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BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - August 23, 2012

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	07-Jul	14-Jul	21-Jul	28-Jul	July Total	2012	July YTD 2011	% Change
Total Canada	**213**	**461**	**237**	**270**	**1,181**	**6,959**	**5,873**	**18.5%**
previous year	*450*	*61*	*280*	*122*	***913***			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Feb 2012	Mar 2012	Apr 2012	May 2012	June 2012	June 2011	2012	June YTD 2011	% Change
Alberta	62	102	101	133	87	86	543	538	0.9%
Saskatchewan	17	19	4	17	5	7	84	77	9.1%
Manitoba/BC	56	68	51	37	83	77	348	443	-21.4%
Ontario/Quebec**	15	29	26	23	14	46	140	194	-27.8%
Total	**150**	**218**	**182**	**210**	**189**	**216**	**1,115**	**1,252**	**-10.9%**

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

	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	**8,074**	**7,125**	**13.3%**

**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*

for week ending:	07-Jul	14-Jul	21-Jul	28-Jul	July Total	2012	July YTD 2011	% Change
	665	**992**	**851**	**802**	**3,310**	**24,220**	**26,133**	**-7.3%**
previous year	*810*	*946*	*989*	*692*	***3,437***			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Mar-12	Apr-12	May-12	June-12	July-12	2012	July YTD 2011	% Change
Slaughter Male	671	376	361	505	553	3,397	3,927	**-13.5%**
Slaughter Female	245	334	211	420	639	2,592	2,610	**-0.7%**
Feeder Male	616	103	215	0	49	1,738	1,898	**-8.4%**
Feeder Female	460	117	158	194	37	1,469	1,719	**-14.5%**
Total	**1,992**	**930**	**945**	**1,119**	**1,278**	**9,196**	**10,154**	**-9.4%**

**source USDA*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		January 2012	February	March	April	May	June	2012	June YTD 2011	% Change
USA	Kg	20,747	11,876	12,297	21,255	4,299	19,818	**90,292**	**169,733**	**-46.8%**
	Value ($Cdn)	152,534	136,258	95,384	265,392	89,288	215,281	**954,137**	**2,219,709**	**-57.0%**
France	Kg	-	2,496	6,519	21,401	1,970	11,042	**43,428**	**19,601**	**121.6%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	41,724	104,669	238,623	15,207	184,769	**584,992**	**263,467**	**122.0%**
Switzerland	Kg	1,504	1,501	2,117	3,412	2,834	4,004	**15,372**	**21,470**	**-28.4%**
	Value ($Cdn)	67,633	65,594	92,905	133,480	113,930	164,753	**638,295**	**812,457**	**-21.4%**
Germany	Kg	96	132	-	339	157	160	**884**	**1,876**	**-52.9%**
	Value ($Cdn)	3,097	3,160	-	8,427	4,490	3,879	**23,053**	**51,796**	**-55.5%**
Egypt	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**188**	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**3,515**	**N/A**
Macau	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
Singapore	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
Saudi Arabia	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
Italy	Kg	602	170	286	-	318	368	**1,744**	**-**	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	13,359	4,852	8,159	-	9,076	9,540	**44,986**	**-**	**N/A**
Sweden	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
Netherlands	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**26,326**	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**133,492**	**N/A**
Others	Kg	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-		**-**	**-**	**-**
Total	**Kg**	**22,949**	**16,175**	**21,219**	**46,407**	**9,578**	**35,392**	**151,720**	**239,194**	**-36.6%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**236,623**	**251,588**	**301,117**	**645,922**	**231,991**	**578,222**	**2,245,463**	**3,484,436**	**-35.6%**

