Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada

BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - May 31, 2016

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	09-Apr	16-Apr	23-Apr	30-Apr	Apr Total	January - April YTD 2016	2015	% Change
Total Canada	**111**	**212**	**81**	**264**	**668**	**3,434**	**3,863**	**-11.1%**
previous year	*235*	*126*	*247*	*63*	*671*			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Nov 2015	Dec 2015	Jan 2016	Feb 2016	Mar 2016	Mar 2015	January - March YTD 2016	2015	% Change
Alberta	81	73	72	70	105	82	247	277	-10.8%
Saskatchewan	4	11	6	13	13	24	32	96	-66.7%
Manitoba/BC	77	57	30	27	66	53	123	144	-14.6%
Ontario/Quebec**	19	18	5	12	13	13	30	38	-21.1%
Total	**181**	**159**	**113**	**122**	**197**	**172**	**432**	**555**	**-22.2%**

	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	% Change
Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	**3,866**	**4,418**	**-12.5%**

**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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	January - March YTD 2016	2015	% Change
Total Slaughter	19,149	13,048	13,587	14,388	14,371	14,186	3,198	3,747	**-14.7%**
Total Live Exports	20,973	14,465	14,007	16,769	19,033	26,162	6,862	5,502	**24.7%**
Total Production	**40,122**	**27,513**	**27,594**	**31,157**	**33,404**	**40,348**	**10,060**	**9,249**	**8.8%**

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	09-Apr	16-Apr	23-Apr	30-Apr	Apr Total	January - April YTD 2016	2015	% Change
	1,047	**1,084**	**963**	**1,074**	**4,168**	**17,933**	**17,174**	**4.4%**
previous year	*1,032*	*877*	*906*	*868*	*3,683*			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16	Apr-16	January - April YTD 2016	2015	% Change
Slaughter Male	765	514	559	919	673	2,665	2,695	**-1.1%**
Slaughter Female	558	348	645	678	610	2,281	2,941	**-22.4%**
Feeder Male	375	500	598	999	627	2,724	1,553	**75.4%**
Feeder Female	516	406	340	356	500	1,602	1,356	**18.1%**
Total	**2,214**	**1,768**	**2,142**	**2,952**	**2,410**	**9,272**	**8,545**	**8.5%**

**source : USDA, APHIS*

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless		October 2015	November	December	January 2016	February	March	January - March YTD 2016	2015	% Change
USA	Kg	33,441	39,573	58,772	45,954	33,414	56,060	**135,428**	**91,349**	**48.3%**
	Value ($Cdn)	610,578	749,009	1,143,766	938,839	612,003	897,246	**2,448,088**	**1,413,197**	**73.2%**
France	Kg	8,118	9,661	6,977	5,801	2,887	3,242	**11,930**	**12,547**	**-4.9%**
	Value ($Cdn)	131,676	158,314	143,331	92,860	51,361	63,670	**207,891**	**202,990**	**2.4%**
Switzerland	Kg	-	8,682	7,858	1,647	5,694	5,138	**12,479**	**11,502**	**8.5%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	307,099	261,427	57,423	184,388	270,532	**512,343**	**525,313**	**-2.5%**
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	-	-	-	-	146	40	**186**	**10,728**	**-98.3%**
	Value ($Cdn)	-	-	-	-	6,368	1,301	**7,669**	**88,288**	**-91.3%**
Total	**Kg**	**41,559**	**57,916**	**73,607**	**53,402**	**42,141**	**64,480**	**160,023**	**126,126**	**26.9%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**742,255**	**1,214,422**	**1,548,524**	**1,089,122**	**854,120**	**1,232,749**	**3,175,991**	**2,229,788**	**42.4%**

Bone-in		October 2015	November	December	January 2016	February	March	January - March YTD 2016	2015	% Change
Total	**Kg**	**5,728**	**9,197**	**18,123**	**2,859**	**6,565**	**1,473**	**10,897**	**8,207**	**32.8%**
	Value ($Cdn)	**36,305**	**69,715**	**73,337**	**30,808**	**30,354**	**19,242**	**80,404**	**42,390**	**89.7%**

