



IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION

Beef Cattle Breeding Developments for 2008

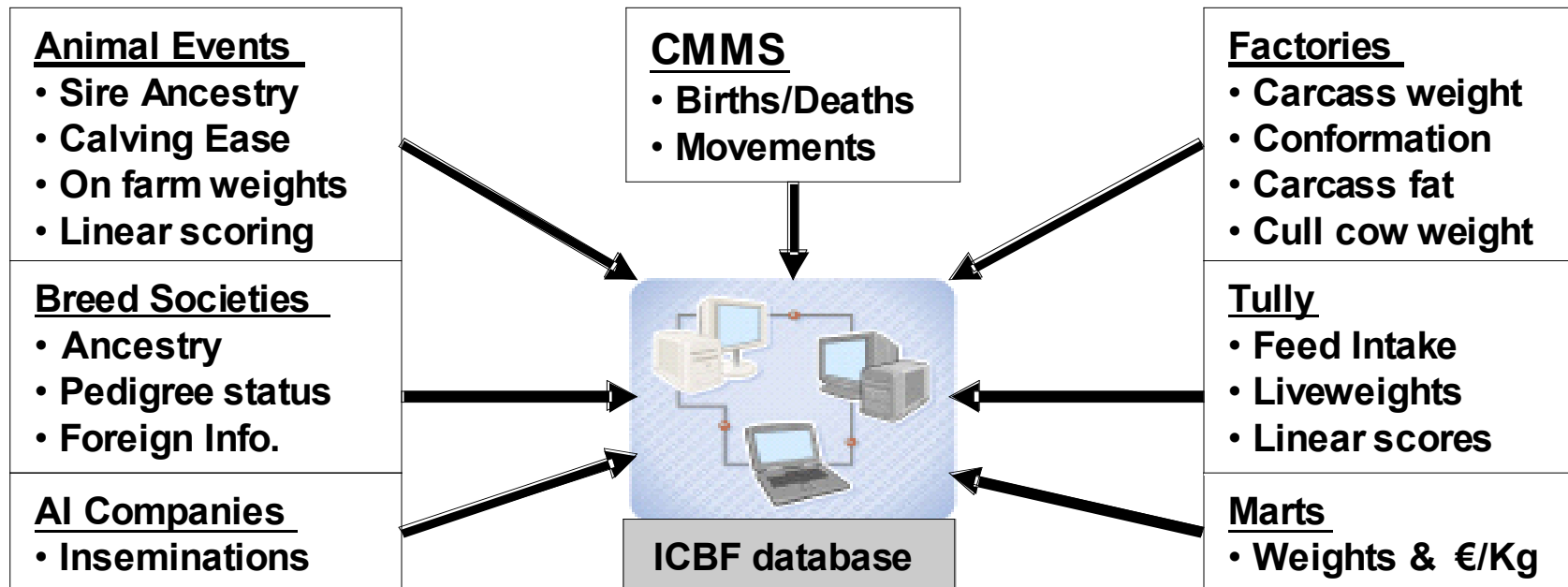
Brian Wickham, Ross Evans, Francis
Kearney, Andrew Cromie, Martin
Burke, Patrick Donnellan, Sean
Coughlan

Beef Breeding; Overview

Breed improvement is dependent on;

1. **Data** on animals to be selected.
 - ICBF Cattle Breeding database.
2. **Indexes** on which to identify the best animals.
 - New Euro-Star Indexes
3. **Breeding Program** that ensures the best are widely used throughout the industry.
 - GEN€ IRELAND Breeding program
4. **Well informed farmers**
 - Herdplus, On-Line Herdbook

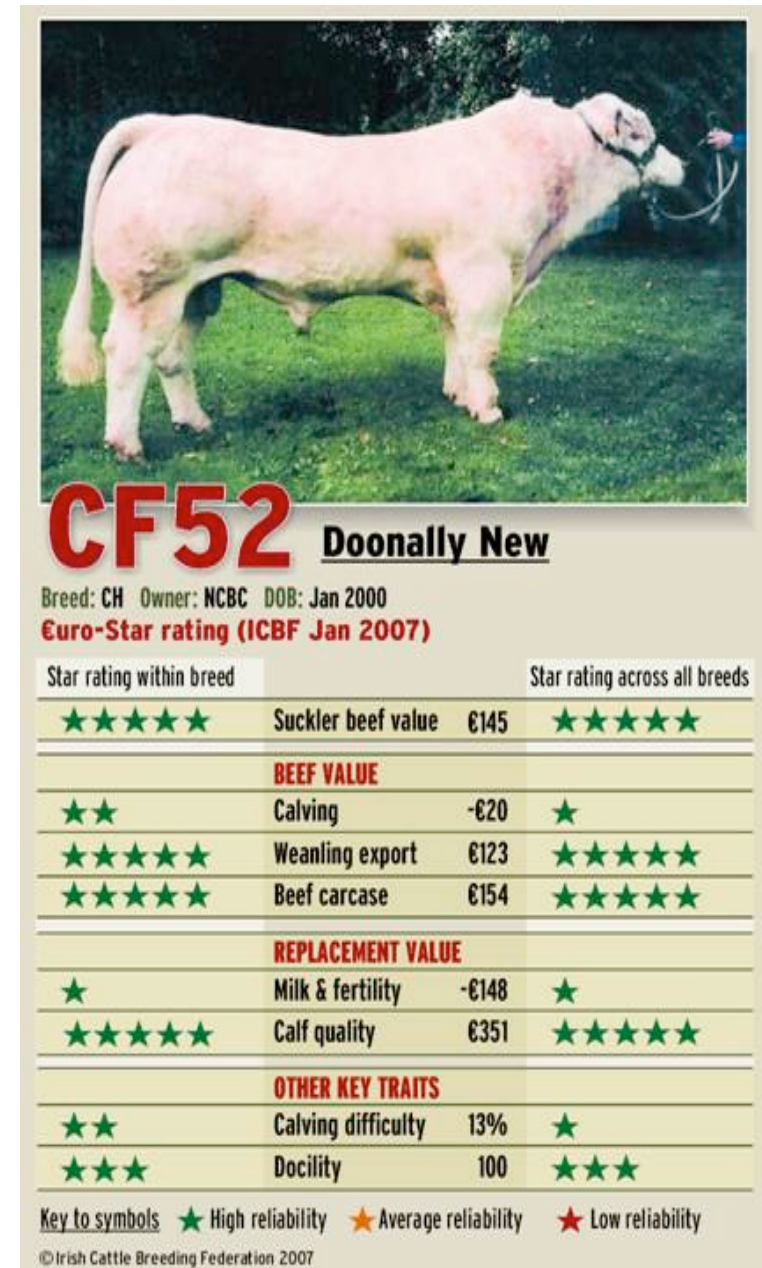
1. Data for breeding decisions



- Irish beef cattle breeding data;
 - All breeds, all traits, low cost & high efficiency
 - Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme will improve quantity of data (~800k) but won't address data recording problems in pedigree herds.
 - Only 10% of pedigree weaning data is useable (weights)!