Bone-in		January 2012	February	March	April	May	June	2012	June YTD 2011	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**-**	**-**	**5,374**	**13,341**	**3,995**	**18,717**	**41,427**	**56,755**	**-27.0%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**-**	**-**	**52,449**	**127,498**	**41,945**	**158,498**	**380,390**	**322,889**	**17.8%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in		January 2012	February	March	April	May	June	2012	June YTD 2011	% Change
	Kg	**22,949**	**16,175**	**26,593**	**59,748**	**13,573**	**54,109**	**193,147**	**295,949**	**-34.7%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**236,623**	**251,588**	**353,566**	**773,420**	**273,936**	**736,720**	**2,625,853**	**3,807,325**	**-31.0%**

**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)
July 2011	380.50	378.15	304.84	315.78
Aug 2011	381.97	380.81	298.86	280.32
Sept 2011	388.59	384.18	300.80	310.00
Oct 2011	393.37	386.59	296.80	281.31
Nov 2011	397.68	385.21	305.75	285.11
Dec 2011	398.44	383.57	298.64	290.96
Jan 2012	393.08	378.94	316.03	293.90
Feb 2012	395.80	378.17	295.48	289.46
Mar 2012	390.43	371.89	296.26	286.80
Apr 2012	391.85	380.45	305.18	293.24
May 2012	392.57	381.52	308.23	299.28
June 2012	394.12	384.26	308.90	299.01
July 2012	390.28	383.55	308.93	311.93

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
Aug 2011	410-420	410-415	280-350	280-350
Sept 2011	390-400	390-400	280-290	280-290
Oct 2011	375-380	370-375	280-290	260-265
Nov 2011	375-400	370-400	250-280	250-280
Dec 2011	375-400	360-400	250-270	250-270
Jan 2012	380-400	360-400	250-270	250-270
Feb 2012	380-390	360-390	no prices reported	250-270
Mar 2012	365-390	355-390	160-210	160-270
Apr 2012	365-390	355-390	160-210	160-260
May 2012	365-390	355-390	160-250	160-250
June 2012	365-390	355-390	160-250	160-250
July 2012	365-390	355-390	160-250	160-250
August 2012	365-390	355-390	160-250	160-250

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	May 2012		June 2012		July 2012		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	1,375.48	1,250-1,650	1,369.94	1,250-1,650	1,398.35	1.7%	2.1%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	560-775	569.45	500-660	592.67	560-653	583.06	2.4%	-1.6%
Striploin Fresh	1,000-1,650	1,344.27	950-1,650	1,320.87	975-1,650	1,354.61	0.8%	2.6%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,850-2,595	2,132.40	1,800-2,595	2,200.95	1,850-2,595	2,191.64	2.8%	-0.4%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	525-640	584.46	525-640	579.41	525-640	578.15	-1.1%	-0.2%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	550-665	597.98	555-675	600.91	560-643	601.84	0.6%	0.2%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-665	594.14	500-665	585.17	565-645	580.81	-2.2%	-0.7%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-May 2012 Pricing	Mid-June 2012 Pricing	Mid-July 2012 Pricing	Mid-August 2012 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$53.00 - $57.15	$53.00 - $57.15	$53.00 - $57.15	$53.00 - $57.15
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$28.00 - $39.00	$24.00 - $39.00	$28.00 - $35.00	$28.00 - $35.00
Inside Round - Fresh	$13.65 - $16.90	$13.65 - $16.90	$14.00 - $16.90	$14.00 - $16.90
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$12.95 - $13.50	$12.50 - $13.50	$12.00 - $13.80	$12.00 - $13.80
Fresh Bison Trim	$11.50 - $12.00	$11.00 - $12.00	$11.00 - $12.00	$11.00 - $12.00

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Kramer Auctions (SK) (May 9, 2012)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average ($/cwt)
2011 BULLS	600-700 lbs	77	$237
	500-599 lbs	89	$253
	Under 499 lbs	48	$267
2010 BULLS	1005 lbs	1	$202
	650-750 lbs	6	$181
2009 BULLS	1050-1080	5	$187
	Under 1000	4	$156
2011 HEIFER CALVES	450-550 lbs	55	$241
	400-449 lbs	42	$243
	350-399 lbs	14	$243
2010 HEIFERS		1	$200

