



BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada - March 20, 2015

Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	31-Jan	07-Feb	14-Feb	21-Feb	Feb Total	January - February YTD		
	2015	2014				2015	2014	% Change
Total Canada	231	330	221	309	1,091	1,888	1,644	14.8%
previous year	267	247	122	224	860			

Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Sept 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Jan 2014	Month of January		% Change
	2015	2014					2015	2014	% Change
Alberta	96	93	61	94	90	111	90	111	-18.9%
Saskatchewan	8	4	15	14	49	36	49	36	36.1%
Manitoba/BC	74	59	66	80	37	58	37	58	-36.2%
Ontario/Quebec**	44	31	8	20	23	13	23	13	76.9%
Total	222	187	150	208	199	218	199	218	-8.7%

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

Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	YTD 2015	YTD 2014	% Change
	2,087	1,862	12.1%

*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	Month of January		% Change
	2015	2014					2015	2014	% Change
Total Slaughter	23,809	19,149	13,048	13,587	14,388	14,371	996	1,002	-0.6%
Total Live Exports	25,118	20,973	14,465	14,007	16,769	19,033	1,767	1,588	11.3%
Total Production	48,927	40,122	27,513	27,594	31,157	33,404	2,763	2,590	6.7%

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

US Federal Slaughter*

	31-Jan	07-Feb	14-Feb	21-Feb	Feb Total	January - February YTD		
	2015	2014				2015	2014	% Change
for week ending:	1,212	1,124	968	1,021	4,325	8,516	8,012	6.3%
previous year	1,010	995	1,012	852	3,869			

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

Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	Oct-14	Nov-14	Dec-14	Jan-15	Feb-15	January - February YTD		
	2015	2014				2015	2014	% Change
Slaughter Male	510	666	399	582	442	1,024	1,034	-1.0%
Slaughter Female	852	664	781	781	327	1,108	1,088	1.8%
Feeder Male	543	431	350	192	267	459	377	21.8%
Feeder Female	417	160	150	212	124	336	315	6.7%
Total	2,322	1,921	1,680	1,767	1,160	2,927	2,814	4.0%

*source : USDA, APHIS

Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

							Month of January		
							2015	2014	% Change
Boneless	August 2014	September	October	November	December	January 2015	2015	2014	% Change
USA	Kg	11,708	19,268	24,406	25,273	21,060	14,488	12,317	17.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	178,523	264,762	273,190	354,241	263,210	259,878	202,047	28.6%
France	Kg	8,868	3,754	17,847	10,870	1,381	7,405	8,803	-15.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	94,534	38,474	129,843	49,770	22,938	118,930	146,726	-18.9%
Switzerland	Kg	2,953	2,291	2,865	7,791	8,218	1,200	1,111	8.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	148,221	103,433	145,932	351,354	289,322	51,730	48,540	6.6%
Mexico	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	Kg	-	250	-	-	-	-	231	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	7,065	-	-	-	-	5,987	-
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	21	-	-	218	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	681	-	-	6,536	-
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Countries	Kg	-	920	-	850	378	-	-	-
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	26,428	-	17,663	14,290	-	-	-
Total	Kg	23,529	26,483	45,118	44,805	31,037	23,093	22,680	1.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	421,278	440,162	548,965	773,709	589,760	430,538	409,836	5.1%

Bone-in

	August 2014	September	October	November	December	January 2015	Month of January		% Change
	2015	2014					2015	2014	% Change
Total	Kg	-	-	324	259	3,371	6,049	7,986	-24.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	3,459	2,750	36,039	17,437	83,857	-79.2%

Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

	August 2014	September	October	November	December	January 2015	Month of January		% Change
	2015	2014					2015	2014	% Change
Total	Kg	23,529	26,483	45,442	45,064	34,408	29,142	30,666	-5.0%
	Value (\$Cdn)	421,278	440,162	552,424	776,459	625,799	447,975	493,693	-9.3%

*source Statistics Canada

wghtd avg

	Bulls (UTM)	Heifers (UTM)	Bulls (OTM)	Cows (OTM)
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
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

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

wghtd avg

Month	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows	2012 Bulls	2012 Heifers	2013 Bulls	2013 Heifers
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				
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				

*source CBA survey of marketers

	December 2014		January 2015		February 2015		2 months prior	1 month prior
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg		
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	900-1,650	1,300.04	1,000-1,650	1,417.31	1,100-1,650	1,385.95	6.6%	-2.2%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	500-710	604.25	500-650	598.41	500-675	592.57	-1.9%	-1.0%
Striploin Fresh	800-1,650	1,235.75	900-1,650	1,350.70	1,000-1,650	1,358.11	9.9%	0.5%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,550-2,595	2,068.46	1,500-2,300	2,114.45	1,550-2,595	2,089.26	1.0%	-1.2%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	525-640	600.48	525-640	581.26	525-640	578.00	-3.7%	-0.6%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	500-630	585.05	500-630	592.55	500-630	589.37	0.7%	-0.5%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	500-650	589.93	500-650	601.21	565-620	601.96	2.0%	0.1%