2. Beef Euro-star indexes.

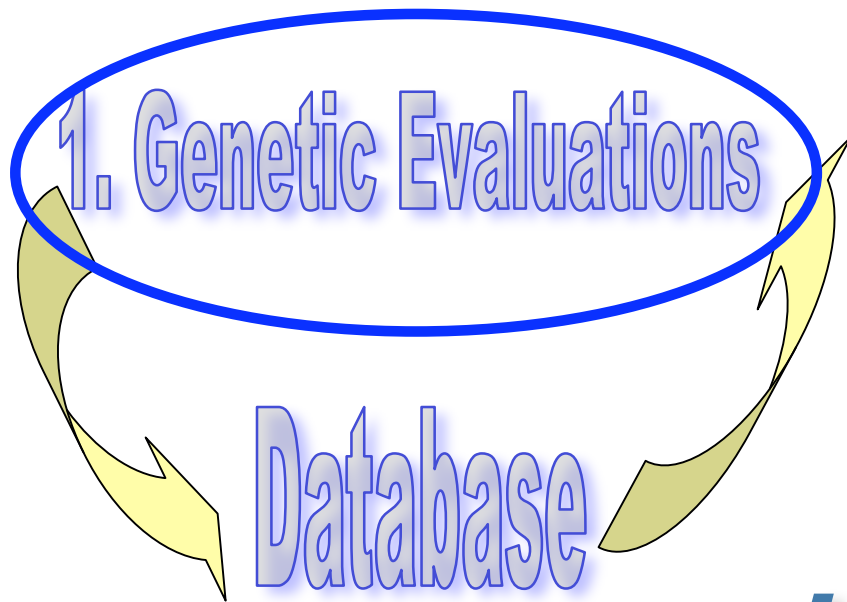
- Launched in 2007
- Profit (€) from;
 - Calving, Weanlings, Slaughter, Replacements, & Overall
- Star ratings
 - 5 stars (* * * * *) is best.
 - CF52 = €145 more profit per calf compared to €0 bull
 - **30 calves = €4350 more profit/year.**
- Indexes are working at farm-level



3. GEN€ IR€LAND Beef

- GEN€ IR€LAND beef program launched in Spring 2007.
 - ~ 300 commercial suckler herds involved.
- Program is expanding (breeds & herds)
- Aim to progeny test 35 bulls in 2008.
- GEN€ IR€LAND: The future of the beef industry.

Beef Genetic Improvement (€)



