USA	Kg	25,602	28,528	42,598	29,912	26,487	51,401	402,502	504,193	-20.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	614,941	583,667	373,676	579,642	548,330	691,592	6,465,019	7,660,906	-15.6%
France	Kg	2,474	3,597	1,115	2,946	3,127	1,313	30,266	40,464	-25.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	55,947	79,222	24,530	65,858	66,769	40,550	661,772	839,258	-21.1%
Switzerland	Kg	712	2,389	7,477	3,094	3,107	2,861	40,931	45,287	-9.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	24,246	64,709	262,225	88,170	88,559	124,681	1,335,368	1,688,278	-20.9%
Netherlands	Kg	271	7,486	812	627	-	1,295	14,553	411	3440.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	12,252	69,662	34,068	26,551	-	56,153	282,459	16,818	1579.5%
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Other Countries	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	990	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,669	-
Total	Kg	29,059	42,000	52,002	36,579	32,721	56,870	488,252	591,345	-17.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	707,386	797,260	694,499	760,221	703,658	912,976	8,744,618	10,228,929	-14.5%

Bone-in

	May 2017	June	July	August	September	October	January - October YTD		
Total							2017	2016	% Change
Kg	863	6,518	3,945	158	63,879	71,096	219,789	27,282	705.6%
Value (\$Cdn)	13,808	39,560	37,751	3,373	186,662	213,119	1,200,988	243,846	392.5%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	May 2017	June	July	August	September	October	January - October YTD		
Total							2017	2016	% Change
Kg	29,922	48,518	55,947	36,737	96,600	127,966	708,041	618,627	14.5%
Value (\$Cdn)	721,194	836,820	732,250	763,594	890,320	1,126,095	9,945,606	10,472,775	-5.0%

*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)
Nov 2016	468.92	453.88	413.78	397.58
Dec 2016	482.14	475.42	413.10	405.75
Jan 2017	485.96	452.06	410.89	405.38
Feb 2017	489.58	466.48	419.09	444.59
Mar 2017	488.07	468.30	413.91	399.43
Apr 2017	488.74	473.03	411.61	397.55
May 2017	482.64	477.37	410.77	399.21
June 2017	483.34	472.84	410.26	401.69
July 2017	487.42	464.74	414.44	391.84
Aug 2017	483.10	468.29	411.54	402.45
Sept 2017	483.69	490.24	410.53	444.32
Oct 2017	487.27	466.26	402.50	438.24
Nov 2017	481.14	467.92	422.50	411.71

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Dec 2016	600-625	575-600	500-515	500-510
Jan 2017	600-650	575-600	500-515	500-510
Feb 2017	600-650	575-600	500-515	500-510
Mar 2017	625-650	600-630	500-515	500-510
Apr 2017	625-650	600-630	525-550	525-550
May 2017	625-650	600-630	525-550	525-550
June 2017	625-650	600-630	525-550	525-550
July 2017	625-650	600-630	525-550	525-550
Aug 2017	625-640	600-640	500-550	500-550
Sept 2017	600-625	575-625	500-550	500-550
Oct 2017	600-625	575-625	500-550	500-550
Nov 2017	600-625	575-625	500-550	500-550
Dec 2017	550-600	550-600	450-525	450-525

*source CBA survey of marketers

With live calves coming to market, prices are about \$4.50/lb for bulls and calves mixed

Bred Heifers are being offered for prices of \$5,000 - \$6,000.

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

	September 2017		October 2017		November 2017		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,350-1,870	1,490.38	1,350-1,870	1,459.12	1,200-1,890	1,319.01	-11.5%	-9.6%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	620-825	709.88	620-900	692.11	620-900	724.06	2.0%	4.6%
Striploin Fresh	1,095-1,600	1,271.26	1,095-1,650	1,180.40	1,150-1,650	1,215.22	-4.4%	2.9%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,600-2,620	2,039.98	1,800-3,125	2,075.98	1,500-2,631	1,990.25	-2.4%	-4.1%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	600-750	663.00	600-750	640.00	600-750	752.80	13.5%	17.6%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	619-1,027	762.57	700-1,034	773.48	709-1,021	776.54	1.8%	0.4%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	650-896	771.77	650-995	777.43	650-903	774.85	0.4%	-0.3%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-September 2017 Pricing	Mid-October 2017 Pricing	Mid-November 2017 Pricing	Mid-December 2017 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$40.95 - \$57.00	\$40.95 - \$60.00	\$40.95 - \$60.00	\$57.00 - \$58.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$36.00 - \$37.00	\$36.00 - \$38.00	\$36.00 - \$38.00	\$35.00 - \$36.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$21.95 - \$22.00	\$21.50 - \$22.00	\$21.50 - \$22.00	\$21.40 - \$23.50
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$20.95 - \$23.93	\$20.95 - \$23.93	\$20.95 - \$23.93	\$20.95 - \$23.93
Fresh Bison Trim	\$19.45 - \$21.00	\$19.00 - \$21.00	\$19.00 - \$21.00	\$19.00 - \$21.00

