



# BISON MARKET AND SUPPLY UPDATE

Prepared by Red Meat Section/Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada -May 24, 2018.

## Weekly Federal Bison Slaughter

	07-Apr	14-Apr	21-Apr	28-Apr	Apr Total	January-April YTD		
Total Canada	263	147	300	128	838	2018	2017	% Change
previous year	54	148	173	177	552	3,166	3,666	-13.6%

## Provincially Inspected Slaughter

	Nov 2017	Dec 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2018	Mar 2017	January - March YTD		
Alberta	78	31	45	38	60	70	2018	2017	% Change
Saskatchewan	6	3	8	7	12	1	143	178	-19.7%
Manitoba/BC	37	32	33	20	28	40	27	11	145.5%
Ontario/Quebec**	40	35	21	17	5	16	81	126	-35.7%
Total	161	101	107	82	105	127	43	65	-33.8%
							294	380	-22.6%

Total Canadian Federal and Provincial Slaughter *	YTD 2018	YTD 2017	% Change
	3,460	4,046	-14.5%

\*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

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	January - March YTD		
Total Slaughter	13,587	14,388	14,371	14,186	11,568	10,886	2018	2017	% Change
Total Live Exports	14,007	16,769	19,033	26,162	18,364	17,600	2,622	3,494	-25.0%
Total Production	27,594	31,157	33,404	40,348	29,932	28,486	4,379	4,692	-6.7%
							7,001	8,186	-14.5%

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

## US Federal Slaughter\*

for week ending:	07-Apr	14-Apr	21-Apr	28-Apr	Apr Total	January-April YTD		
	957	993	1,133	1,039	4,122	2018	2017	% Change
previous year	971	1,049	1,008	1,066	4,094	16,138	17,106	-5.7%

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

## Canada Live Bison Exports to US

	November-17	December-17	January-18	February-18	March-18	January-April YTD		
	2017	2017	2017	2017	2017	2018	2017	% Change
Slaughter Male	272	195	396	270	498	1,947	2,404	-19.0%
Slaughter Female	478	273	416	464	514	1,872	1,380	35.7%
Feeder Male	641	637	504	276	411	1,331	1,668	-20.2%
Feeder Female	371	467	313	166	151	675	711	-5.1%
Total	1,762	1,572	1,629	1,176	1,574	5,825	6,163	-5.5%

\*source : USDA, APHIS

## Canadian Fresh or Chilled Bison Meat Exports

								January - March YTD		
Boneless		October	November	December	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018	2018	2017	% Change
USA	Kg	51,401	61,871	18,741	30,862	31,306	43,489	105,657	157,445	-32.9%
	Value (\$Cdn)	691,592	1,089,405	409,916	532,004	624,760	967,465	2,124,229	2,158,292	-1.6%
France	Kg	1,313	-	8,074	1,104	1,162	12,067	14,333	10,963	30.7%
	Value (\$Cdn)	40,550	-	206,248	49,244	59,425	405,426	514,095	233,194	120.5%
Switzerland	Kg	2,861	4,108	8,785	3,956	7,292	5,510	16,758	13,165	27.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	124,681	133,228	298,332	113,847	235,077	181,416	530,340	377,932	40.3%
Netherlands	Kg	1,295	3,013	3,074	446	51	202	699	4,062	-82.8%
	Value (\$Cdn)	56,153	47,917	53,550	18,543	2,493	10,278	31,314	83,773	-62.6%
Germany	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
French Southern Terr.	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Belgium	Kg	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N/A
Other Countries	Kg	-	-	20	728	4,666	12,715	18,109	-	N/A
	Value (\$Cdn)	-	-	44	5,905	42,356	119,526	167,787	-	N/A
Total	Kg	56,870	68,992	38,694	37,096	44,477	73,983	155,556	185,635	-16.2%
	Value (\$Cdn)	912,976	1,270,550	968,090	719,543	964,111	1,684,111	3,367,765	2,853,191	18.0%

