



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - April 24, 2015

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	28-Feb	07-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar	28-Mar	Mar Total	January - March YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
Total Canada	363	255	279	153	254	1,304	3,192	2,852	11.9%
previous year	126	429	224	301	128	1,208			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Feb 2014	January - February YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
Alberta	93	61	94	90	105	109	195	220	-11.4%
Saskatchewan	4	15	14	49	23	23	72	59	22.0%
Manitoba/BC	59	66	80	37	50	68	87	126	-31.0%
Ontario/Quebec**	31	8	20	23	15	8	38	21	81.0%
Total	187	150	208	199	193	208	392	426	-8.0%

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

Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	% Change
	3,584	3,278	9.3%

*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

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	January - February YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
Total Slaughter	23,809	19,149	13,048	13,587	14,388	14,371	2,280	2,070	10.1%
Total Live Exports	25,118	20,973	14,465	14,007	16,769	19,033	2,927	2,814	4.0%
Total Production	48,927	40,122	27,513	27,594	31,157	33,404	5,207	4,884	6.6%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

for week ending:	28-Feb	07-Mar	14-Mar	21-Mar	28-Mar	Mar Total	January - March YTD		
							2015	2014	% Change
	863	1,059	1,102	952	999	4,975	13,491	13,503	-0.1%
previous year	1,015	1,067	1,134	1,218	1,057	5,491			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	2015	2014	% Change
Slaughter Male	666	399	582	442	910	1,934	1,649	17.3%
Slaughter Female	664	781	781	327	756	1,864	2,061	-9.6%
Feeder Male	431	350	192	267	552	1,011	377	168.2%
Feeder Female	160	150	212	124	357	693	315	120.0%
Total	1,921	1,680	1,767	1,160	2,575	5,502	4,402	25.0%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

Boneless								January - February YTD		
		September 2014	October	November	December	January 2015	February	2015	2014	% Change
USA	Kg	19,268	24,406	25,273	22,037	13,511	30,799	44,310	22,323	98.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	264,762	273,190	354,241	289,932	233,156	483,643	716,799	343,917	108.4%
France	Kg	3,754	17,847	10,870	1,381	7,405	4,545	11,950	26,002	-54.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	38,474	129,843	49,770	22,938	118,930	73,731	192,661	404,995	-52.4%
Switzerland	Kg	2,291	2,865	7,791	8,218	1,200	3,194	4,394	3,956	11.1%
	Value (\$Cdn)	103,433	145,932	351,354	289,322	51,730	114,977	166,707	183,688	-9.2%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,137	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98,447	-
Italy	Kg	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	601	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	7,065	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,318	-
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	218	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	681	-	-	-	-	6,536	-
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	920	-	850	378	-	10,568	10,568	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	26,428	-	17,663	14,290	-	83,630	83,630	-	-
Total	Kg	26,483	45,118	44,805	32,014	22,116	49,106	71,222	71,237	0.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	440,162	548,965	773,709	616,482	403,816	755,981	1,159,797	1,052,901	10.2%

Bone-in

		September 2014	October	November	December	January 2015	February	January - February YTD		
								2015	2014	% Change
Total	Kg	-	324	259	3,371	6,049	1,419	7,468	7,986	-6.5%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	3,459	2,750	36,039	17,437	17,164	34,601	83,857	-58.7%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	September 2014	October	November	December	January 2015	February	2015	2014	% Change
Kg	26,483	45,442	45,064	35,385	28,165	50,525	78,690	79,223	-0.7%
Value (\$Cdn)	440,162	552,424	776,459	652,521	421,253	773,145	1,194,398	1,136,758	5.1%

*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)
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
Dec 2014	408.75	395.36	322.93	303.09
Jan 2015	409.17	396.14	325.85	298.78
Feb 2015	413.32	399.80	325.53	316.01
Mar 2015	413.87	400.81	325.60	320.75

*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
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				
Jan 2015	425-455	400-435	275-325	275-325				
Feb 2015	435-460	435-450	325-350	325-350				
Mar 2015	469-500	435-480	325-350	325-350				
Apr 2015	469-500	449-480	325-350	325-350				

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	January 2015		February 2015		March 2015		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,000-1,650	1,417.31	1,100-1,650	1,385.95	1,050-1,650	1,451.21	2.4%	4.7%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-650	598.41	500-675	592.57	500-702	614.56	2.7%	3.7%
Striploin Fresh	900-1,650	1,350.70	1,000-1,650	1,358.11	1,000-1,650	1,390.03	2.9%	2.4%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,500-2,300	2,114.45	1,550-2,595	2,089.26	1,500-2,680	2,137.87	1.1%	2.3%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	525-640	581.26	525-640	578.00	525-640	578.00	-0.6%	0.0%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	500-630	592.55	500-630	589.37	500-795	599.54	1.2%	1.7%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-650	601.21	565-620	601.96	500-760	625.67	4.1%	3.9%

