



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - December 29, 2014

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	01-Nov	08-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	Nov Total	January - November YTD		
						2014	2013	% Change
Total Canada	263	395	303	223	1,184	10,499	10,550	-0.5%
previous year	413	111	246	315	1,085			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	June 2014	July 2014	Aug 2014	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Oct 2013	January - October YTD		
							2014	2013	% Change
Alberta	118	142	93	96	93	111	1,134	1,162	-2.4%
Saskatchewan	9	5	7	8	4	33	119	214	-44.4%
Manitoba/BC	69	70	52	74	59	90	642	739	-13.1%
Ontario/Quebec**	13	42	34	37	25	27	224	283	-20.8%
Total	209	259	186	215	181	261	2,119	2,398	-11.6%

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

Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	YTD 2014	YTD 2013	% Change
	12,618	12,948	-2.5%

*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

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	January - October YTD		
							2014	2013	% Change
Total Slaughter	22,393	23,809	19,149	13,048	13,587	14,388	11,434	11,863	-3.6%
Total Live Exports	25,844	25,118	20,973	14,465	14,007	16,769	15,432	13,960	10.5%
Total Production	48,237	48,927	40,122	27,513	27,594	31,157	26,866	25,823	4.0%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	01-Nov	08-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	Nov Total	January - November YTD		
						2014	2013	% Change
	956	950	1157	1072	4,135	46,977	41,377	13.5%
previous year	1051	959	1111	1175	4,296			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	July-14	Aug-14	Sept-14	Oct-14	Nov-14	2014	2013	% Change
Slaughter Male	824	735	618	510	666	6,696	6,011	11.4%
Slaughter Female	543	565	660	852	664	6,952	5,739	21.1%
Feeder Male	0	32	42	543	431	2,035	2,528	-19.5%
Feeder Female	0	42	246	417	160	1,670	1,416	17.9%
Total	1,367	1,374	1,566	2,322	1,921	17,353	15,694	10.6%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

								January - October YTD		
								2014	2013	% Change
Boneless	May 2014	June	July	August	September	October				
USA	Kg	17,570	29,800	19,056	11,708	19,268	23,710	175,601	151,698	15.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	261,047	419,857	222,749	178,523	264,762	258,520	2,380,525	2,011,444	18.3%
France	Kg	3,860	-	4,950	8,868	3,754	17,847	90,449	77,726	16.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	72,464	-	50,738	94,534	38,474	129,843	1,234,909	1,440,795	-14.3%
Switzerland	Kg	1,828	2,520	3,560	2,953	2,291	2,865	28,797	50,903	-43.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	81,627	125,570	171,628	148,221	103,433	145,932	1,354,818	2,036,048	-33.5%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,137	-	#DIV/0!
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	98,447	-	#DIV/0!
Italy	Kg	501	529	254	-	250	-	2,949	1,878	57.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	13,771	14,445	6,888	-	7,065	-	79,308	46,355	71.1%
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	513	44	1065.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,138	1,072	1312.1%
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	62,179	-100.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	822,857	-100.0%
Other Countries	Kg	-	-	-	-	920	-	920	2,704	-66.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	26,428	-	26,428	72,333	-63.5%
Total	Kg	23,759	32,849	27,820	23,529	26,483	44,422	317,366	347,132	-8.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	428,909	559,872	452,003	421,278	440,162	534,295	5,189,573	6,430,904	-19.3%

Bone-in

		May 2014	June	July	August	September	October	2014	2013	% Change
Total	Kg	5,787	-	1,263	-	-	324	15,360	8,459	81.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	60,765	-	17,431	-	-	3,459	165,512	68,296	142.3%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	May 2014	June	July	August	September	October	2014	2013	% Change
Kg	29,546	32,849	29,083	23,529	26,483	44,746	332,726	355,591	-6.4%
Value (\$Cdn)	489,674	559,872	469,434	421,278	440,162	537,754	5,355,085	6,499,200	-17.6%