2011 Bulls
High selling pen - $2.31 /lb with average weight of 697 lbs

2010 Bulls
High selling pen - $2.02/lb with a weight of 1005 lbs

2011 Heifer Calves
High selling pen - $2.48/lb with average weight of 519 lbs

Sekura Auctions (AB) (April 14, 2012)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average ($/cwt)
2011 Bulls	300 - 399	20	240.15
	400 - 499	34	164.78
2010 Bulls	500 - 599	8	207.5
	600 - 699	14	194.48
	700 - 799	9	220.67
2009 Bulls	900 - 999	3	202.5
2011 Heifers	0 - 299	4	175.61
	300 - 399	24	217.57
2010 Heifers	400 - 499	6	171.96
	500 - 599	21	175.23
	800 - 899	7	195.39

		Average
Breeding Bulls	19	3481.58

Kramer Auctions (SK) (March 14, 2012)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average ($/cwt)
2011 BULLS	500-625 lbs	$285
	400-499 lbs	$276
	Under 399 lbs	$257
2011 HEIFERS	450-550 lbs	$228
	350-449 lbs	$210
	Under 349 lbs	$194
2010 BULLS	700-850 lbs	$188
	Under 699	$160
2010 HEIFERS	Off	$146
	Types	$130

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 cba2@sasktel.net or diane.kelly@agr.gc.ca

Prices for all bison meat cuts and live animals to mid-August continue to be stable at mid-July prices. There were reports of downward pressure on bison trim prices as the marketplace moves into the second half of the summer grilling season. Finished bison prices at $3.65 -$3.90 per pound hot hanging weight are comparable to last month's prices. Marketers continue to report that they have access to sufficient animals to meet current market demand. There are reports that the demand for bison in Europe continues to be steady with downward pressures being placed on prices. This has been caused by present economic conditions as well as unfavourable summer conditions in certain parts of Europe. There have also been reports of discounted prices by certain European suppliers. As previously reported, although there may be some inventory build-up of some cuts, with anticipated tight supplies of animals to process in the future, the inventory does not appear to be problematic.

Nationally, federal slaughter was up 14.4% for the first 32 weeks of 2012 (week ending August 11, 2012) when compared to the first 32 weeks of 2011 (7,351 animals in 2012 compared to 6,425 animals in 2011). Live bison exports to the U.S. were down for the first six months of 2012 by 15.2% - 8,427 compared to 9,943 bison for the same period in 2011.

The average price for Grade A bulls and heifers has remained at previous month levels of $3.90 per pound with certain buyers offering as low as $3.65 per pound.