*source USDA

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

	Mid-January 2015 Pricing	Mid-February 2015 Pricing	Mid-March 2015 Pricing	Mid-April 2015 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$52.00 - \$57.95	\$52.00 - \$59.95	\$56.00 - \$65.00	\$52.00 - \$56.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$29.75 - \$34.00	\$32.00 - \$34.00	\$28.00 - \$34.00	\$30.50 - \$32.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$15.10 - \$19.50	\$15.45 - \$19.50	\$15.25 - \$19.50	\$15.25 - \$16.00
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$10.95 - \$13.00	\$13.00 - \$13.95	\$13.50 - \$14.00	No prices reported
Fresh Bison Trim	\$12.00 - \$12.00	\$12.00 - \$12.75	\$12.50 - \$13.50	\$12.75 - \$14.00

*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Great Spirit Show & Sale (MB) (April 4th, 2015) Heartland Livestock Services			Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK) (March 11th, 2015) Cloverleaf Bison Sale 380 Head Year, Sex, Lbs # of head Avg (\$/lb)			SBA First Annual Cdn Bison Bull Draft Sale (February 27th, 2015) Held at Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK)		
Year, Sex	Breed	Price	2014 BULLS CALVES			Tag #	Placing	Price
2012 BULLS			551 + lbs	32	\$3.80			
Silver Creek Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$9,500	500-550 lbs	33	\$4.08	115	1	\$20,000
			450-499 lbs	38	\$4.30	117	2	\$20,500
2013 BULLS			400-449 lbs	46	\$4.33	118	3	\$13,500
Silver Creek Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$8,000	350-399 lbs	17	\$4.12	107	4	\$16,000
Bison Spirit Ranch	Wood X	\$8,500	349 & Under	14	\$2.97	119	5	\$12,500
Bison Spirit Ranch	Wood X	\$7,500	2013 BREEDING \$3000-\$4900 weighing 1130 lbs \$4250-\$7700 weighing 1135 lbs			101		\$9,250
2014 BULLS			2013 YEARLING BULLS			103		\$6,500
Sandridge Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$3,500	600-700 lbs	6	\$3.30	105		\$3,500
Shale Creek Bison Ranch	Wood	\$2,400	Off Types	3	\$2.27	106		\$4,200
Sandridge Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$2,800	2012 BULLS			108		\$7,750
2013 HEIFERS			2014 HEIFER CALVES			110		\$4,600
			500 + lbs	25	\$3.47	112		\$14,000
Shale Creek Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$6,750	450-499 lbs	28	\$3.50	113		\$6,750
Beldon Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$4,200	400-449 lbs	51	\$3.42	114		\$7,250
Beldon Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$3,000	350-399 lbs	48	\$3.51	116		\$6,750
2014 HEIFERS			349 & Under	19	\$3.63	120		\$15,500
			2013 YEARLING HEIFERS			Sale Total		
Rough Bark Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$2,200	600 + lbs	1	\$3.20	\$168,550		
Sandridge Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$1,950	Off Types	3	\$2.00	Average		
Rough Bark Bison Ranch	Wood X	\$2,150	2012 FEMALES			\$10,534.38		
			Off Types	2	\$2.25			
			CULL COWS Prices : Hi \$1,000 and Low \$800					
			** 12 Off type calves/yearlings removed from averages					

Commentary

By Terry Kremenik, 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 during April remained at previous month's levels. Producers were offered up to \$5.00 per pound HHW for Grade A bulls by Canadian buyers. U.S. buyers offered \$4.15 U.S. with returns dependent on exchange rates, quality and export costs. Canadian buyers paid up to \$4.80 per pound HHW for Grade A heifers. U.S. buyers were offering \$4.05 U.S. with returns dependent on exchange rates, quality and export costs.

Nationally, federal slaughter was up 11.9% in the first 13 weeks of 2015 (week ending March 28, 2015) compared to 2014 levels (3,192 animals in 2015 compared to 2,852 animals in 2014). Live animal exports for the first three months of 2015 were 5,502 head – up by 25% when compared to the 4,402 head exported in the first three months of 2014. This significant increase has been driven by the lower value of the Canadian dollar relative to the U.S. dollar.

Marketers report that there is continued strong demand for bison trim in the United States and Canada. There are reports of some orders for ground products being shorted. European demand is steady for middle cuts. There is a small inventory build-up of striploins and tenderloins. Some reports indicate that present supplies of finished bison are tight while others see a shortage of live bison for processing. Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue at present levels if the current exchange rates persist.