*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)
Nov 2013	389.03	371.72	298.97	270.73
Dec 2013	388.62	370.20	278.85	274.48
Jan 2014	387.22	371.42	297.55	271.73
Feb 2014	388.55	367.87	296.54	275.15
Mar 2014	388.85	373.14	299.63	275.53
Apr 2014	389.40	370.66	301.67	275.49
May 2014	390.49	373.95	324.26	287.48
June 2014	394.17	381.65	325.69	291.62
July 2014	397.58	385.95	328.09	287.96
Aug 2014	402.37	389.93	322.74	290.13
Sept 2014	405.63	393.40	338.00	285.00
Oct 2014	407.70	392.73	323.96	296.63
Nov 2014	408.78	394.14	328.90	296.82

*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows	\$/cwt live weight			
					2012 Bulls	2012 Heifers	2013 Bulls	2013 Heifers
Dec 2013	365-375	345-365	200-245	200-230	175-210	140-180	200-230	160-205
Jan 2014	365-385	345-365	200-245	200-245				
Feb 2014	365-390	355-380	220-250	220-250			180-220	180-220
Mar 2014	375-400	355-385	220-250	220-250			180-265	180-220
Apr 2014	385-400	375-385	220-250	220-250			200-230	200-220
May 2014	385-400	375-385	220-250	220-250			245-260	220-240
June 2014	385-400	375-385	220-250	220-250				
July 2014	400-410	385-395	250-300	250-280				
Aug 2014	400-410	385-395	250-300	250-280				
Sept 2014	400-455	385-435	250-300	275-300				
Oct 2014	425-455	400-435	250-300	275-300				
Nov 2014	425-455	400-435	250-300	275-300				
Dec 2014	425-455	400-435	250-300	275-300				

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	September 2014		October 2014		November 2014		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,150-1,650	1,395.08	1,000-1,650	1,377.18	900-1,450	1,385.92	-0.7%	0.6%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	590-675	596.59	500-660	594.19	595-725	597.39	0.1%	0.5%
Striploin Fresh	850-1,650	1,328.31	825-1,650	1,305.90	850-1,375	1,297.07	-2.4%	-0.7%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,500-2,595	1,979.33	1,500-2,595	2,142.25	1,500-2,595	2,071.70	4.7%	-3.3%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	571-626	601.67	525-640	572.00	525-640	602.47	0.1%	5.3%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	571-605	585.01	500-630	568.12	500-630	580.78	-0.7%	2.2%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	585-671	627.18	500-673	621.76	500-661	623.87	-0.5%	0.3%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-September 2014 Pricing		Mid-October 2014 Pricing		Mid-November 2014 Pricing		Mid-December 2014 Pricing	
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$52.00 - \$57.95		\$52.00 - \$57.95		\$51.00 - \$57.95		\$51.00 - \$57.95	
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$28.95 - \$32.00		\$28.95 - \$32.00		\$29.75 - \$34.00		\$29.75 - \$34.00	
Inside Round - Fresh	\$14.00 - \$16.00		\$14.00 - \$16.00		\$15.10 - \$19.50		\$15.10 - \$19.50	
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$10.95 - \$13.00		\$10.95 - \$13.00		\$10.95 - \$13.00		\$10.95 - \$13.00	
Fresh Bison Trim	\$9.95 - \$11.50		\$9.95 - \$11.50		\$11.25 - \$12.00		\$11.25 - \$12.00	