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in	October 2015	November	December	January 2016	February	March	January - March YTD 2016	2015	% Change
Kg	**47,287**	**67,113**	**91,730**	**56,261**	**48,706**	**65,953**	**170,920**	**134,333**	**27.2%**
Value ($Cdn)	**778,560**	**1,284,137**	**1,621,861**	**1,119,930**	**884,474**	**1,251,991**	**3,256,395**	**2,272,178**	**43.3%**

**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)
Apr 2015	421.84	407.93	326.80	316.41
May 2015	421.73	407.12	325.77	326.68
June 2015	423.32	407.03	340.00	329.73
July 2015	424.21	410.07	350.00	341.11
Aug 2015	423.71	411.66	350.00	359.07
Sept 2015	425.13	410.79	351.18	353.92
Oct 2015	424.47	410.61	360.90	353.09
Nov 2015	424.44	410.37	364.78	353.10
Dec 2015	424.94	413.08	364.25	369.73
Jan 2016	431.20	415.72	363.40	353.30
Feb 2016	432.26	417.32	372.72	362.10
Mar 2016	441.84	430.47	360.68	370.26
Apr 2016	446.93	429.94	384.32	370.30

**source USDA*

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows
May 2015	475-505	445-485	325-350	325-350
June 2015	475-505	445-485	325-350	325-350
July 2015	500-520	480-500	350-375	340-360
Aug 2015	500-520	480-500	350-375	340-360
Sept 2015	500-530	480-510	400	400
Oct 2015	515-530	495-510	400	400
Nov 2015	530-550	510-530	410	410
Dec 2015	535-550	525-530	420-450	420-450
Jan 2016	535-550	525-530	420-450	420-450
Feb 2016	600-600	575-575	440-450	440-450
Mar 2016	600-600	575-575	475	475
Apr 2016	600-600	575-585	500	500
May 2016	600-600	575-585	500	500

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

	February 2016		March 2016		April 2016		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,110-1,361	1,333.20	1,140-1,414	1,349.92	1,140-1,429	1,364.57	2.4%	1.1%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	660-942	874.47	645-795	652.47	680-800	707.78	-19.1%	8.5%
Striploin Fresh	945-1,267	1,194.18	965-1,284	1,230.73	1,010-1,351	1,236.35	3.5%	0.5%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,660-2,684	2,122.80	1,680-2,408	2,117.69	1,650-2,620	2,109.02	-0.6%	-0.4%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	599-720	603.46	575-680	599.00	575-680	599.00	-0.7%	0.0%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	640-762	688.38	641-764	687.70	645-755	691.55	0.5%	0.6%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	659-745	704.31	680-745	704.77	680-798	705.81	0.2%	0.1%

**source USDA*

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

	Mid-February 2016 Pricing	Mid-March 2016 Pricing	Mid-April 2016 Pricing	Mid-May 2016 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	$48.00 - $62.00	$48.00 - $62.00	$45.00 - $59.50	$44.95 - $59.50
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	$34.00 - $38.00	$37.95 - $38.00	$36.00 - $39.00	$36.50 - $38.95
Inside Round - Fresh	$19.00 - $24.00	$22.95 - $23.50	$22.95 - $23.50	$22.95 - $23.50
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	$19.00 - $20.00	$19.00 - $20.95	$21.95 - $23.50	$22.95 - $23.50
Fresh Bison Trim	$17.00 - $19.00	$19.00 - $19.95	$19.00 - $20.50	$19.00 - $20.95