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (November 18, 2017)			CANADIAN BISON ASSOCIATION 2017		Kramer Auction Sales (SK) (May 10, 2017) 501 head		
Head Sold: 174			SHOW & SALE REPORT		CLASS	# of head	Avg (\$/lb)
			(SK - November 21, 2017)	67 total head	2016 BULLS		
Calves	Bulls	Heifers			600 and Over	29	\$4.05
500 lbs +			2-year old bulls	12 head	551-600lbs	81	\$5.49
400 - 499 lbs	\$550.00 - \$660.00	\$400.00 - \$500.00	Average Weight	1,563	501-550lbs	68	\$5.41
300 - 399 lbs	\$500.00 - \$640.00	\$425.00 - \$545.00	Average\$	\$11,458.33	451-500lbs	49	\$5.55
Under 300 lbs	\$425.00 - \$625.00	\$400.00 - \$520.00			401-450lbs	42	\$5.21
Yearlings	Bulls	Heifers	Yearling bulls	14 head	351-400lbs	12	\$4.94
700 - 799 lbs	\$300.00 - \$430.00	\$300.00 - \$395.00	Average Weight	1,178	Under 350	13	\$5.15
600 - 699 lbs	\$325.00 - \$475.00	\$300.00 - \$360.00	Average\$	\$10,107.14	Off Types	4	\$4.08
500 - 599 lbs	\$325.00 - \$472.50	\$300.00 - \$370.00	Bred 2 year olds	10 head	2015 BULLS		
400 - 499 lbs	\$340.00 - \$480.00	\$300.00 - \$397.50	Average Weight	1,173	751-800 lbs	1	\$3.50
Under 400 lbs	\$375.00 - \$495.00		Average\$	\$9,350.00	701-750 lbs	3	\$3.60
Mature Cows			Yearling heifers	9 head	601-700lbs	6	\$3.38
950 lbs +		— - \$260.00	Average Weight	964	Under 600	5	\$3.44
700 - 949 lbs		— - \$250.00	Average\$	\$5,038.89	2014 BULLS		
Younger Breds			Pen of Two 2 year old	8 head	600 - 650 lbs	3	\$3.70
			Bred heifers		2016 HEIFER CALVES		
			Average Weight	1,134	600-700lbs	2	\$5.50
			Average\$	\$7,125.00	501-599lbs	23	\$5.42
			Pen of Two Yearling heifers	14 head	451-500lbs	31	\$5.08
			Average Weight	899	401-450lbs	45	\$5.16
			Average\$	\$4,057.14	351-400lbs	25	\$4.48
			SALE	\$7,935.00	Under 350	23	\$4.73
					Off Types	6	\$3.72
					2015 HEIFERS		
					651-700 lbs	10	\$4.10
					601-650 lbs	4	\$4.28
					551-600 lbs	6	\$4.12
					Under 550	3	\$3.93

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.blandford@agr.gc.ca

Prices offered to producers to mid-December were stable with prices as high as \$6.00 per pound HHW for Grade "A" bulls. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to \$6.00 Canadian with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives, and export costs. Canadian buyers are paying up to \$6.00 per pound HHW for Grade "A" heifers. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to Canadian prices with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives, and export costs.

Nationally, federal slaughter in Canada for the first 49 weeks of 2017 (week ending December 9, 2017) was down 7.0% when compared to the same period in 2016 (8,972 animals in 2017 compared to 9,652 animals in 2016). Live animal exports to the US in the first 10 months of 2017 were at 17,269 head; 12.7% below the 19,787 head exported during the 10 months of 2016.

Marketers report that demand for bison trim is steady with some seasonal build-up as marketers begin preparing for the summer of 2018. The demand for middle cuts has been steady with some build-up of inventory reported. US demand continues to be steady. With the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement with the European Union in effect since September 21, 2017, European demand appears to be increasing. Some of the demand in Europe can be attributed to the building of inventories for the Christmas season as well as the tariff elimination. It is expected that the marketplace will take a few more months to absorb the new processes and conditions under the agreement.

Canadian demand is stable. Canadian marketers indicate that present supplies of finished bison continue to be adequate.

Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue to be sensitive to Canada - US exchange rates with price changes expected as the Canadian dollar strengthens.

