Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada | Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - January 22, 2012

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	01-Dec	08-Dec	15-Dec	22-Dec	29-Dec	Dec Total	December YTD 2012	2011	% Change
Total Canada	**328**	**262**	**314**	**102**	**120**	**1,126**	**11,328**	**10,504**	**7.8%**
previous year	*103*	*430*	*213*	*135*	*3*	***884***			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	July 2012	Aug 2012	Sept 2012	Oct 2012	Nov 2012	Nov 2011	November YTD 2012	2011	% Change
Alberta	119	66	78	105	93	111	1,004	936	7.3%
Saskatchewan	5	10	21	26	13	4	141	132	6.8%
Manitoba/BC	36	71	57	62	75	85	635	815	-22.1%
Ontario/Quebec**	34	42	24	39	32	42	311	432	-28.0%
Total	**194**	**189**	**180**	**232**	**213**	**242**	**2,091**	**2,315**	**-9.7%**

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

	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	**13,419**	**12,819**	**4.7%**

**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:	01-Dec	08-Dec	15-Dec	22-Dec	29-Dec	Dec Total	December YTD 2012	2011	% Change
	977	**808**	**810**	**796**	**550**	**3,941**	**40,958**	**44,108**	**-7.1%**
previous year	*1095*	*946*	*762*	*791*	*593*	***4,187***			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Aug-12	Sept-12	Oct-12	Nov-12	Dec-12	December YTD 2012	2011	% Change
Slaughter Male	403	410	271	306	320	5,107	5,835	**-12.5%**
Slaughter Female	342	367	304	381	251	4,237	4,002	**5.9%**
Feeder Male	77	0	200	289	367	2,671	2,643	**1.1%**
Feeder Female	140	0	77	213	93	1,992	1,985	**0.4%**
Total	**962**	**777**	**852**	**1,189**	**1,031**	**14,007**	**14,465**	**-3.2%**

**source USDA*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		June 2012	July	August	September	October	November	November YTD 2012	2011	% Change
USA	Kg	19,818	7,902	22,795	7,933	14,965	11,469	**155,356**	**275,973**	**-43.7%**
	Value ($Cdn)	215,281	109,332	188,869	92,331	146,356	61,549	**1,552,574**	**3,342,303**	**-53.5%**
France	Kg	11,042	7,919	8,163	16,657	1,285	5,391	**82,843**	**78,848**	**5.1%**
	Value ($Cdn)	184,769	148,164	140,287	239,710	20,350	92,197	**1,225,700**	**1,241,931**	**-1.3%**
Switzerland	Kg	4,004	5,496	3,268	1,903	3,433	4,079	**33,551**	**38,968**	**-13.9%**
	Value ($Cdn)	164,753	192,684	130,237	82,091	148,858	138,586	**1,330,751**	**1,523,533**	**-12.7%**
Germany	Kg	160	-	287	-	-	157	**1,328**	**3,452**	**-61.5%**
	Value ($Cdn)	3,879	-	6,553	-	-	3,740	**33,346**	**99,397**	**-66.5%**
Egypt	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
United Arab Emirates	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**188**	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**3,515**	**N/A**
China	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
Singapore	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
Hong Kong	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
Italy	Kg	368	245	486	512	415	192	**3,594**	**631**	**469.6%**
	Value ($Cdn)	9,540	6,363	12,607	13,290	10,770	4,385	**92,401**	**17,452**	**429.5%**
Sweden	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**594**	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**21,352**	**N/A**
Netherlands	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**26,727**	**N/A**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**144,811**	**N/A**
Thailand	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	**-**	**-**	**-**
Total	**Kg**	**35,392**	**21,562**	**34,999**	**27,005**	**20,098**	**21,288**	**276,672**	**425,381**	**-35.0%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**578,222**	**456,543**	**478,553**	**427,422**	**326,334**	**300,457**	**4,234,772**	**6,394,294**	**-33.8%**