**source CBA survey of marketers*

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

Kramer Auction Sales (SK) (May 11, 2016) ***506 Head***

CLASS	(# of head)	Avg ($/lb)
2015 BULLS CALVES		
700 + lbs	6	$4.43
600-699 lbs	40	$4.45
500-599 lbs	123	$4.77
400-499 lbs	42	$5.16
350-399 lbs	4	$4.51
2014 BREEDING BULLS	7	
	Averaged between $4,250 & $5,900	
2014 YEARLING BULLS		
900-1100 lbs	3	$3.22
650-800 lbs	8	$3.56
2013 BULLS		
990-1205 lbs	6	$2.93
2014 HEIFER CALVES		
550 + lbs	39	$4.33
500-549 lbs	98	$4.41
450-499 lbs	65	$4.50
400-449 lbs	31	$4.44
350-399 lbs	12	$4.44
2014 YEARLING HEIFERS		
700-749 lbs	8	$5.52
650-699 lbs	9	$5.15
625-649 lbs	5	$5.20

Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (April 16, 2016)

Head Sold: 150

CALVES	BULLS
500 lbs +	$445.00 - $495.00
400 - 499 lbs	$470.00 - $515.00
300 - 399 lbs	$485.00 - $540.00
Under 300 lbs	$380.00 - $530.00
CALVES	**HEIFERS**
500 lbs +	$300.00 - $390.00
400 - 499 lbs	$380.00 - $420.00
300 - 399 lbs	$400.00 - $440.00
Under 300 lbs	$400.00 - $440.00
YEARLINGS	**BULLS**
700 - 799 lbs	$340.00 - $370.00
600 - 699 lbs	$345.00 - $370.00
500 - 599 lbs	$310.00 - $345.00
Mature Bulls	
1250 lbs +	$245.00 - $265.00
950 - 1249 lbs	$275.00 - $330.00
Younger Breds	— - $3,350.00

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 offered to producers in mid-May were $6.00 per pound HHW for Grade "A" bulls. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to $6.00 Canadian with some prices marginally higher and with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives, and export costs. Canadian buyers are paying up to $5.85 per pound HHW for Grade "A" heifers. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equal Canadian prices with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives, and export costs. Some Canadian buyers have been offering prices in U.S. dollars to minimize currency risk.

Nationally, federal slaughter in Canada for the first 18 weeks of 2016 (week ending May 7, 2016) was down 14% when compared to the same period in 2015 (3,535 animals in 2016 compared to 4,098 animals in 2015). Live animal exports for the first four months of 2016 were 9,272 head – up by 8.5% when compared to the 8,545 head exported during the first four months of 2015. This increase continues to be driven by strong consumer demand and the strength of the US dollar.

Marketers report that there is continued strong demand for bison trim. Orders for ground products continue to be shorted in some markets. There is presently some build-up of middle cuts for some marketers. Some exporters are experiencing fair demand in Europe while others see some consumer resistance at current prices. Canadian demand for bison products is soft because of high prices and a soft economy. Marketers continue to prepare for the 2016 grilling season.

The Canadian buyers indicate that present supplies of finished bison are very tight. Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue to be sensitive to Canada - US exchange rates with more animals moving south with the lower Canadian dollar. Some marketers report limited access to finished animals.

Continued exports of feeder animals to the US are expected to create shortages in the Canadian marketplace.

