



IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION

GENE IRELAND Progeny Testing; A farmers experience.

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NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Herd Background

- 200 Spring calving COWS
- EBI €67 (22 MS/44 fertility)
- Production; 424 MS/ Cow
- Common Costs; 11.14 c/lit
- Ave EBI bulls '07; €123 (55/68)



Past Targets

1. Simple System
2. Efficiency - Grass
3. Increase Milk Value
4. Increase Output sales



Results

- Low Empty rates; 8%
- Low Vet calls;
2/year
- Extra lactations; 1
extra



Present Breeding Goals – Post Quota

1. Simple System
2. Efficiency –
Grass
Production
3. Increase Milk
value
4. Increase
Output



Why am I involved in GENÉ IRELAND?

- Irish Bulls for Irish Cows



Experiences to date.

1. Bull selection
2. Delivery of semen
3. Information



Immediate Changes Required.

1. Clear Objective.
2. Bull mothers
3. Sires of Sires
4. Delivery of Product

Summary

- **GENE IRELAND**
will be a success.

A quote for the day.

- *"The greater danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it"*
- *Michelangelo*