2. GENE IRELAND

3. HerdPlus

4. GROW

5. On-line Herd Book

6. Suckler Scheme

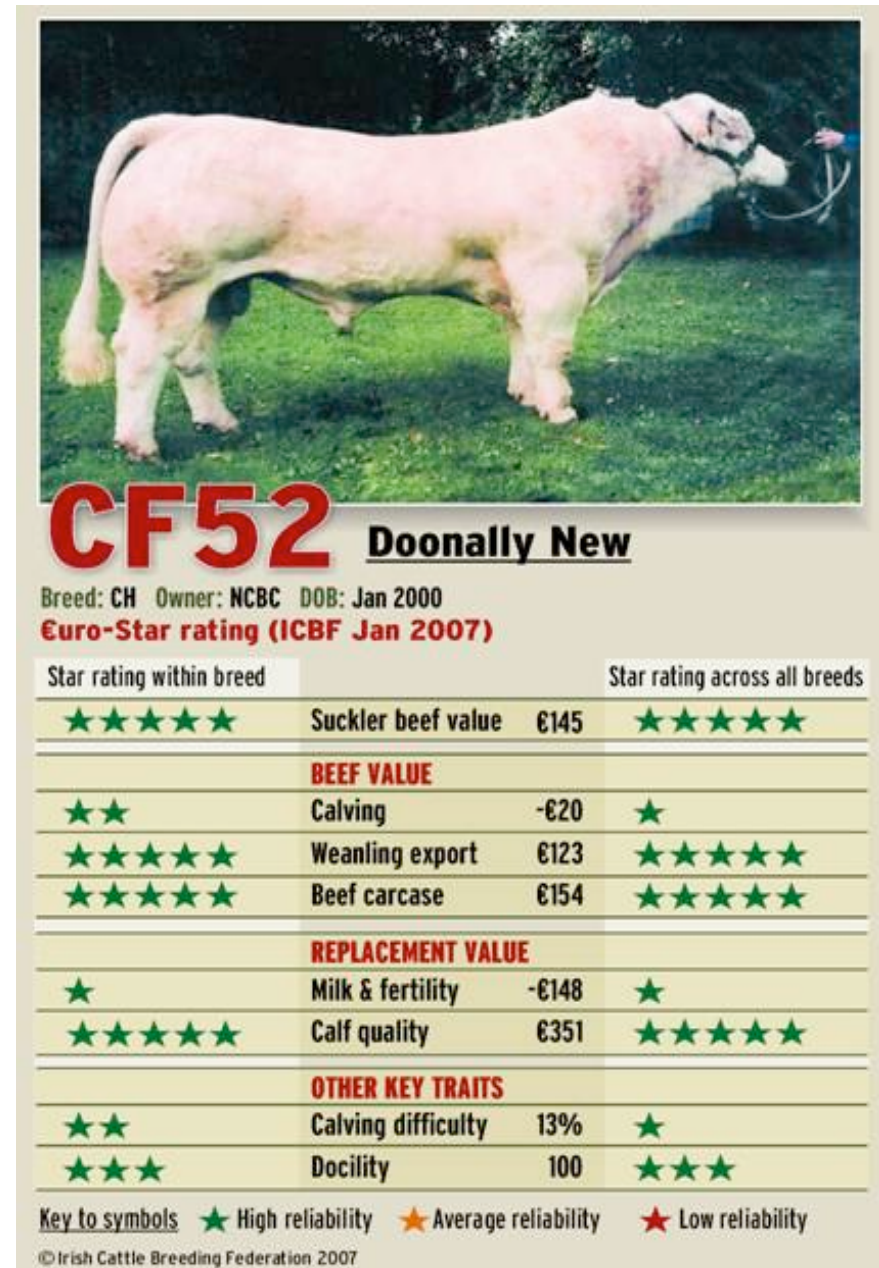
Beef Genetic Improvement

Genetic Evaluations - Overview

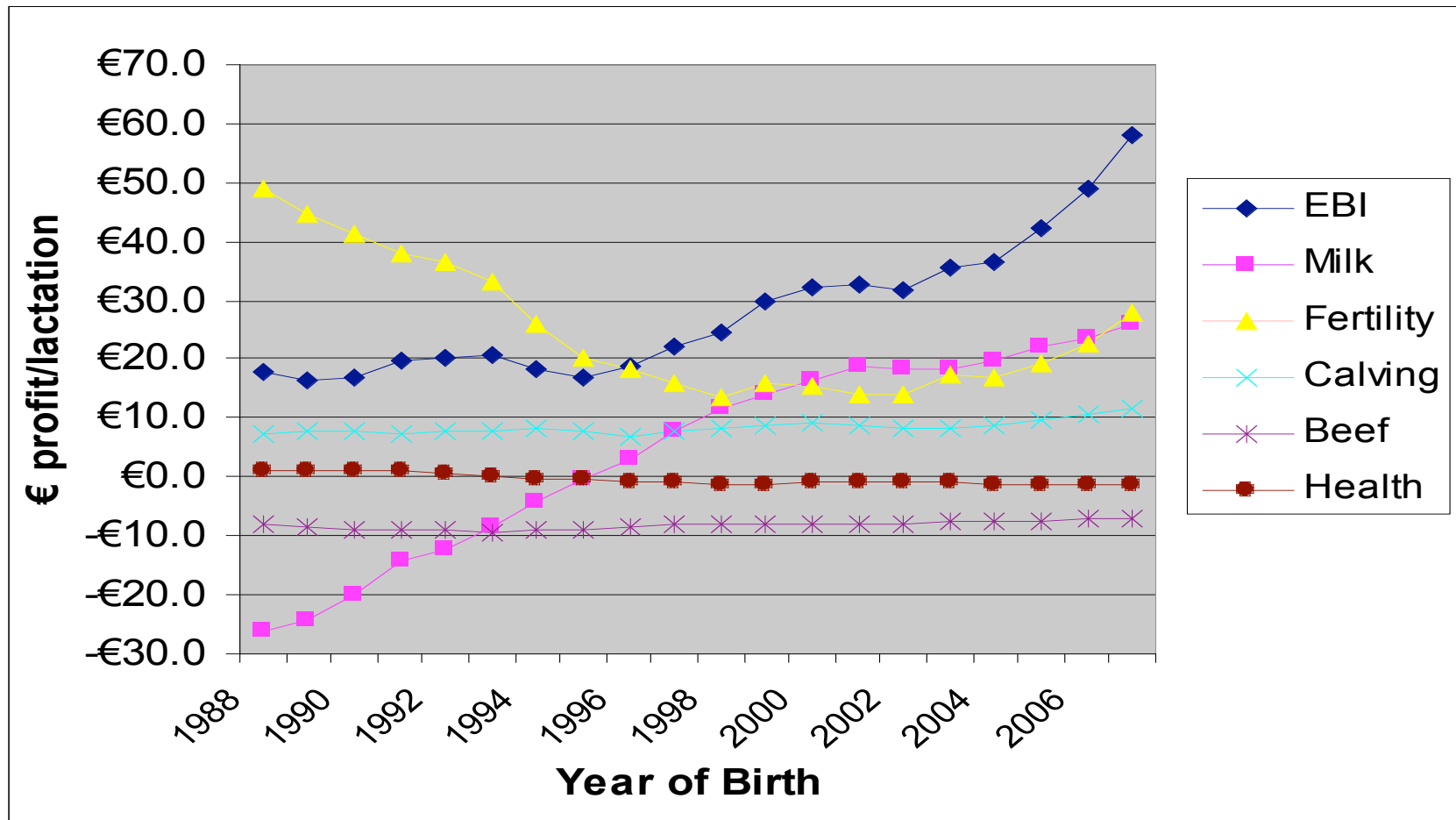
- Where are we now?
- Some Improvements for 2008.
 - Use of foreign data
 - Maternal weaning weight
 - Calving performance
 - Linear type
 - ET cows & calves
 - Milk & fertility
 - Schedule for beef proofs.

Where are we now?

- Launched in 2007
- Profit (€) from;
 - Calving, Weanlings, Slaughter, Replacements, & Overall
- Indexes are working at farm-level.
- Uptake is slow...



Trends in Dairy EBI



- EBI uptake was also slow in dairy industry.
- Now; huge increase in EBI...ask dairy farmers.

Bull Details				Progeny Test (EPD)					Tully	On-Farm BLUP			Calving Survey		Sen
Code	BULL NAME	AI station	Breed	Rel	Growth Kgs	Conf Score	Fat Score	% Kill Out	FCE	Rel	Muscle	Skeleta	% CD	GL Days	Price
BJP	BOHEY JASPER	PG/NW	AA	0.57	9.2	0.74	0.48	1.96	.	.	.	.	3.5	279	€ 8
DVE	DRUMDEEVIN DANCER	PG/NW	AA	0.66	8.5	0.68	0.39	0.94	.	.	.	.	1.7	280	€ 8
KJE	KBJ JETTA 64 D	PG/NW	AA	0.58	19.2	0.69	0.36	1.50	.	.	.	.	6.3	281	€ 8
LHL	LAHEENS LARRY	DOVEA AI	AA	0.67	1.0	0.50	0.34	0.89	.	.	.	.	1.3	281	€ 8
LJP	LAVALLY JACKPOT	PG/NW	AA	0.50	13.1	0.62	0.50	1.36	92	.	.	.	2.6	279	€ 6
MTL	MINIT OF LISS	PG/NW	AA	0.50	7.9	0.79	0.55	1.46	134	.	.	.	1.0	279	€ 8
PBO	PROUD BOY OF DUNLEVER	PG/NW	AA	0.59	-0.3	0.57	0.29	1.72	.	.	.	.	1.6	280	€ 8
RHG	RAINBOW HILLS GOVERNOR 128X	PG/NW	AA	0.55	12.6	0.61	0.36	1.69	.	.	.	.	8.8	281	€ 10
RHD	RAINBOW HILLS INDEPENDENCE 117	PG/NW	AA	0.65	14.7	0.89	0.46	2.33	.	.	.	.	3.3	281	€ 10
RUH	ROOSE ULAH														€ 8
AVT	AVIATEUR DU														€ 8
JOK	JOKER DU PO														€ 8
BIG	BUTINEUR DU														€ 8
NEZ	NOTEZ LE ET														€ 8
FPS	FRIPON DE SC														€ 8
GUY	GENERAL DU														€ 10
NRO	NERO														€ 8
TIY	TINTIN DE MY														€ 10
VDC	VICTORIEUX D														€ 12
BSK	BARRACKS DU														€ 8
CF44	DOONALLY CF														€ 8
CF43	DOONALLY DC														€ 8
CF49	DOONALLY FA														€ 8
CF46	DOONALLY FA														€ 8
CF47	DOONALLY FE														€ 8
CF48	DOONALLY FL														€ 8
CF41	ENFIELD CLOV														€ 8
HKI	HARA KIRI														€ 12
HWN	HOLLOWTREE														€ 8
KFC	KNOCKANE FL														€ 8
MDO	MOGADOR														€ 8
BWT	BAWNGARRIF														€ 8
CJO	CLASHAGAD J														€ 8
CKT	CLONAKENNY														€ 8
CFB	CLOONFREE E														€ 8
GDS	GOLDENFIELD														€ 8
RCE	RATHCOR EXI														€ 8
SBD	SHINAGH BAN														€ 7
BHH	BARNHILL HAN														€ 8
BHO	BREEMOUNT I														€ 8
BHY	BARNHILL HAF														€ 8
FL17	BOLIDE														€ 7
CIO	CORBALLY IDC														€ 8
DGA	DERG ALAN	PG/NW	LM	0.69	20.1	1.08	-0.07	3.57	.	0.86	97	85	3.1	287	€ 8
DAD	DUHALLOW AIDEN	MUNSTER AI	LM	0.63	28.2	1.07	-0.24	3.58	129	0.68	121	97	4.0	285	€ 7
DWB	DUHALLOW BRENDAN	MUNSTER AI	LM	0.68	30.5	0.94	-0.19	2.59	129	0.68	104	80	4.3	285	€ 7
KHH	KNOCKNAGREE HAWTHORN	MUNSTER AI	LM	0.58	11.8	0.85	-0.06	3.10	106	0.88	108	101	3.5	285	€ 7
PYR	POULNASHERRY CRUSADER	MUNSTER AI	LM	0.60	32.6	1.16	0.03	3.64	119	0.90	108	95	0.6	286	€ 7
BKY	BALLAGAN KELLY	MUNSTER AI	ST	0.61	36.3	0.79	0.21	1.76	107	0.75	83	78	5.0	284	€ 7
DFI	DOLFI (ET)	DOVEA AI	ST	0.64	23.5	0.61	0.08	1.07	.	.	.	.	1.1	284	€ 10
DBO	DRUMNEIL BOLERO	PG/NW	ST	0.66	21.7	0.66	-0.05	1.60	.	0.62	75	109	3.4	283	€ 8
FBX	FREIGHDUFF BRENDAN	PG/NW	ST	0.50	29.5	0.83	0.11	1.53	126	0.91	125	86	4.0	284	€ 12