Chart 1

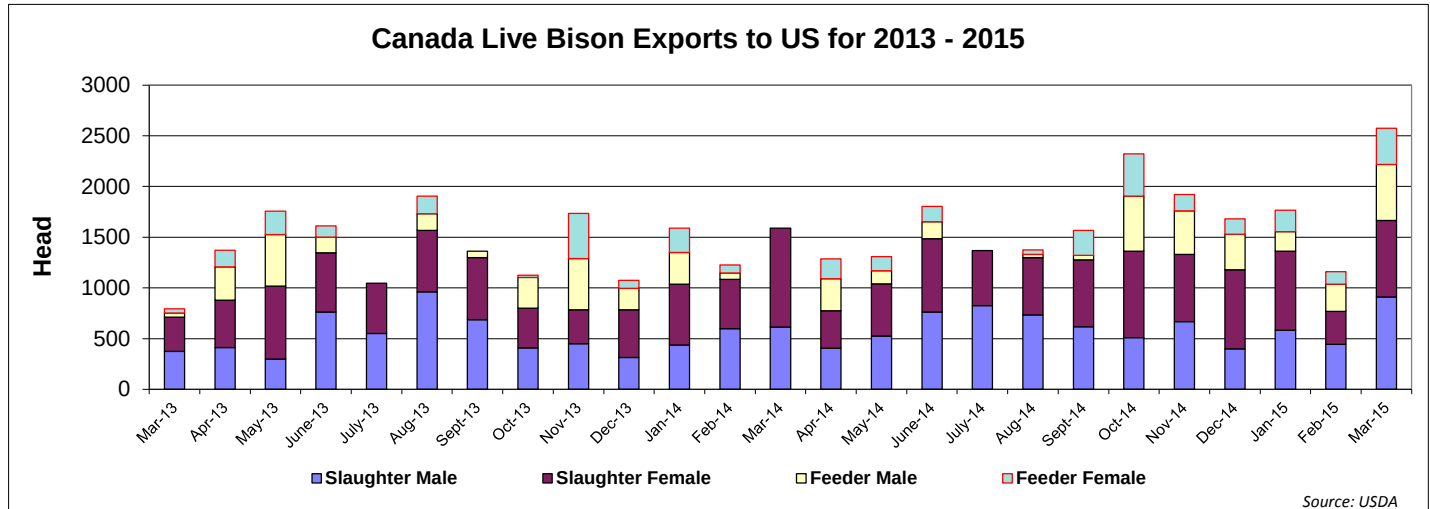
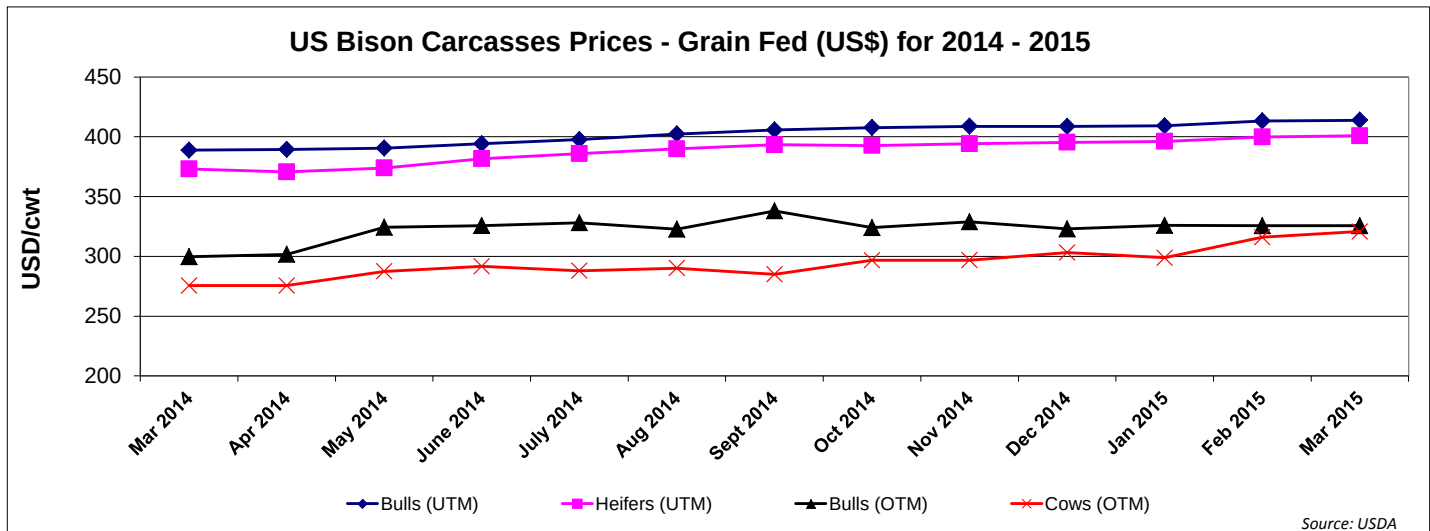


Chart 2



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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