Bone-in		June 2012	July	August	September	October	November	November YTD 2012	2011	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**22,069**	**1,906**	**13,590**	**10,056**	**737**	**19,675**	**90,743**	**116,521**	**-22.1%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**176,024**	**20,012**	**118,874**	**74,246**	**7,734**	**87,255**	**706,037**	**641,369**	**10.1%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in		June 2012	July	August	September	October	November	November YTD 2012	2011	% Change
	Kg	**57,461**	**23,468**	**48,589**	**37,061**	**20,835**	**40,963**	**367,415**	**541,902**	**-32.2%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**754,246**	**476,555**	**597,427**	**501,668**	**334,068**	**387,712**	**4,940,809**	**7,035,663**	**-29.8%**

**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)
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
Aug 2012	391.95	382.88	313.63	300.49
Sept 2012	391.95	380.23	306.09	306.00
Oct 2012	387.49	379.00	305.24	286.23
Nov 2012	388.79	375.65	290.00	278.86
Dec 2012	389.82	373.85	287.23	281.64

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
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
Aug 2012	365-390	355-390	160-250	160-250
Sept 2012	365-390	355-380	no prices reported	no prices reported
Oct 2012	350-390	350-380	180	180
Nov 2012	350-385	325-375	150-190	150-180
Dec 2012	350-375	340-365	150-190	150-175
Jan 2013	350-375	340-360	150-180	150-170

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	October 2012		November 2012		December 2012		Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,275-1,650	1,401.99	1,250-1,475	1,382.01	1,256-1,650	1,375.52	-1.9%	-0.5%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-660	577.26	577-642	584.05	500-654	579.52	0.4%	-0.8%
Striploin Fresh	950-1,650	1,347.41	1,196-1,375	1,282.47	750-1,650	1,310.98	-2.7%	2.2%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,850-2,595	2,147.37	1,955-2,595	2,179.50	1,850-2,595	2,177.71	1.4%	-0.1%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	525-640	589.15	525-642	582.18	550-630	579.86	-1.6%	-0.4%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	530-635	576.00	510-635	569.17	510-630	564.98	-1.9%	-0.7%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-650	575.27	515-650	595.27	500-650	563.04	-2.1%	-5.4%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-October 2012 Pricing	Mid-November 2012 Pricing	Mid-December 2012 Pricing	Mid-January 2013 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$49.95 - $57.00	$49.95 - $60.00	$45.00 - $63.00	$49.95 - $58.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$27.95 - $31.00	$22.95 - $38.00	$22.95 - $33.00	$27.95 - $34.00
Inside Round - Fresh	$13.65 - $16.90	$13.25- $16.90	$13.25 - $16.00	$13.00 - $16.90
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$11.95 - $12.00	$10.45 - $12.95	$10.45 - $12.95	$11.95 - $13.00
Fresh Bison Trim	$9.95 - $11.50	$8.95 - $12.00	$8.95 - $11.50	$8.95 - $11.25

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Sekura Livestock Auctions (AB) (January 14, 2013)

Sex, lbs	# of head	Avg ($/cwt)
Bulls		
300 - 399	14	236
400 - 499	46	234
500 - 599	18	156
600 - 699	2	110
700 - 799	8	128
900 +	1	116
Heifers		
300 - 399	44	149
400 - 499	22	161
500 - 599	2	104
600 - 699	1	141
700 - 799	1	110

	# of head	Range
Bred Cows	2	$1,100 - $1,275

Kramer Auctions (SK) (December 14, 2012)