ICBF Active Beef Bull List 2004 –

- Proofs from;
 - Central progeny test (commercial data)
 - Tully central performance test (pedigree data)
 - On-farm BLUP (pedigree data)
 - AI Calving survey (commercial data)
- Systems not connected & not comparable.
- No €-value?
- Which bull is best?

ICBF Active Beef Bull List 2007

Bull Details			Suckler Beef Value (€-star)			Beef Value (€-star)				Replacement Value (€-star)			
Code	Name	Brd			Star	Calving		Beef Carcass		Milk & Fertility		Calf Quality	
			€-val	rel	across breed	€-val	across breed	€-val	across breed	€-val	across breed	€-val	across breed
LWF	LAWSON'S FORD BAGATELL	AA	€96	78	****	€12	*****	€31	**	€155	*****	€126	***
LRH	LAHEENS RICHARD	AA	-€7	74	*	€4	*****	-€32	*	€112	*****	-€82	*
EDJ	DU JARDIN ESPOIR DU JARDIN	BB	€146	81	*****	€3	*****	€112	*****	-€57	*	€296	*****
AED	D'OZO ADMIRE ET	BB	€73	79	***	-€23	*	€84	****	-€18	**	€124	***
MIR	MEILLARD RJ	CH	€196	77	*****	-€15	*	€168	*****	-€51	*	€417	*****
CF51	DOONALLY NICEFOR	CH	€80	82	****	-€27	*	€104	*****	-€86	*	€180	****
RSL	RH STAR BURST LAD 7G	HE	€62	71	***	-€9	**	€26	**	€151	*****	€46	**
CRP	CARHUEFREE PRINCE	HE	€9	77	*	-€1	****	-€14	*	€125	*****	-€50	*
MUC	MAS DU CLO	LM	€153	76	*****	-€13	*	€112	*****	€82	*****	€247	*****
ORS	OURSON	LM	€64	74	***	-€15	*	€71	****	-€33	**	€125	***
HKG	HILLCREST KING	SI	€178	84	*****	-€7	***	€110	*****	€181	*****	€281	*****
FBX	FREIGHDUFF BRENDAN	SI	€30	83	**	-€22	*	€48	***	-€20	**	€64	**

- €100 difference within breeds.
- 5 stars or 1 star = difference of €2,000 profit per year

Do the figures stack up?

Code	Name	Index	Rel	PD Cwt	Carc recs	Lin recs	% Lim dams	Progeny Cwt kg	Herd mates Cwt kg
------	------	-------	-----	--------	-----------	----------	------------	----------------	-------------------

High Index Bulls

ROX	ROCKY	€131	96	34.5	135	292	17	359	337
MUC	MAS DU CLO	€107	86	28.4	13	576	87	371	297
F137	ELITE POPSI ET	€126	76	33.4	11	33	18	359	316
NVI	NAVARIN	€92	84	27	14	264	17	359	355
MOZ	MOERO	€123	82	41.9	12	291	83	371	297
		€116	85	33.0				364	320

Low Index Bulls

RUA	RUTABAGA	€59	77	10.9	11	33	43	347	366
NES	NESTOR	€55	80	12.2	14	78	38	308	312
F124	LOUSTIC	€54	76	11.1	14	70	94	338	428
PTS	POSTER	€35	92	8.4	72	143	22	332	336
LUR	LURON	€31	96	9.3	316	59	8	350	350
		€47	84	10.4				335	358

CF52 or HKI - Fertility?

AI Code		CF52	HKI
Calving interval	PD	7.9	-1.59
	no of daughters	340	224
	dau average	418	397
	hys mate average	408	408

AI Code		CF52	HKI
Survival %	PD	-1.43	-0.68
	no of daughters	583	316
	dau average	75	84
	hys mate average	74	81

CF52 or HKI - Milk?

AI Code		CF52	HKI
maternal weaning weight (kgs)	PD	-8.5	3.72
	no of daughters	83	162
	dau average	319	321
	hys mate average	321	317

- If your looking for milk & fertility; HKI is a better bull than CF52.
- *Indexes reflect reality.*