Chart 1

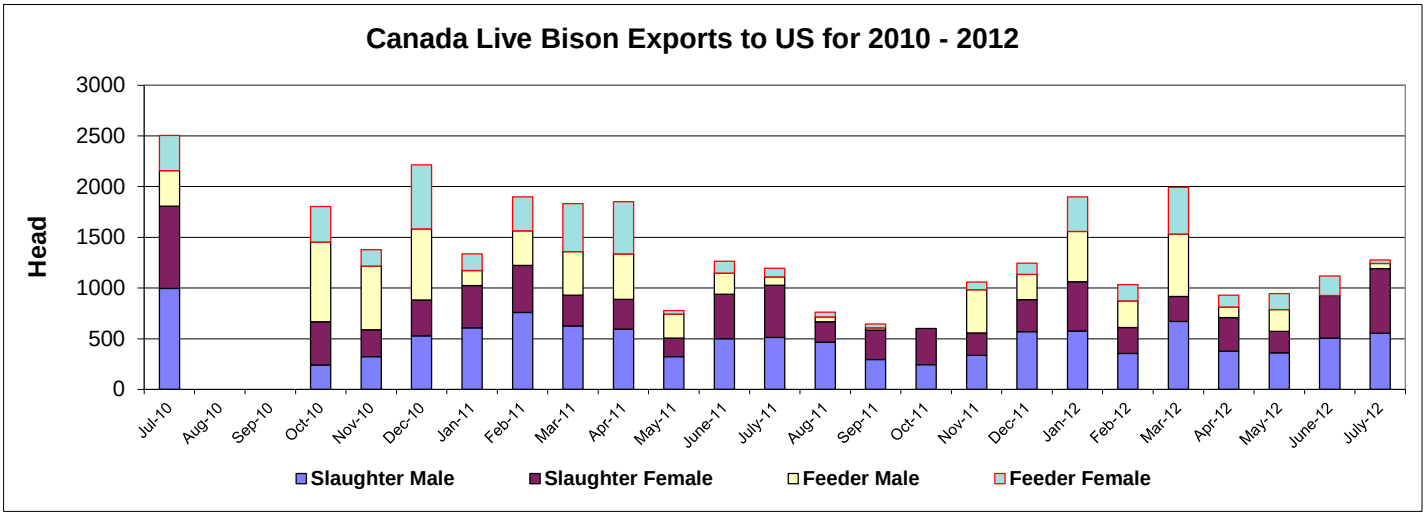
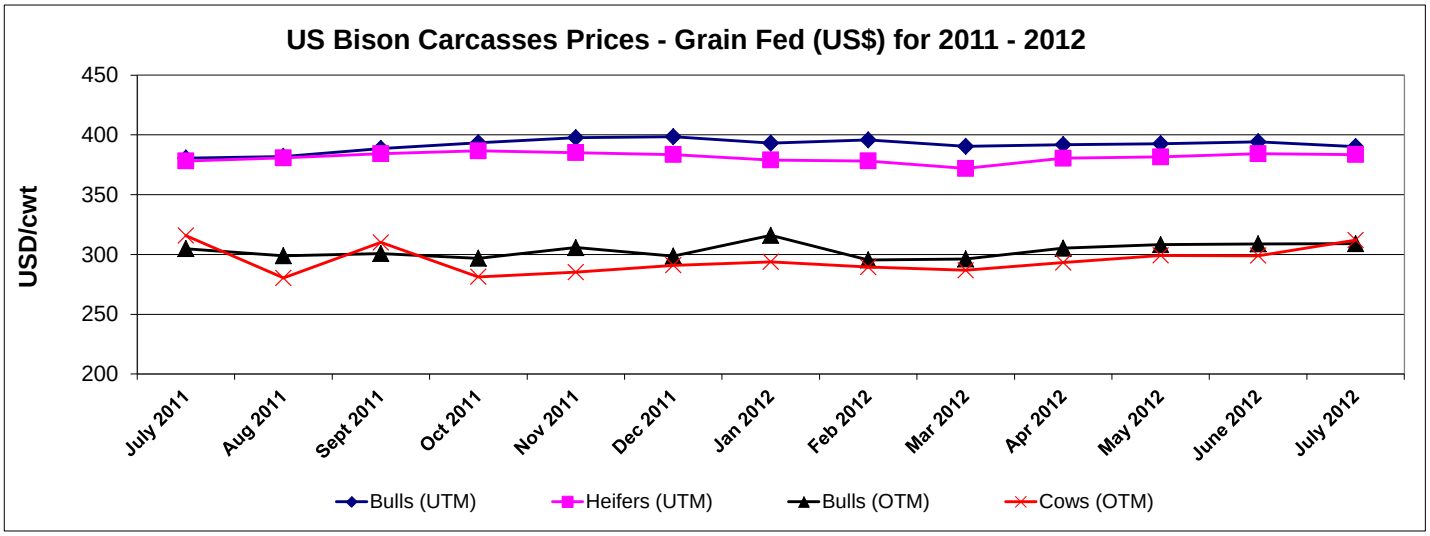


Chart 2



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.

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