Highlights for 2012 MGM GRAND Genetics Sale

2010 BRED HEIFERS		
Elk Valley Ranches	Avg Weight	1091 lbs
Frank McAllister & Sons	Avg Price	$3,041
Silver Creek Bison	Avg Weight	1120 lbs
Nolan Miller	Avg Price	$3,423
Bison Spirit Ranch	Avg Weight	1166 lbs
Trevor & Jody Gompf	Avg Price	$4,022
2010 BREEDING BULLS		
Silver Creek Bison	Avg Weight	1553 lbs
Nolan Miller	Avg Price	$5,050
2011 YEARLING HEIFERS		
Silver Creek Bison	Avg Weight	952 lbs
Nolan Miller	Avg Price	$2,100
2011 BREEDING BULLS		
Elk Valley Ranches	Avg Weight	1129 lbs
Frank McAllister & Sons	Avg Price	$3,300
Silver Creek Bison	Avg Weight	1225 lbs
Nolan Miller	Avg Price	$3,900
Bison Spirit Ranch	Avg Weight	1202 lbs
Trevor & Jody Gompf	Avg Price	$3,900

Kramer Auctions (SK) (December 5, 2012)

Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Avg ($/cwt)
2012 BULLS	400-500 lbs	46	247
	300-399 lbs	55	196
	Under 300 lbs	7	108
2011 BULLS	900 +	29	176
	800-899 lbs	38	185
	700-799 lbs	27	189
	600-699 lbs	28	196
	Under 600 lbs	2	112
2010 BULLS	800-950 lbs	10	133
2012 HEIFERS	400-450 lbs	15	201
	300-399 lbs	50	176
2011 HEIFERS	700-799	21	176
	600-699	50	171
2010 BRED HEIFERS		16	
Averaged $2887.50 with $3200 being the top sellers at 1005 lbs.			
MATURE EXPOSED COWS		42	
$750 - 950 with weights from 800 lbs - 1000 lbs.			

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

Based on available market information, finished bison prices in mid-January were under pressure but the same highs of December 2012 were reached. The drought in parts of the U.S. has forced more mature animals to the market adding to what is already considered a burdensome trim inventory. Fresh bison trim sold as high as $11.25 per kg with frozen trim being discounted by some marketers to $8.00 per kg. Middle and prime cuts have been moving well in Canada, the U.S. and in Europe.

Finished bison bull prices of $3.50 -$3.75 per pound HHW and finished heifer prices at $3.40 - $3.60 per pound HHW were comparable to last month's prices. Marketers continue to report that they have access to sufficient animals to meet current market demand. As more animals come to market, there may be further downward price pressure on live animals if the burdensome level of trim is not reduced.

Nationally, federal slaughter was up 7.8% for 2012 when compared to 2011 (11,328 animals in 2012 compared to 10,504 animals in 2011). Live bison exports to the U.S. were down 3.2% in 2012 (January – December) compared to 2011 – 14,007 compared to 14,465 bison for the same period in 2011.