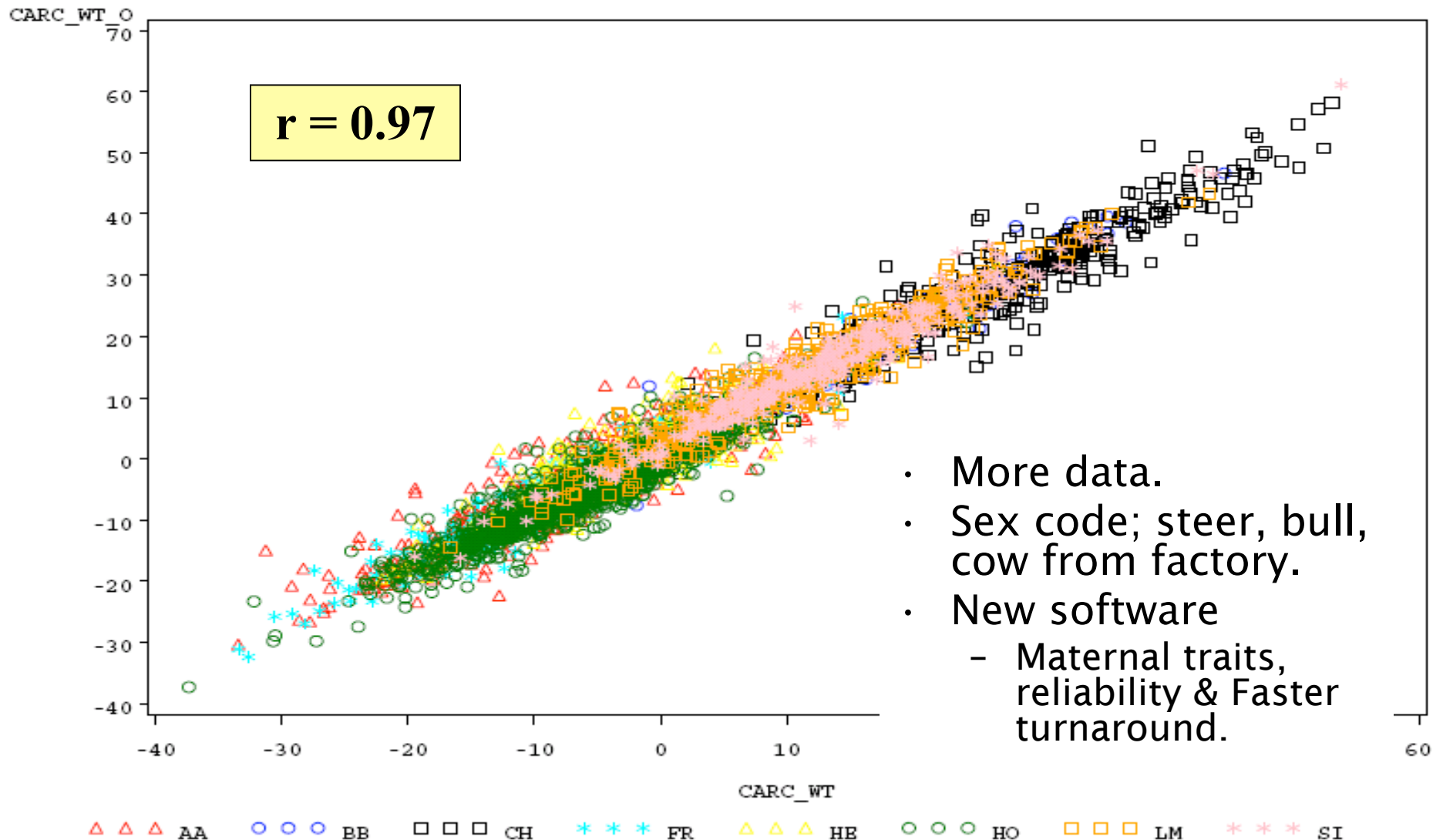
Genetic Evaluations - 2008

Trait	Aug-07	Feb-08	extra
carcass weight	380,065	425,917	45,852
carcass conformation	379,759	425,613	45,854
carcass fat	379,501	425,353	45,852
cull cow weight	82,861	97,489	14,628
weaning weight	62,875	71,389	8,514
liveweight	76,500	83,086	6,586
mart calf quality	14,887	19,952	5,065
linear score	84,839	91,505	6,666

- 180k more records across 8 traits.

Aug07 vs Feb08 (+new carcass sex classification)

Large Breeds carc weight — MIX99 vs PEST > 70% reliability



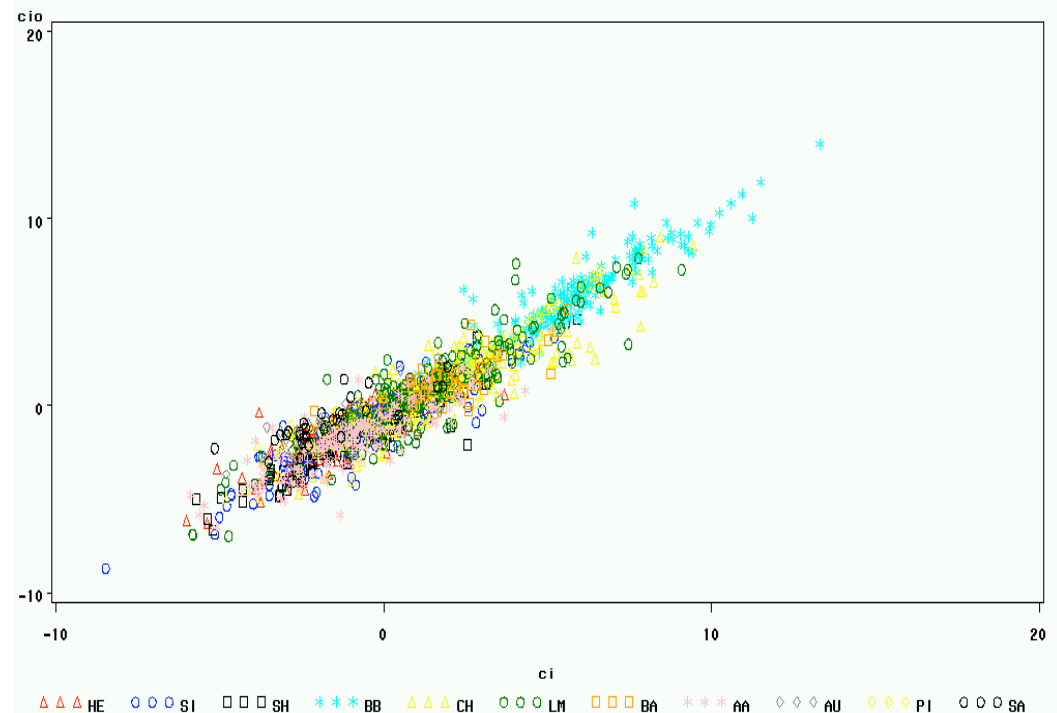
Maternal Traits

type	count Aug07	count Feb 08	extra
age at 1st calving	168,112	210,841	42,729
calving interval	111,649	118,183	6,534
lifespan	166,713	210,841	44,128
survival	158,561	175,004	16,443

- Similar improvements for maternal traits.

correlations		Aug07 proofs			
		afc	civ	suv	lsp
Feb 08 proofs	afc	0.90			
	civ		0.95		
	suv			0.93	
	lsp				0.92