Chart 1

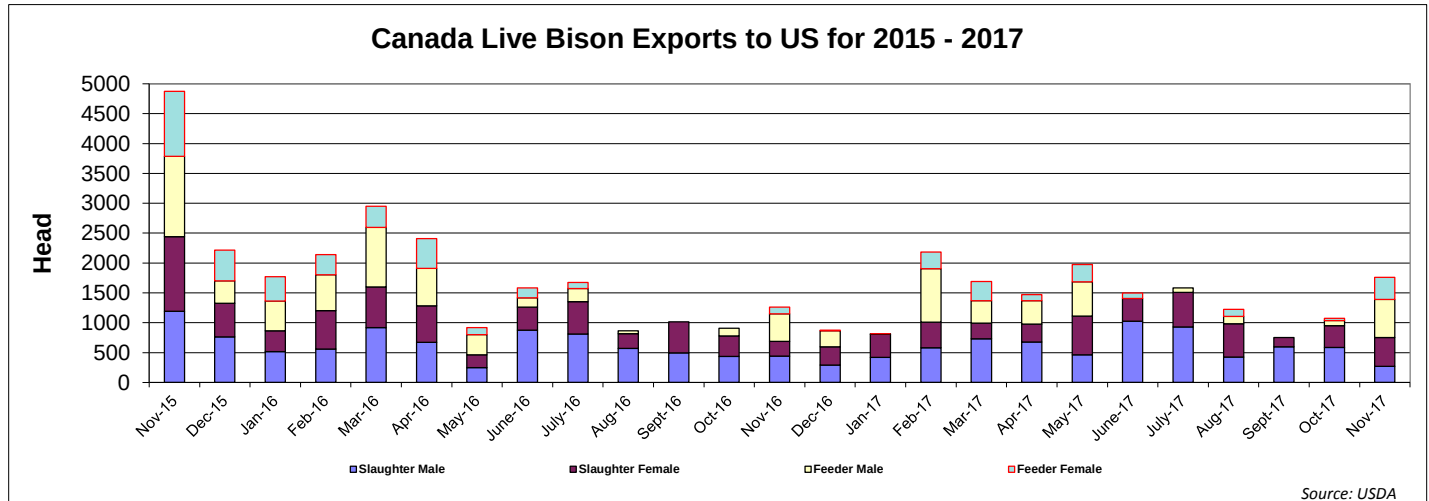
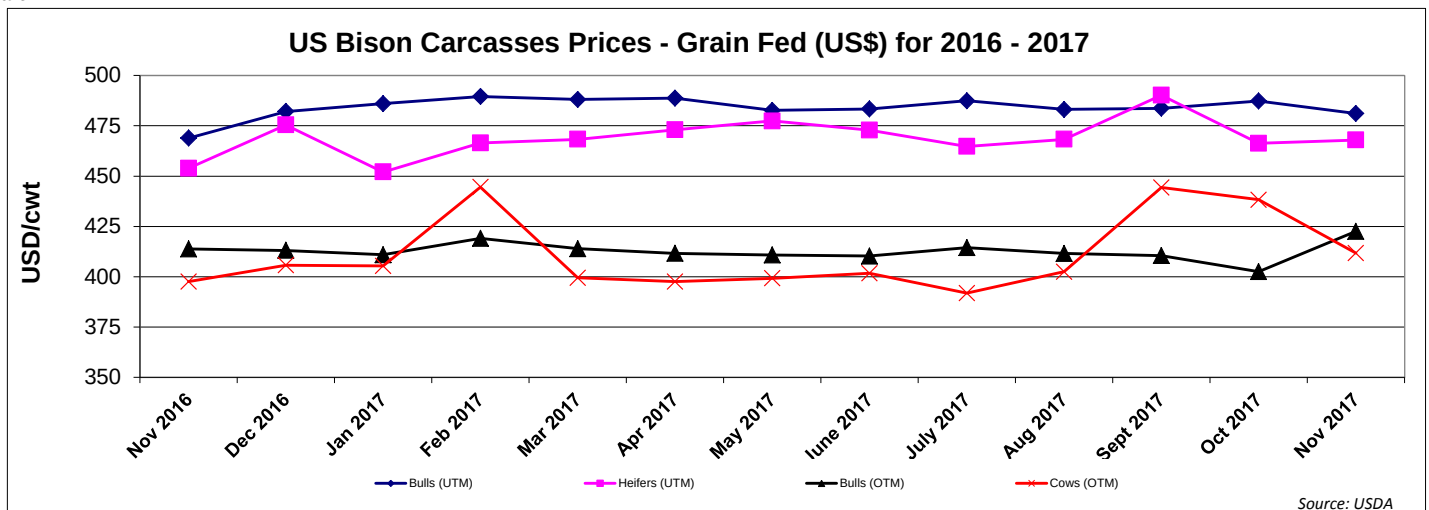


Chart 2



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