Chart 1

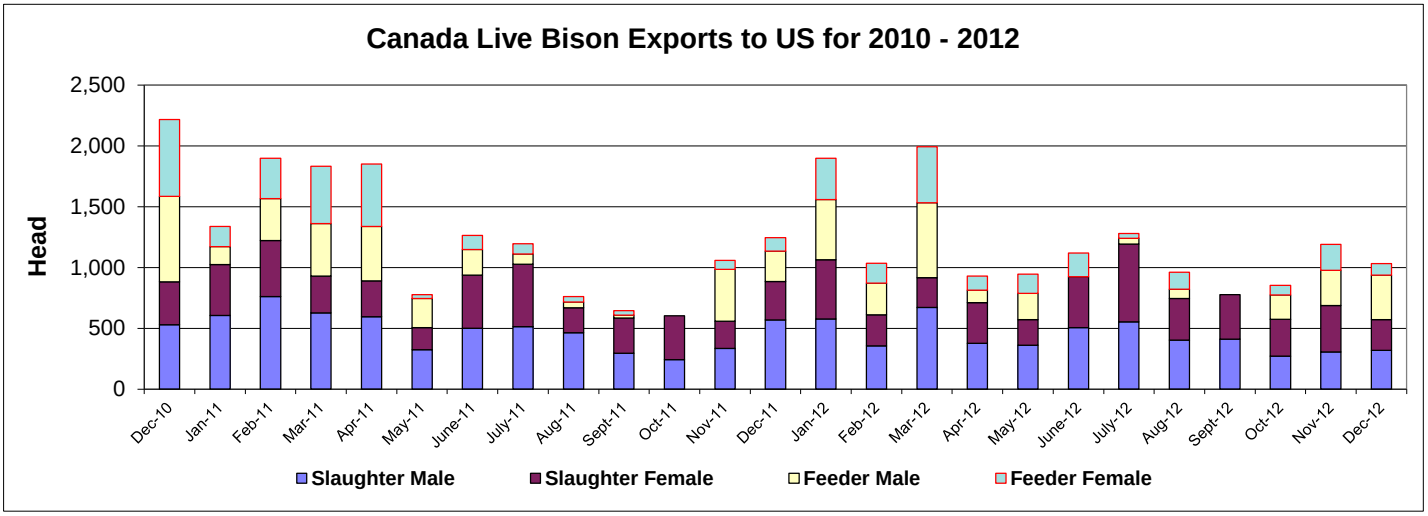
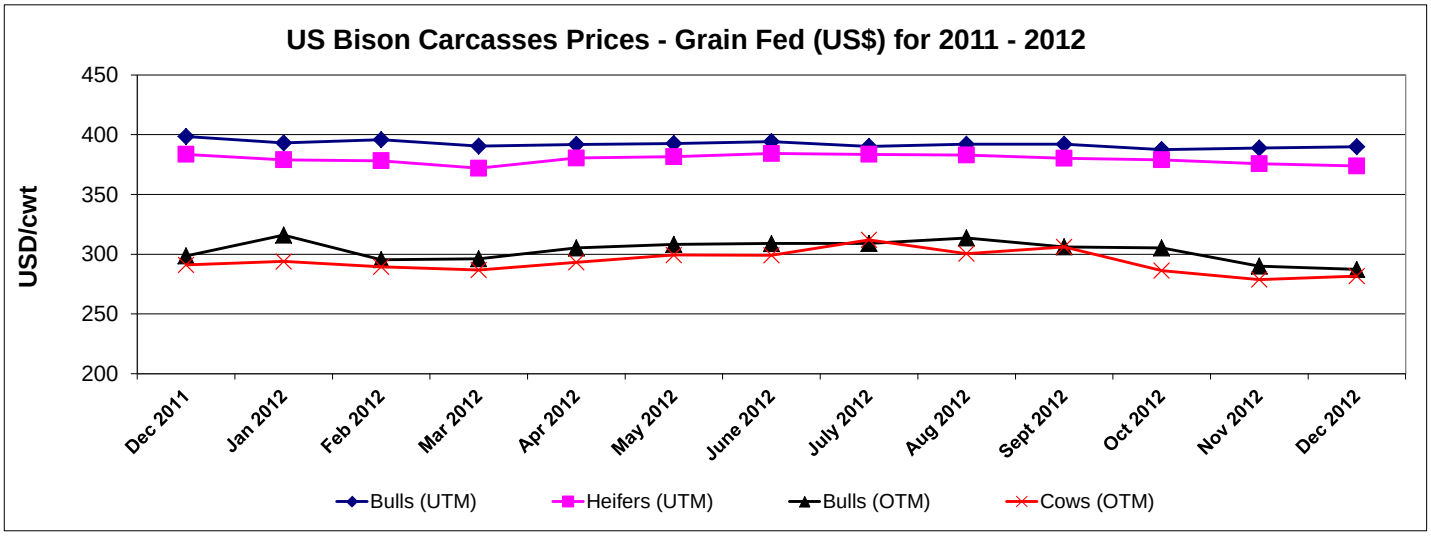


Chart 2



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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