CI aug07 vs CI Feb08 reliability > 50%



Available information on web

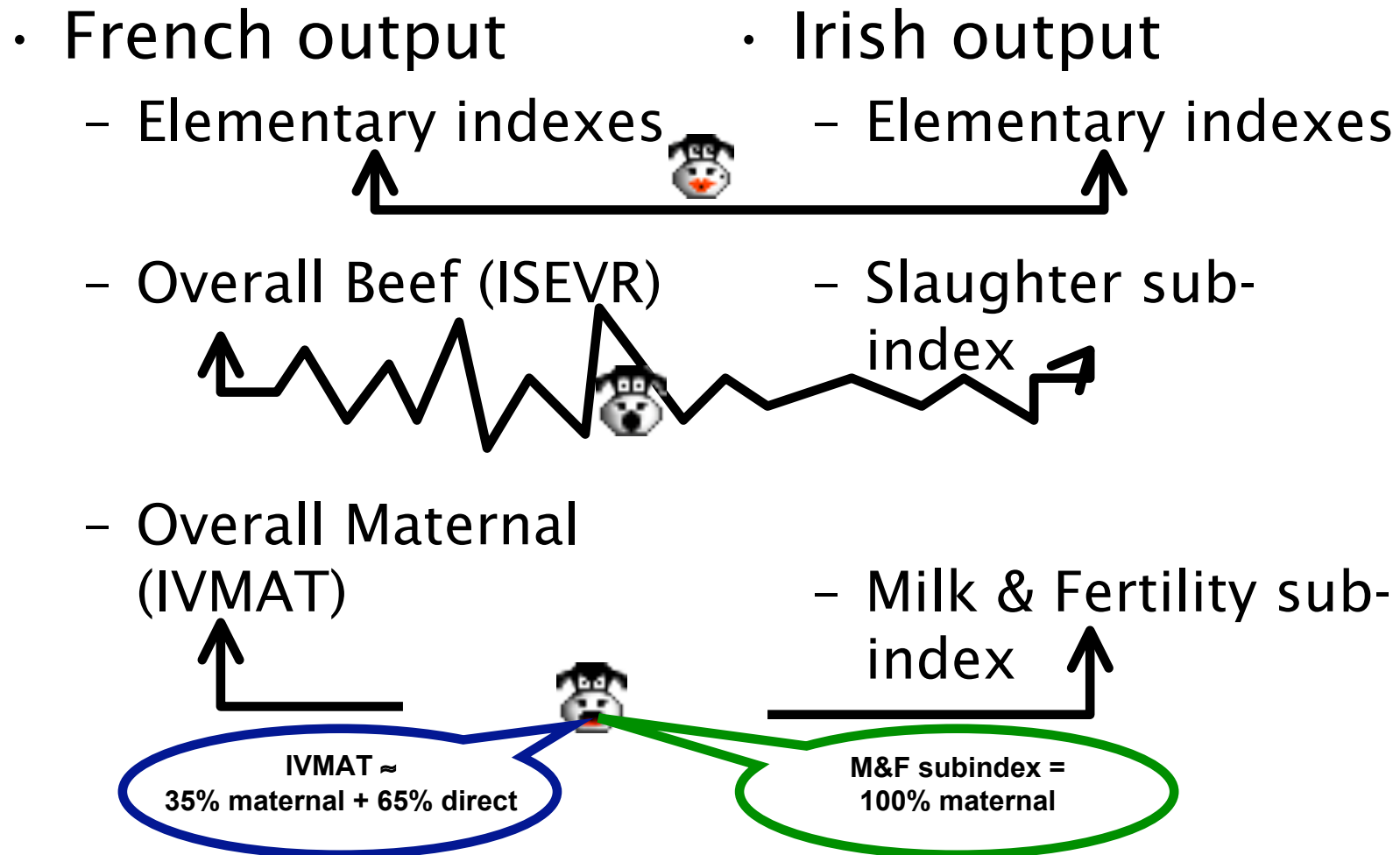
Excel files on the website

- Indexes & Stars for AI bulls >30% reliability
- Breed percentiles for indexes & traits
- AI bulls extra info calving traits
 - *Calving difficulty by parity*
- AI bulls extra info beef traits
 - *Carcass type information*
 - *Hys mate info on all traits e.g. mart pperkg*
- AI bulls extra info maternal traits
- Sire progeny records for all bulls (AI and Stock bulls)
 - *25,912 sires which have at least 1 record over 15 traits*

Genetic Evaluations - Summary

- Good progress.
- Indexes reflect reality.
- Work in progress.
 - Areas that we are currently looking at.....

Direct Comparisons?



Methods applied

- Interbeef is 'Gold Standard' but too early
- Intermeditate solution required
 - Conversion equations: CHL & LMS
 - Requirements per converted traits:
 - About 40 connecting bulls with minimum 40% reliability in Ireland
 - Ranking method: BAQ, SIM, AUB, SAL, & PAR
 - Use animals rank in country of origin to determine rank in Ireland – Only really useful for 'within breed' stars

The Proofs Converted

	CHL	LMS	BAQ	SIM	AUB	SAL	PAR
Dir. Calving	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mat. Calving	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dir. Wea. Weight	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mat. Wea. Weight	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Muscle	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Skeletal	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Carc. Weight	✓	✓		✓			
Carc. Conf.	✓	✓					
Calf Quality	✓	✓					
Gestation Length				✓			

Future

- Foreign information is currently used in a post evaluation step to reflect foreign information available for individual animals
- Looking at ways of directly incorporating foreign genetic information into the evaluation
- Not a trivial task!
- Assume a correlation between foreign data and Irish data
- Allow superiority of foreign animals (with good indexes in own country!) to be passed onto offspring in Ireland

Calving Performance.

- Spring 2008
 - Moved to new software
 - Animal Model
 - All lactations included
- Future work
 - Re-estimating genetic parameters
 - Heifers vs later parities
 - Inclusion of country of origin information for foreign animals

ET Calves

- Issues – where does it impact
 - Calving – calving ease score is on the recipient not own dam
 - Weaning weight – dam does not contribute milk to ET calf
 - Calving Interval – if dam is flushed she will have extended calving interval

ET Calves

- In current evaluations ET calves are treated the same as non-ET
 - Amount of data on ET calves is very small (<1%)
 - Can impact on individual proofs – especially cows with a lot of ET progeny
- Future thinking –
 - Remove information coming from ET calves from some evaluations (as per French evaluations)
 - Set calving interval to missing for cows that are flushed
 - Crucial that flushing event is flagged in IRIS by breed society, breeder etc...

ET Calves

- Implications
 - Cows with a lot of ET progeny will not change her index (or reliability) as the information on ET calves will be excluded
 - Information on weighing and scoring of ET calves will not contribute to its index

Beef Linear Scoring

- Current
 - 4 within breed evaluations
 - All animals included regardless of number of animals scored
 - Fixed herd year season classes (6 months)
 - No converted proofs

Beef Linear Scoring

- Proposal
 - Across breed evaluations
 - Minimum of 5 animals need to be scored to form a valid contemporary group
 - Each herd visit forms contemporary group
 - Inclusion of country of origin information in evaluation process for foreign animals

Maternal Weaning Weight (Milk)

- One of our biggest problems
- Note: We can evaluate maternal calving, why not weight?
- We are not collecting weaning weight data at farm level.
- Our breeders are focused on selling bulls (BLUP Muscle).
- Herdbooks have a critical role to play.

Separate Milk & Fertility – CF52

Trait	Group	Proof	Stars	EW	Total
SURV	Fertility	-1.43	*	€8.30	-€23.7
CI Days	Fertility	7.9	*	-€3.16	-€49.9
Age at 1st calv	Fertility	20.1	* *	-€0.69	-€27.7
Mat_weaning weight	Milk	-5.7	*	€3.30	-€37.6
Mat_Calving	?	-1.26	* * *	-€4.31	€10.9
Cull cow	?	54.9	* * * * *	€0.21	€23.1
					-€105.1