## Bone-in

		October	November	December	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018	January - March YTD		
								2018	2017	% Change
Total	Kg	71,096	-	15,744	115,427	23,698	19,273	158,398	72,559	118.3%
	Value (\$Cdn)	213,119	-	70,809	396,924	211,018	187,730	795,672	691,083	15.1%

## Total Exports, Boneless and Bone-in

		October	November	December	January 2018	February 2018	March 2018	2018	2017	% Change
Kg		127,966	68,992	54,438	152,523	68,175	93,256	313,954	258,194	21.6%
	Value (\$Cdn)	1,126,095	1,270,550	1,038,899	1,116,467	1,175,129	1,871,841	4,163,437	3,544,274	17.5%

\*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 2017	488.74	473.03	411.61	397.55
May 2017	482.64	477.37	410.77	399.21
June 2017	483.34	472.84	410.26	401.69
July 2017	487.42	464.74	414.44	391.84
Aug 2017	483.10	468.29	411.54	402.45
Sept 2017	483.69	490.24	410.53	444.32
Oct 2017	487.27	466.26	402.50	438.24
Nov 2017	481.14	467.92	422.50	411.71
Dec 2017	481.16	471.95	419.47	413.30
Jan 2018	483.98	470.59	434.80	416.01
Feb 2018	486.73	471.49	417.41	400.43
Mar 2018	482.80	479.99	409.63	397.03
Apr 2018	492.86	471.57	398.08	414.52

\*source USDA

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

wghtd avg

	Bulls	Heifers	Mature Bulls	Mature Cows	
May 2017	625-650	600-630	525-550	525-550	
June 2017	625-650	600-630	525-550	525-550	
July 2017	625-650	600-630	525-550	525-550	
Aug 2017	625-640	600-640	500-550	500-550	
Sept 2017	600-625	575-625	500-550	500-550	
Oct 2017	600-625	575-625	500-550	500-550	
Nov 2017	600-625	575-625	500-550	500-550	
Dec 2017	550-600	550-600	450-525	450-525	
Jan 2018	550-600	550-600	450-525	450-525	
Feb 2018	550-600	550-600	450-525	450-525	
Mar 2018	550-600	550-600	450-500	450-500	
Apr 2018	575-600	575-600	460-500	460-500	
May 2018	580-600	580-600	460-490	460-490	

\*source CBA survey of marketers

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

	February 2018		March 2018		April 2018		% Change Current Month vs.	
	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	Range	Wt. Avg	2 months prior	1 month prior
Ribeye Lip-On Fresh	1,425-1,890	1,470.18	1,200-1,921	1,367.36	1336-1475	1347.64	-8.3%	-1.4%
Chuckroll/Clod Fresh	620-860	699.46	620-895	725.98	678-850	684.38	-2.2%	-5.7%
Striploin Fresh	1,150-1,750	1,299.04	1,150-1,750	1,262.60	1305-1330	1306.46	0.6%	3.5%
Tenderloin Fresh	1,800-2,790	2,151.36	1,700-2,597	2,010.10	1805-2056	2036.96	-5.3%	1.3%
Ground 90% Bulk, Fresh	600-750	643.00	600-800	753.61	646-646	646	0.5%	-14.3%
Ground 85% Bulk, Frozen	700-1,057	758.88	700-1,058	760.77	735-810	757.76	-0.1%	-0.4%
Ground 85% Patties, Frozen	650-890	766.96	499-979	765.37	766-830	776	1.2%	1.4%

\*source USDA

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

	Mid-February 2018 Pricing	Mid-March 2018 Pricing	Mid-April 2018 Pricing	Mid-May 2018 Pricing
Tenderloin - Fresh	\$58.00 - \$57.00	\$46.00 - \$57.00	\$46.00 - \$57.00	\$52.00 - \$57.00
Strip Loin Boneless - Fresh	\$35.00 - \$36.00	\$33.00 - \$36.00	\$33.00 - \$36.00	\$33.00 - \$36.00
Inside Round - Fresh	\$21.40 - \$23.50	\$21.25 - \$23.50	\$21.25 - \$23.50	\$21.25 - \$23.50
Ground 90% Bulk Fresh	\$20.95 - \$23.93	\$20.95 - \$23.93	\$20.95 - \$23.93	\$20.95 - \$23.93
Fresh Bison Trim	\$19.00 - \$21.00	\$19.00 - \$20.00	\$19.00 - \$20.00	\$16.50 - \$18.50

