



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - July 20, 2012

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	02-Jun	09-Jun	16-Jun	23-Jun	30-Jun	June Total	2012	June YTD 2011	% Change
Total Canada	300	260	234	321	293	1,408	5,778	4,960	16.5%
<i>previous year</i>	118	189	237	101	107	752			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Jan 2012	Feb 2012	Mar 2012	Apr 2012	May 2012	May 2011	2012	May YTD 2011	% Change
Alberta	58	62	102	101	133	134	456	452	0.9%
Saskatchewan	22	17	19	4	17	8	79	70	12.9%
Manitoba/BC	53	56	68	51	37	51	265	366	-27.6%
Ontario/Quebec**	33	15	29	26	23	47	126	148	-14.9%
Total	166	150	218	182	210	240	926	1036	-10.6%

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

	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	6,704	5,996	11.8%

*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:	02-Jun	09-Jun	16-Jun	23-Jun	30-Jun	June Total	2012	June YTD 2011	% Change
	771	876	850	791	801	4,089	20,910	22,696	-7.9%
<i>previous year</i>	712	954	940	949	809	4,364			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Feb-12	Mar-12	Apr-12	May-12	June-12	2012	June YTD 2011	% Change
Slaughter Male	355	671	376	361	505	2,844	3,414	-16.7%
Slaughter Female	256	245	334	211	420	1,953	2,097	-6.9%
Feeder Male	261	616	103	215		1,689	1,813	-6.8%
Feeder Female	162	460	117	158	194	1,432	1,635	-12.4%
Total	1,034	1,992	930	945	1,119	7,918	8,959	-11.6%

*source USDA

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

								May YTD		
Boneless								2012	2011	% Change
USA	Kg	December 2011	January 2012	February	March	April	May	70,474	152,934	-53.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	167,073	152,534	136,258	95,384	254,011	100,669	738,856	1,969,832	-62.5%
France	Kg	11,328	-	2,496	6,519	21,401	1,970	32,386	16,703	93.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	177,976	-	41,724	104,669	238,623	15,207	400,223	228,477	75.2%
Switzerland	Kg	4,652	1,504	1,501	2,117	3,412	2,834	11,368	18,707	-39.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	201,504	67,633	65,594	92,905	133,480	113,930	473,542	710,592	-33.4%
Germany	Kg	-	96	132	-	339	157	724	1,876	-61.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	3,097	3,160	-	8,427	4,490	19,174	51,796	-63.0%
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	1,376	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	13,359	4,852	8,159	-	9,076	35,446	-	N/A
Sweden	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	Kg	463	-	-	-	-	-	-	26,326	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	8,565	-	-	-	-	-	-	133,492	N/A
Others	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	Kg	29,758	22,949	16,175	21,219	45,831	10,154	116,328	216,734	-46.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	555,118	236,623	251,588	301,117	634,541	243,372	1,667,241	3,097,704	-46.2%

Bone-in								May YTD		
								2012	2011	% Change
Total	Kg	December 2011	January 2012	February	March	April	May	22,710	47,800	-52.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	52,449	127,498	41,945	221,892	228,856	-3.0%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in								May YTD		
								2012	2011	% Change
	Kg	December 2011	January 2012	February	March	April	May	139,038	264,534	-47.4%
	Value (\$Cdn)	555,118	236,623	251,588	353,566	762,039	285,317	1,889,133	3,326,560	-43.2%

*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)
June 2011	373.99	367.04	295.00	295.95
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
*source USDA				

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

wghtd avg				
	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
July 2011	400-410	400-410	280-300	275-280
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
*source CBA survey of marketers				

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

	April 2012		May 2012		June 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	1,377.55	1,250-1,650	1,375.48	1,250-1,650	1,369.94	-0.6%	-0.4%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-670	581.15	560-775	569.45	500-660	592.67	2.0%	4.1%
Striploin Fresh	1,050-1,650	1,346.18	1,000-1,650	1,344.27	950-1,650	1,320.87	-1.9%	-1.7%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,850-2,250	2,120.66	1,850-2,595	2,132.40	1,800-2,595	2,200.95	3.8%	3.2%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	505-640	586.29	525-640	584.46	525-640	579.41	-1.2%	-0.9%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	550-665	596.18	550-665	597.98	555-675	600.91	0.8%	0.5%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-650	591.74	500-665	594.14	500-665	585.17	-1.1%	-1.5%
*source USDA								