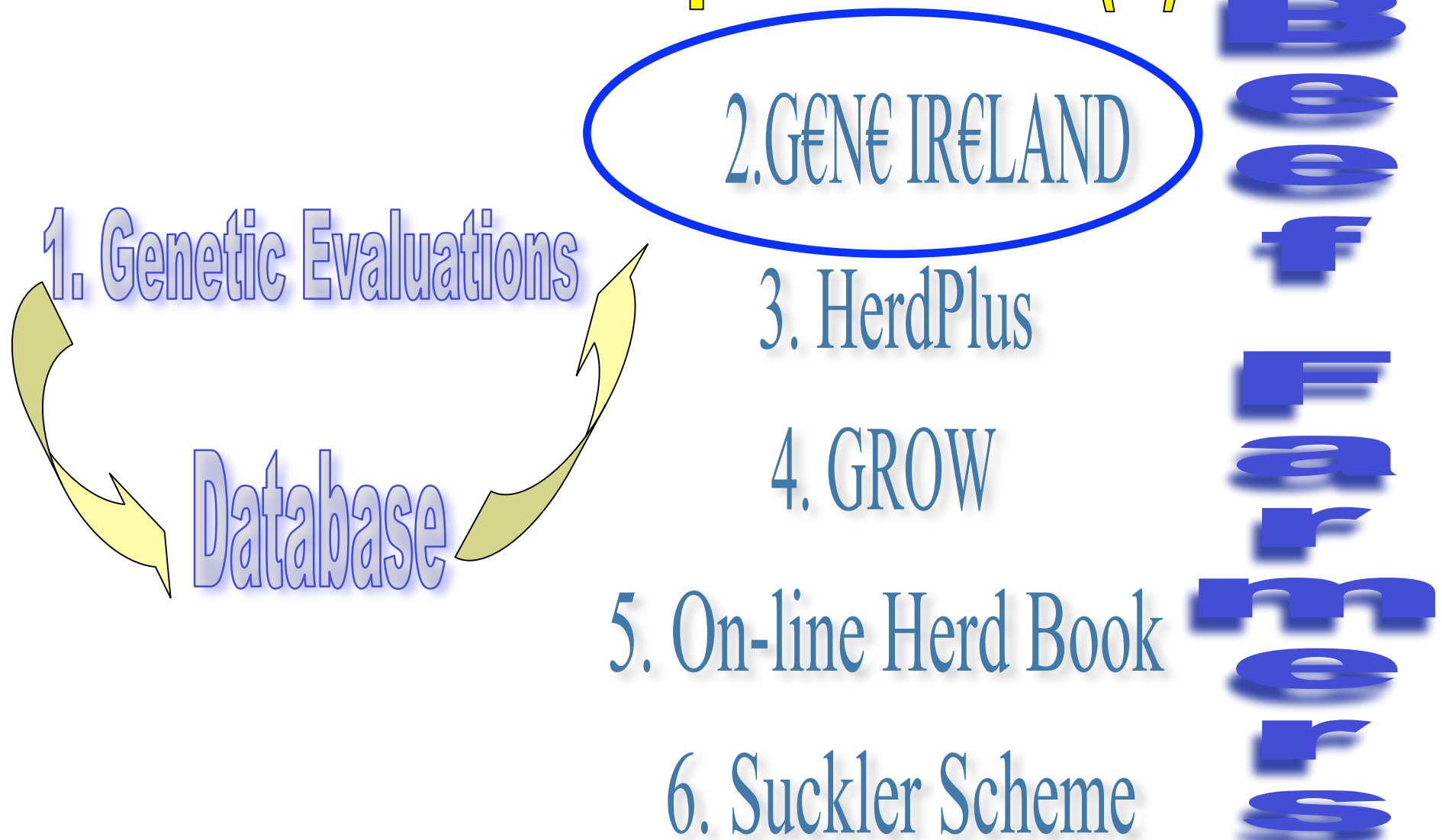
- Maternal traits to breeders/countries means milk!
- What about fertility traits?
- What about “other” maternal traits?

Schedule of Beef Proofs

	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Interbull Dairy Tully1 (July-Nov)		Eval			Eval				Eval			
Tully2 (Dec-May)					Eval						Eval	
Beef Herdbooks New changes (index & evaluations)		Eval							Eval			
Target release dates		15/2/09			15/5/08				15/9/08		15/11/08	

- 4 evaluations/year; mid Feb, May, Sept & Nov.

Beef Genetic Improvement (€)



G€N€ IRLAND Beef - Aim

- Aim of G€N€ IRLAND is to identify new top AI bulls each year for pedigree breeders.
 - A new bull each year.
- These bulls will then be used to breed stock bulls for commercial farmers.
- Key to beef breeding improvement.

3. GEN€ IR€LAND Beef - 2008

- GEN€ IR€LAND beef program launched in 07.
 - 2007; 150 Herds & 3,427 straws
 - 2008 (to-date); 158 Herds & 3,104 straws
 - Sufficient herds to test ~ 5 bulls.
 - Overall; 308 herds on program; ~ 21 straws/herd
- Program is expanding (breeds & herds)
- Aim to progeny test 35 bulls in 2008.
 - Spring 2008; 10 bulls.
 - Autumn 2008; 25 bulls.
- Main source of bulls for program is Tully.

Role of Tully

- High Health status; All bulls “eligible” for AI.
- 46 bulls currently on test.
- 33 bulls in Top 20% of relevant breed.
- ~20 bulls with good indexes, performance & pedigree.
- *Major step forward for breeds & industry.*

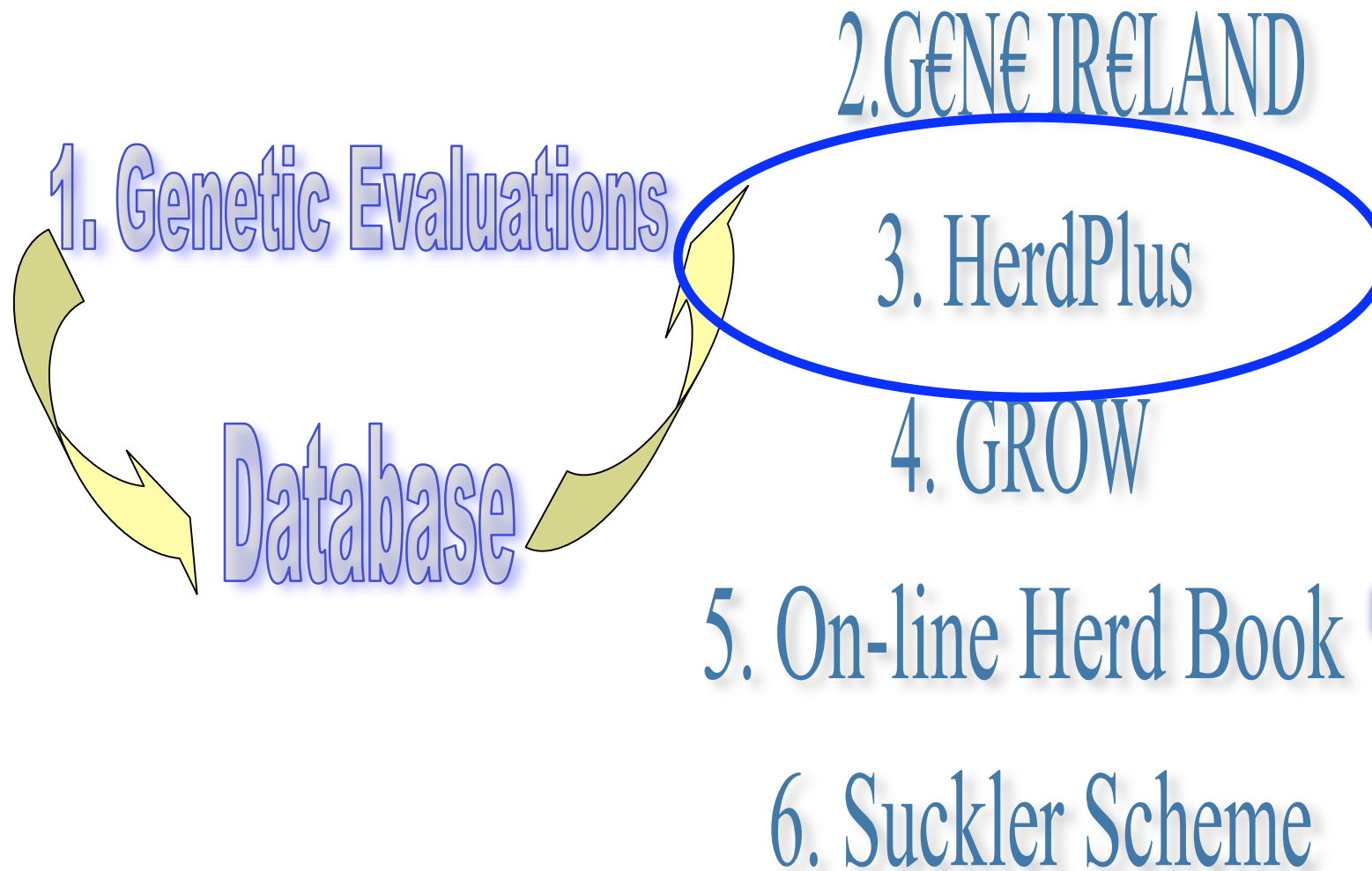
Role of Tully – Problems.