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Vold, Jones & Vold Auctions Co. Ltd. (AB) (December 19th, 2014)			Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK) (December 12th, 2014) 2014 MGM Grand Genetics Bison Auction			Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK) (December 3rd, 2014) (320 head)		
				Avg Weight	Avg Price	Year, Sex, Lbs	# of head	Avg (\$/lb)
2014 Bulls	300-415 lbs	\$350 - \$390	<u>2012 BRED HEIFERS</u> Elk Valley Ranches - Wood X Elk Valley Ranches - Plains	1141 lbs	\$3,700	<u>2014 BULLS CALVES</u> 400-475 lbs		
2014 Bulls	Under 300 lbs	\$330		1219 lbs	\$3,800	<u>2013 YEARLING BULLS</u> 900-1005 lbs 800-899 lbs 700-799 lbs 600-699 lbs Under 550 lbs	36	\$3.26
2014 Heifers	300-400 lbs	\$250 - \$282		1161 lbs	\$3,922		35	\$3.43
2013 Bulls	800-900 lbs	\$255 - \$280	Silver Creek Bison - Wood X	1126 lbs	\$4,230		3	\$3.04
2013 Bulls	600-750 lbs	\$250 - \$300	Bison Spirit Ranch - Wood X			<u>2011/2012 BULLS</u> 375-470 lbs 300-374 lbs		
2013 Bulls	Under 600 lbs	\$260 - \$275	<u>2012 BREEDING BULLS</u> Silver Creek Bison - Wood X	1644 lbs	\$7,817	<u>2014 HEIFER CALVES</u> 640-750 lbs 580-639 lbs Under 500 lbs	8	\$2.65
2013 Heifers	700-800 lbs	\$255 - \$266	<u>2013 BREEDING BULL</u> Bison Spirit Ranch - Wood X	1120 lbs	\$8,500		37	\$2.78
2013 Heifers	600-700 lbs	\$242 - \$265					16	\$2.66
2013 Heifers	Under 600 lbs	\$225 - \$272					13	\$2.58
2012 Bulls	860-1150 lbs	\$215 - \$235	<u>2013 HEIFERS</u> Silver Creek Bison - Wood X	850 lbs	\$2,017	<u>2012 HEIFERS</u> <u>2012 BRED HEIFERS</u> <u>EXPOSED FEMALES</u>	11	\$2.30
Mature Bulls		\$140	<u>2014 BULLS CALVES</u> <u>2014 HEIFER CALVES</u> Calves off 1st calf heifers from Elk Valley Ranches.	468 lbs	\$1,530.95		13	\$2.22
Mature Cows		\$140		426 lbs	\$1,289.90		13	\$2.91
Bred Heifers		\$1,800					29	\$2.83
Older Pairs		\$2300 - \$2350					7	\$2.37
Prices quoted represents better quality animals.							15	\$2.31
							8	\$2.36
							8	\$2.29
							18	\$2.99
							33	\$1.35

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

Finished bison prices in mid-December remained at \$4.55 per pound HHW for Grade A bulls with most buyers being able to balance supply and demand. Buyers are paying up to \$4.35 per pound HHW for Grade A heifers. In all instances, appropriate adjustments are made for weight and quality. Live bison continue to be sold into the US with slightly stronger prices after exchange rate adjustments. Appropriate adjustments are required for transportation and preparing animals for export.

Nationally, federal slaughter was at par (down just 0.5%) with year-ago levels for the first 47 weeks of 2014 (week ending November 22) when compared to 2013 (10,499 animals in 2014 compared to 10,550 animals in 2013). Live animal exports for the first 11 months of 2014 at 17,353 head are up 10.6% when compared to the 15,694 bison exported for the same period in 2013.

Marketers report that there is continued strong demand for bison trim and most other cuts in the United States with steady demand for bison meat products in Canada. European demand is expected to pick up in the New Year. Reports indicate that present supplies of finished bison, although tight, should be adequate for the next three to six months with shortages expected in the future. There is very little bison meat in inventory with some marketers reporting that they are building up inventories where they are able, as they anticipate a shortage in 2015. Wholesale prices for the various retail cuts remain at previous month's levels.