\*source CBA survey of marketers

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

Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (Mar 17, 2018)			Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (January 27, 2018)			Vold, Jones & Vold Auction Co. Ltd. (AB) (November 18, 2017)		
Head Sold: 479			Head Sold: 420			Head Sold: 174		
Calves	Bulls	Heifers	Calves	Bulls	Heifers	Calves	Bulls	Heifers
500 lbs +	\$4.00 - \$4.60	\$3.00 - \$3.65	500 lbs +	\$4.00 - \$4.35		500 lbs +		
400 - 499 lbs	\$4.00 - \$4.80	\$3.20 - \$3.80	400 - 499 lbs	\$4.90 - \$5.25	\$3.80 - \$4.20	400 - 499 lbs	\$550.00 - \$660.00	\$400.00 - \$500.00
300 - 399 lbs	\$4.40 - \$5.05	\$3.30 - \$4.05	300 - 399 lbs	\$4.90 - \$5.35	\$3.90 - \$4.55	300 - 399 lbs	\$500.00 - \$640.00	\$425.00 - \$545.00
Under 300 lbs	\$4.55 - \$4.70	\$3.95 - \$4.55	Under 300 lbs	\$4.30 - \$5.00	\$3.90 - \$4.50	Under 300 lbs	\$425.00 - \$625.00	\$400.00 - \$520.00
Yearlings	Bulls	Heifers	Yearlings	Bulls	Heifers	Yearlings	Bulls	Heifers
700 - 799 lbs	\$3.00 - \$3.40	\$3.00 - \$3.25	700 - 799 lbs	\$3.00 - \$3.45	\$3.00 - \$3.35	700 - 799 lbs	\$300.00 - \$430.00	\$300.00 - \$395.00
600 - 699 lbs	\$3.00 - \$3.20	\$3.00 - \$3.25	600 - 699 lbs	\$3.50 - \$3.90	\$3.00 - \$3.40	600 - 699 lbs	\$325.00 - \$475.00	\$300.00 - \$360.00
500 - 599 lbs	\$3.00 - \$3.50	\$3.00 - \$3.25	500 - 599 lbs		\$3.00 - \$3.45	500 - 599 lbs	\$325.00 - \$472.50	\$300.00 - \$370.00
400 - 499 lbs	\$3.15 - \$3.80	\$3.00 - \$3.50	400 - 499 lbs		\$3.00 - \$3.20	400 - 499 lbs	\$340.00 - \$480.00	\$300.00 - \$397.50
Under 400 lbs	\$3.25 - \$4.00	\$3.00 - \$3.80				Under 400 lbs	\$375.00 - \$495.00	
Other			Other			Mature Cows		
Mature Bulls (1250 lbs +)		\$1.75 - \$2.05	Mature Bulls 1250 lbs +	\$1.80 - \$2.00		950 lbs +		— - \$260.00
Mature Cows (950 lbs +)		— - \$2.05	950 - 1249 lbs	\$1.90 - \$2.25		700 - 949 lbs		— - \$250.00
			Mature Cows 950 lbs +	\$2.00 - \$2.17				
			700 - 949 lbs	\$1.75 - \$2.20				
			Younger Cows	\$2.00 - \$2.35		Younger Breds		— - \$2,900.00
			Younger Breds	\$3,850.00 - \$4,300.00				
			Older Bred	\$3,000.00 - \$3,500.00				

## 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](mailto:cba2@sasktel.net) or [diane.blandford@agr.gc.ca](mailto:diane.blandford@agr.gc.ca)

Prices offered to producers to mid-May were stable with prices as high as \$6.00 per pound HHW for Grade "A" bulls. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to \$6.00 Canadian with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives and export costs. Canadian buyers are paying up to \$6.00 per pound HHW for Grade "A" heifers. U.S. buyers are offering prices that equate to Canadian prices with returns dependent on quality, transport incentives and export costs.