*source USDA

	Mid-December 2014 Pricing	Mid-January 2015 Pricing	Mid-February 2015 Pricing	Mid-March 2015 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$51.00 - \$57.95	\$52.00 - \$57.95	\$52.00 - \$59.95	\$56.00 - \$65.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$29.75 - \$34.00	\$29.75 - \$34.00	\$32.00 - \$34.00	\$28.00 - \$34.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$15.10 - \$19.50	\$15.10 - \$19.50	\$15.45 - \$19.50	\$15.25 - \$19.50
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$10.95 - \$13.00	\$10.95 - \$13.00	\$13.00 - \$13.95	\$13.50 - \$14.00
Fresh Bison Trim	\$11.25 - \$12.00	\$12.00 - \$12.00	\$12.00 - \$12.75	\$12.50 - \$13.50

*source CBA survey of marketers

Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK) (March 11th, 2015)			SBA First Annual Cdn Bison Bull Draft Sale (February 27th, 2015)			1st Annual Tiger Lily Bison Auction (February 21st, 2015)		
Cloverleaf Bison Sale			Held at Kramer Auction Sales Ltd. (SK)			Heartland Livestock Services (SK)		
<u>Year, Sex, Lbs</u>	<u># of head</u>	<u>380 Head Avg (\$/lb)</u>						
<u>2014 BULLS CALVES</u>			<u>Tag #</u>	<u>Placing</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>73 head</u>		
551 + lbs	32	\$3.80				<u>Calves</u>		
500-550 lbs	33	\$4.08	115	1	\$20,000	Bulls	400-475 lbs	\$350-\$402/cwt (Top Quality)
450-499 lbs	38	\$4.30	117	2	\$20,500	Bulls	300-400 lbs	\$330-\$345/cwt (Medium Quality)
400-449 lbs	46	\$4.33	118	3	\$13,500			
350-399 lbs	17	\$4.12	107	4	\$16,000	Heifers	350-425 lbs	\$340-\$350/cwt (Top Quality)
349 & Under	14	\$2.97	119	5	\$12,500	Heifers	300-350 lbs	\$320-\$340/cwt (Medium Quality)
<u>2013 BREEDING BULLS</u>			101		\$9,250			
\$3000-\$4900 weighing 1130 lbs			103		\$6,500			
\$4250-\$7700 weighing 1135 lbs			105		\$3,500			
<u>2013 YEARLING BULLS</u>			106		\$4,200	<u>Yearlings</u>		
600-700 lbs	6	\$3.30	108		\$7,750			
Off Types	3	\$2.27	110		\$4,600	Bulls	600-750 lbs	\$275-\$299/cwt
<u>2012 BULLS</u>	2	\$2.40	112		\$14,000	Light Yearlings	500-600 lbs	\$300-\$353/cwt
<u>2014 HEIFER CALVES</u>			113		\$6,750			
500 + lbs	25	\$3.47	114		\$7,250			
450-499 lbs	28	\$3.50	116		\$6,750			
400-449 lbs	51	\$3.42	120		\$15,500			
350-399 lbs	48	\$3.51				<u>Cull Cows</u>		
349 & Under	19	\$3.63				\$120-\$130/cwt		
<u>2013 YEARLING HEIFERS</u>								
600 + lbs	1	\$3.20	<u>Sale Total</u>			<u>\$168,550</u>		
Off Types	3	\$2.00	<u>Average</u>			<u>\$10,534.38</u>		
<u>2012 FEMALES</u>								
Off Types	2	\$2.25						
<u>CULL COWS</u>								
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

Producers were offered up to \$5.00 per pound HHW for Grade A bulls by Canadian buyers. U.S. buyers offered \$4.15 per pound 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 per pound U.S. with returns dependent on exchange rates, quality, and export costs.

Nationally, federal slaughter for the first 8 weeks of the year (week ending February 21, 2015), was up 14.8% in 2015 compared to the same time period in 2014 (1,888 animals in 2015 compared to 1,644 animals in 2014). Live animal exports to the United States during January and February 2015 were 2,927 head – up by 4.0% when compared to the 2,814 head exported in January and February 2014. This increase has been driven by the weakness in the Canadian dollar.

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 steady for middle cuts. There is a small inventory build-up of striploins and tenderloins. Most reports indicate that present supplies of finished bison are tight but suppliers are able to fill most orders. Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue at present levels if the current exchange rates persist.