Chart 1

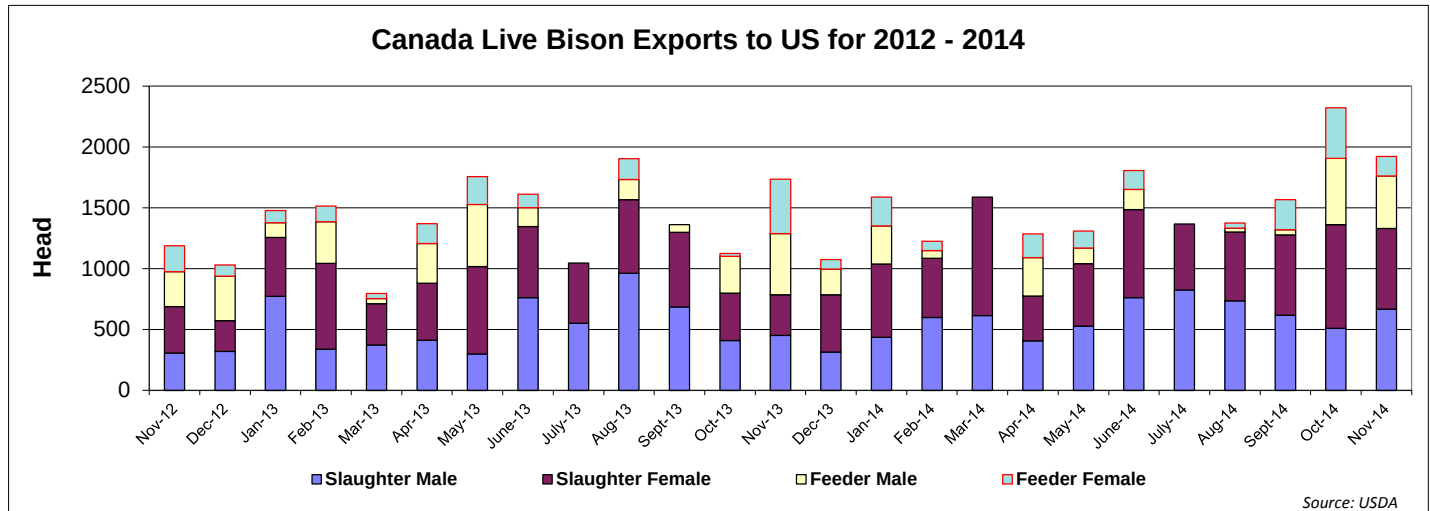
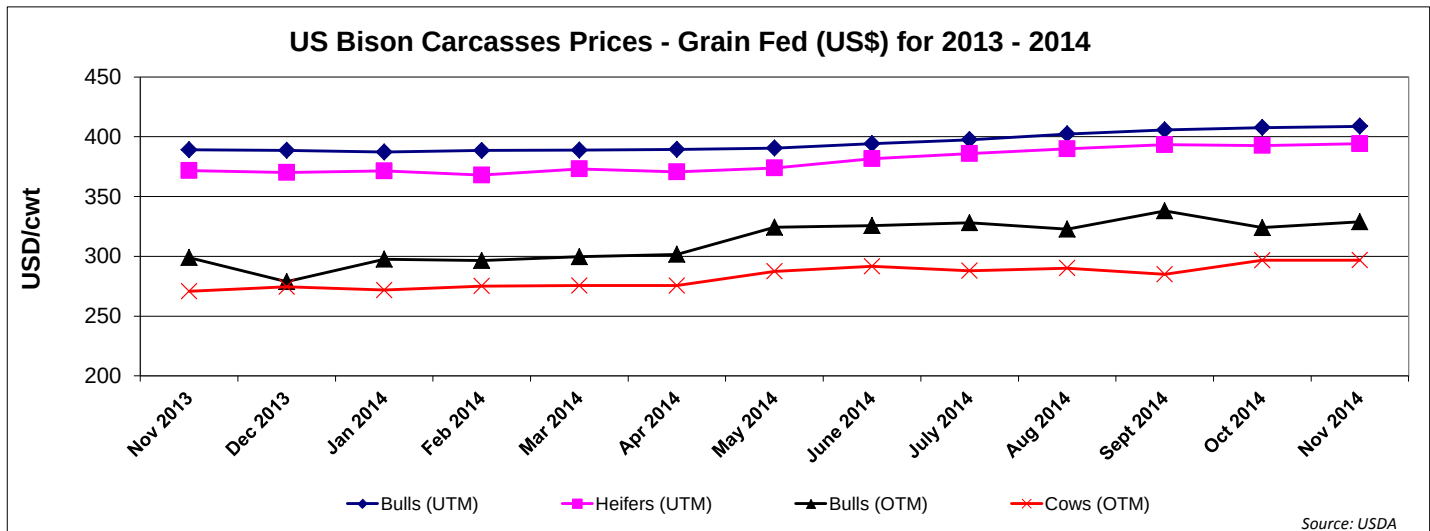


Chart 2



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.

Prepared by: Red Meat Section, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

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