Nationally, federal slaughter in Canada for the first 18 weeks of 2018 reached 3,349 head – down 9.7% from the 3,708 animals slaughtered for the same period in 2017. Live animal exports to the US for the first three months in 2018 totalled 4,971 head – down 25% from the 6,649 head exported for the same period in 2017.

Marketers report that with the increased trim inventories, trim prices have softened. It is expected that the summer season will deal with the inventories bringing demand and supply into balance. The demand for middle cuts has been steady with strong demand for tenderloins. US demand continues to be steady. With the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement with the European Union in effect since September 21, 2017, European demand appears to be increasing as the marketplace adjusts to the processes established to accommodate the removal of the 20% tariff. The marketplace continues to adjust to the new processes and conditions under the agreement. Strengthening of the Euro may also have a positive impact on demand.

Canadian demand is stable. The Canadian marketers indicate that present supplies of finished bison continue to be adequate.

Bison prices in Canada are expected to continue to be sensitive to Canada - US exchange rates with price changes expected as the Canadian dollar strengthens.

Chart 1

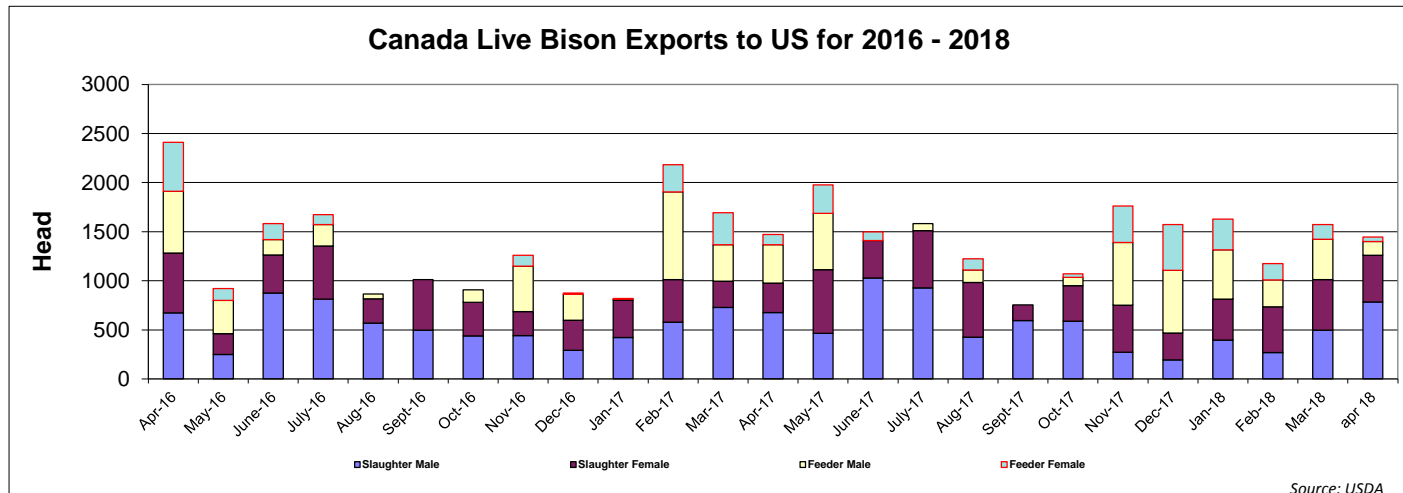
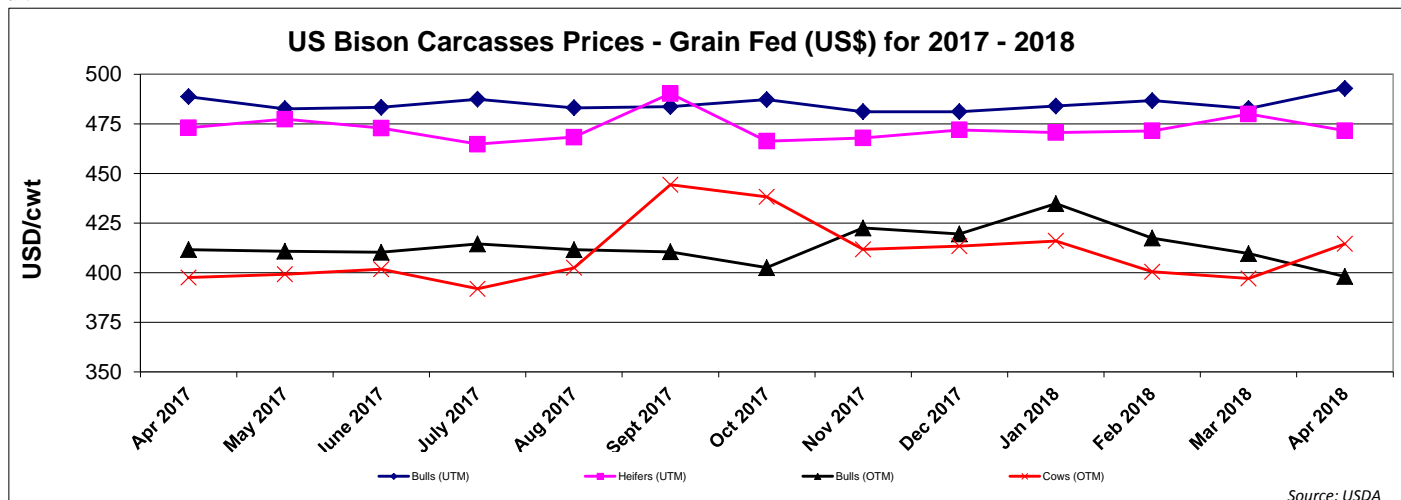