Chart 1

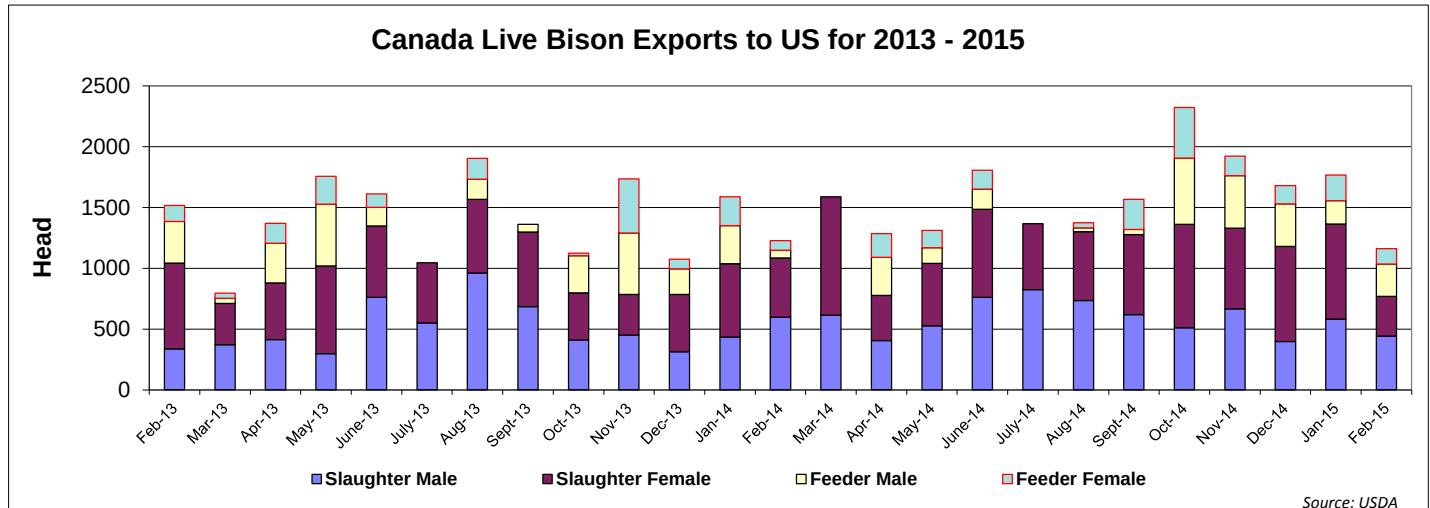
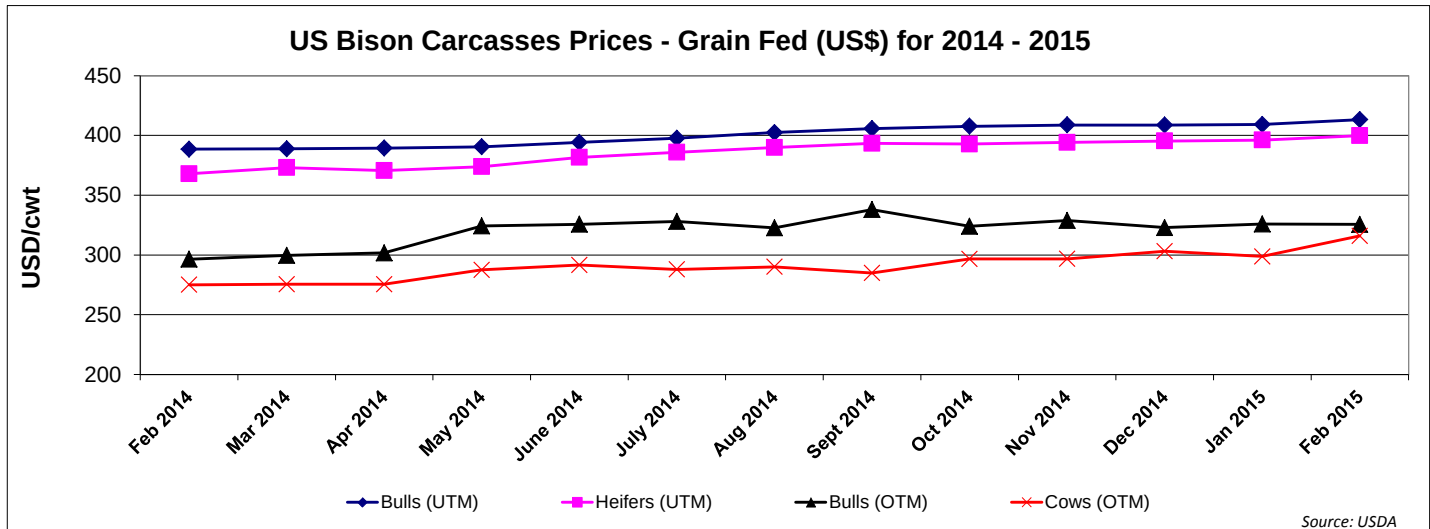


Chart 2



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

Contact: Diane Kelly (613) 773-0816 (diane.kelly@agr.gc.ca) or see us at: <http://www.agr.gc.ca/redmeat>