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

	Mid-April 2012 Pricing	Mid-May 2012 Pricing	Mid-June 2012 Pricing	Mid-July 2012 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$53.00 - \$55.15	\$53.00 - \$57.15	\$53.00 - \$57.15	\$53.00 - \$57.15
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$25.00 - \$31.38	\$28.00 - \$39.00	\$24.00 - \$39.00	\$28.00 - \$35.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$14.25 - \$16.90	\$13.65 - \$16.90	\$13.65 - \$16.90	\$14.00 - \$16.90
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$12.95 - \$12.95	\$12.95 - \$13.50	\$12.50 - \$13.50	\$12.00 - \$13.80
Fresh Bison Trim	\$11.50 - \$12.51	\$11.50 - \$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)				Sekura Auctions (AB) (April 14, 2012)				Kramer Auctions (SK) (March 14, 2012)		
Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	# of head	Average (\$/cwt)	Birth Year, Sex	lbs	Average (\$/cwt)
2011 BULLS	600-700 lbs	77	\$237	2011 Bulls	300 - 399	20	240.15	2011 BULLS	500-625 lbs	\$285
	500-599 lbs	89	\$253		400 - 499	34	164.78		400-499 lbs	\$276
	Under 499 lbs	48	\$267	2010 Bulls	500 - 599	8	207.5		Under 399 lbs	\$257
2010 BULLS	1005 lbs	1	\$202		600 - 699	14	194.48	2011 HEIFERS	450-550 lbs	\$228
	650-750 lbs	6	\$181		700 - 799	9	220.67		350-449 lbs	\$210
2009 BULLS	1050-1080	5	\$187	2009 Bulls	900 - 999	3	202.5		Under 349 lbs	\$194
	Under 1000	4	\$156		2011 Heifers	0 - 299	4	175.61	2010 BULLS	700-850 lbs
2011 HEIFER CALVES	450-550 lbs	55	\$241	300 - 399		24	217.57	Under 699		\$160
	400-449 lbs	42	\$243	2010 Heifers	400 - 499	6	171.96	2010 HEIFERS	Off	\$146
	350-399 lbs	14	\$243		500 - 599	21	175.23		Types	\$130
2010 HEIFERS		1	\$200		800 - 899	7	195.39			
<u>2011 Bulls</u>				<u>Average</u>						
High selling pen - \$2.31 /lb with average weight of 697 lbs				Breeding Bulls				193481.58		
<u>2010 Bulls</u>										
High selling pen - \$2.02/lb with a weight of 1005 lbs										
<u>2011 Heifer Calves</u>										
High selling pen - \$2.48/lb with average weight of 519 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

Prices for all bison meat cuts and live animals continued to be stable through to mid-July 2012 with some downward pressure being placed on bison trim prices. Finished bison prices at \$3.65 -\$3.90 per pound hot hanging weight is comparable to last month's prices. At current prices, there are sufficient animals to meet near-term market demand. Marketers indicate that they have adequate supplies for the summer. There are also 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 unfavorable 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 10.74% for the first 27 weeks of 2012 (week ending July 7, 2012) when compared to the first 27 weeks of 2011 (5,991 animals in 2012 compared to 5,410 animals in 2011). Live bison exports to the U.S. were down for the first five months of 2012 by 14.8% - 7,440 compared to 8,749 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