Chart 1

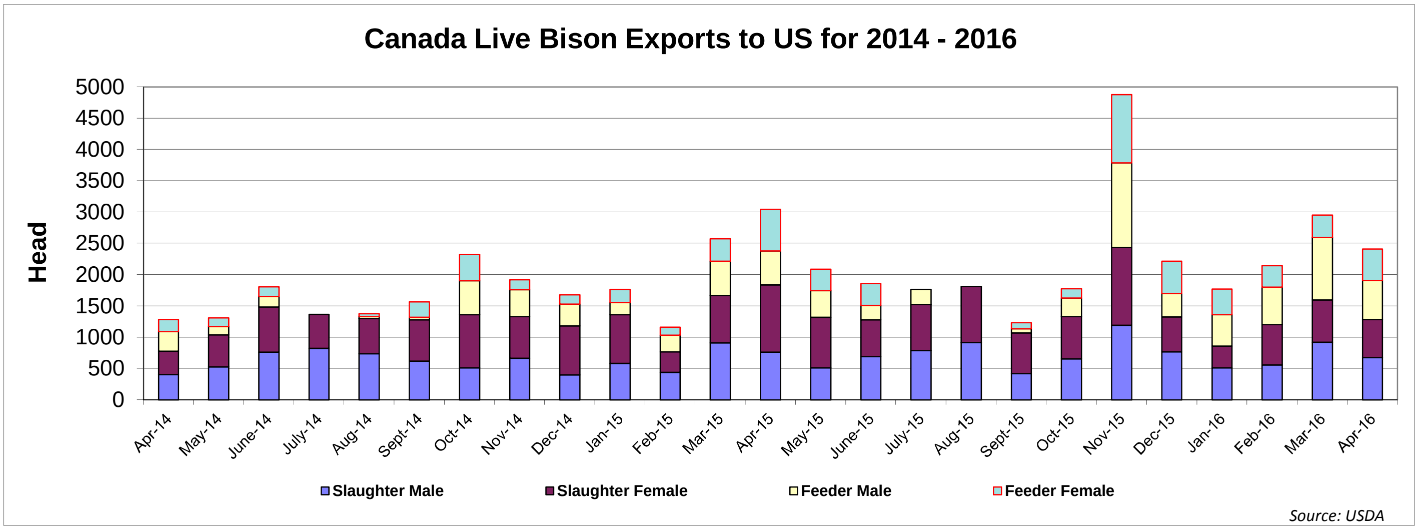
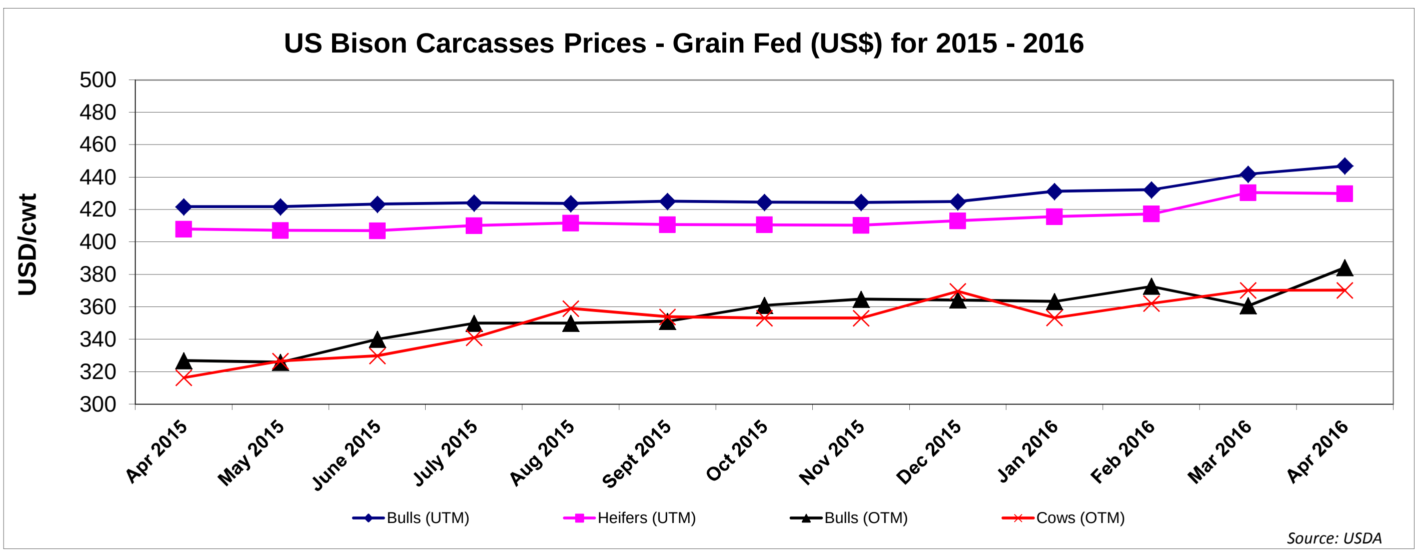


Chart 2



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, the number of farms reporting is too small for public disclosure.

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

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