Chart 2



## The Canadian Bison Industry by the Numbers.....

On another note, the 2016 Canadian Census of Agriculture data was released on May 10, 2017. Nationally, the number of bison farms and ranches reporting bison was at 81% of the 2011 levels. The number of bison reported on farms and ranches in 2016 was reported to be at about 95% of 2011 levels. According to the data, the average bison herd increased to 122 head.

Excluding the Atlantic region, there were declines in the number of farms and ranches ranging from 13.9% to 24.4% with the smallest decline in Saskatchewan and the greatest decline in Quebec.

Again excluding the Atlantic Region, the only province to report an increase in the number of bison was Saskatchewan (+2.7%), while Quebec reported the largest decrease (-35.4%).

	FARMS REPORTING BISON				NUMBER OF BISON REPORTED			
	2016	2011	2006	% Chg '16 vs '11	2016	2011	2006	% Chg '16 vs '11
Nfld and Labrador	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	-
Prince Edward Island	0	0	1	-	0	0	*	-
Nova Scotia	2	2	1	0.0%	*	*	*	-
New Brunswick	1	2	3	-50.0%	*	*	*	-
Quebec	34	45	69	-24.4%	1,538	2,380	4,322	-35.4%
Ontario	49	60	71	-18.3%	1,843	2,320	4,106	-20.6%
Manitoba	86	108	166	-20.4%	14,025	14,116	19,609	-0.6%
Saskatchewan	303	352	597	-13.9%	40,418	39,343	57,395	2.7%
Alberta	445	571	869	-22.1%	54,907	57,483	97,366	-4.5%
British Columbia	55	71	121	-22.5%	6,504	9,206	12,656	-29.4%
<b>Canada Total</b>	<b>975</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>1,898</b>	<b>-19.5%</b>	<b>119,314</b>	<b>125,142</b>	<b>195,728</b>	<b>-4.7%</b>

\* Note: In Atlantic Provinces, the number of farms reporting is too small to publically disclosure the number of bison