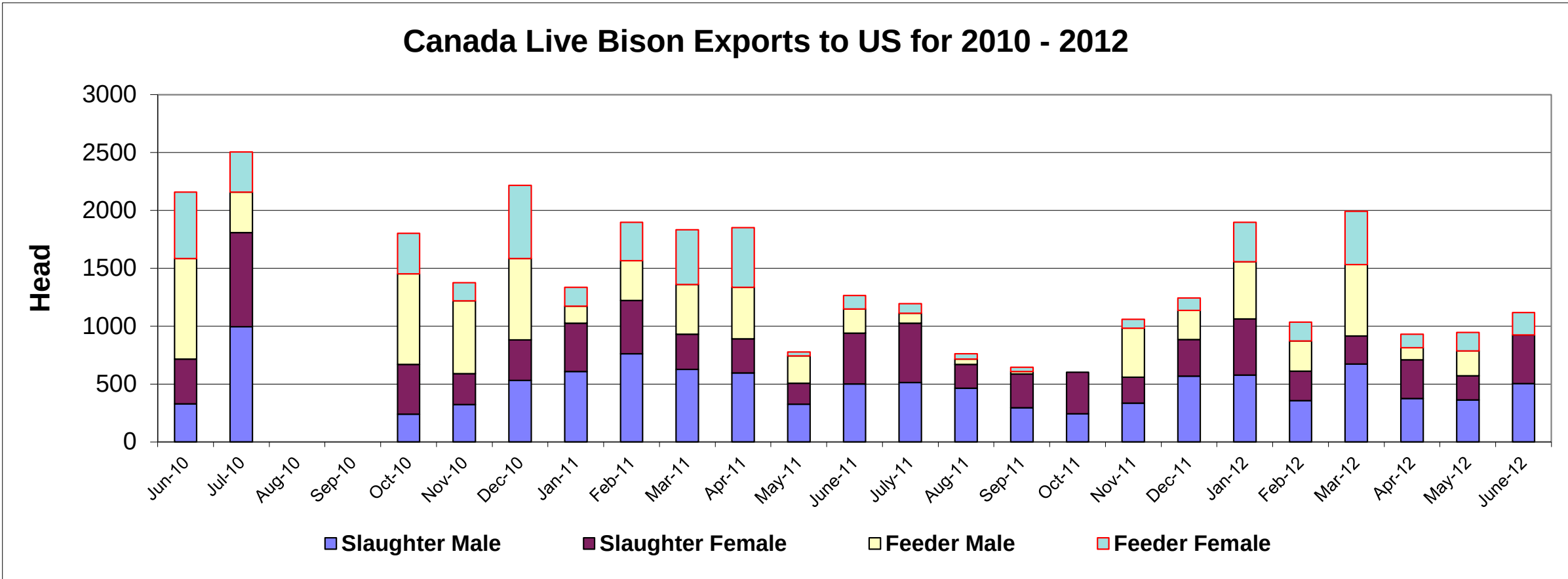
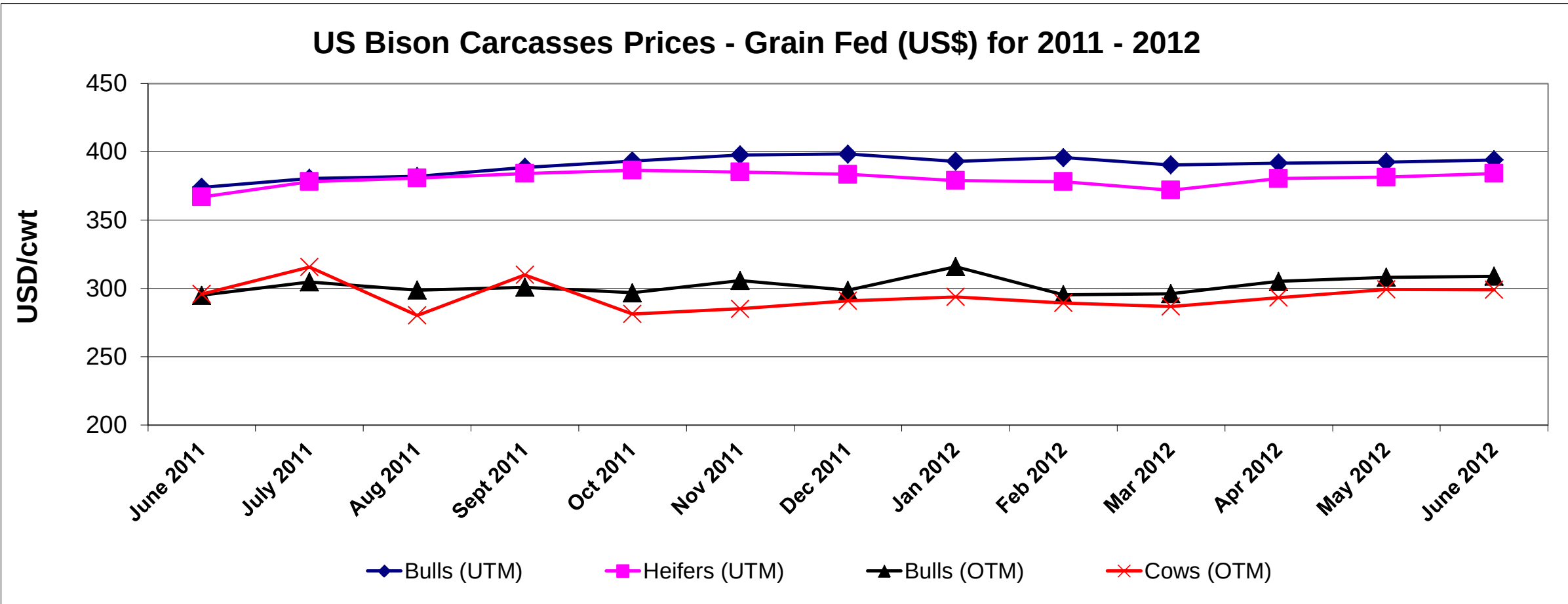


Chart 2



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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