- Are the best bulls now in Tully?
- Are they by a range of AI sires (outcross pedigrees)?
- How do we reduce the cost/hassle of health testing.
- *We must move our focus back from the weanling calf to the cow herself.*

GENE IRELAND – 2008+

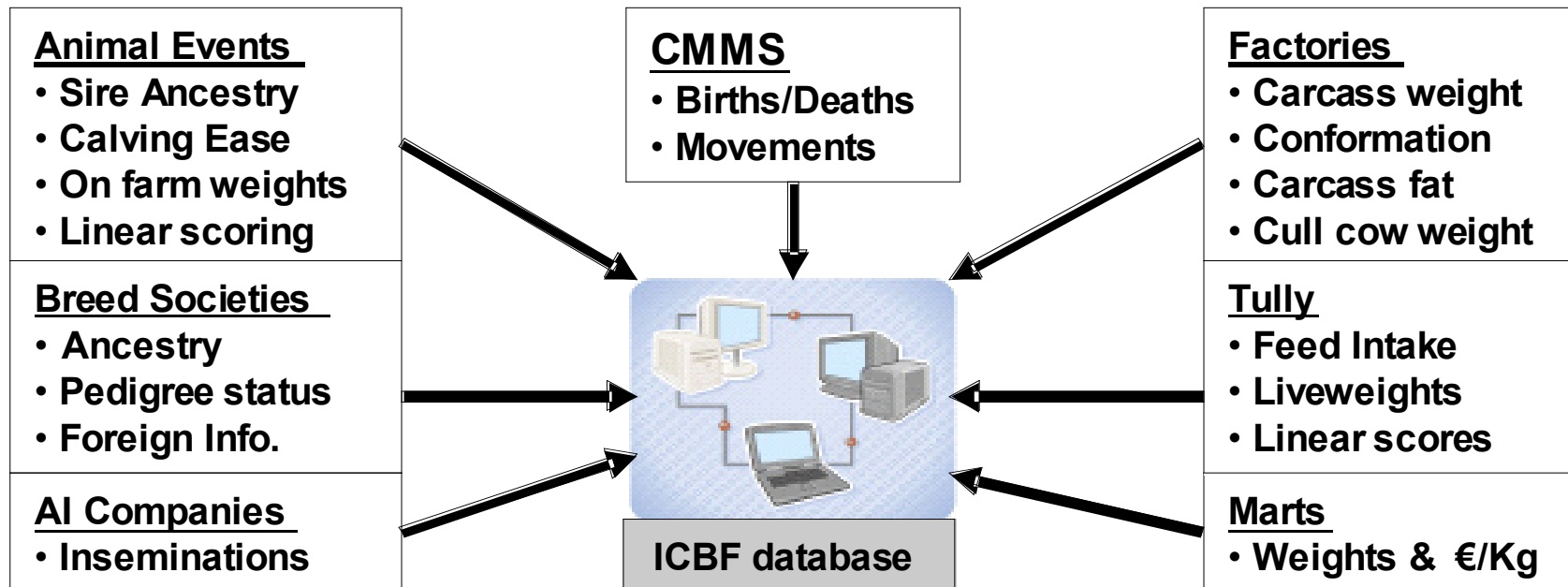
- Work with herdbooks to identify panel of “elite” females.
- Suggested matings (top AI bulls of interest as “sires of sons”) to breeders.
- High index male calves for performance & progeny test – 08/09.
- Work with breeders to address herd health problems.
- Best bulls “on test”; proven bulls in 2012.
- Future is in your hands....!

Beef Genetic Improvement (€)



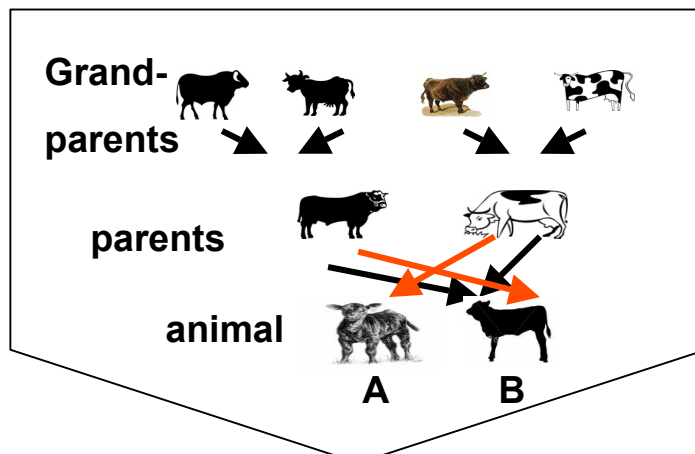
Beef Genetic Improvement (€)

1. Data for breeding decisions



- Irish beef cattle breeding data;
 - All breeds, all traits, low cost & high efficiency
 - Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme will improve quantity of data (~800k) but won't address data recording problems in pedigree herds.
 - Only 10% of pedigree weaning data is useable (weights)!

Genetic Evaluations



Ancestry

Performance

Animal (male)	A
calving score	3
weaning weight	230kg
carcass weight	300 kg
carcass grade	U

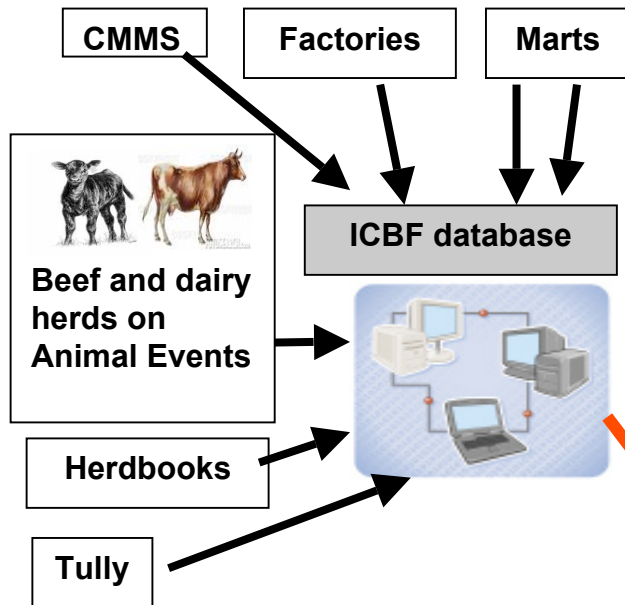
Animal (Female)	B
calving score	1
weaning weight	230kg
age at 1st calving	720 days
calving interval	390 days
survival	3 parities
cull cow weight	330 kg

Suckler Beef Value					
Beef Value			↓	Replacement Value	
Calving Traits	Weanling Export	Beef Carcass		Milk & Fert	Calf Quality
Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds
- € 4	€ 55	€ 81	€ 128	€113	€ 205
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★ ★ ★

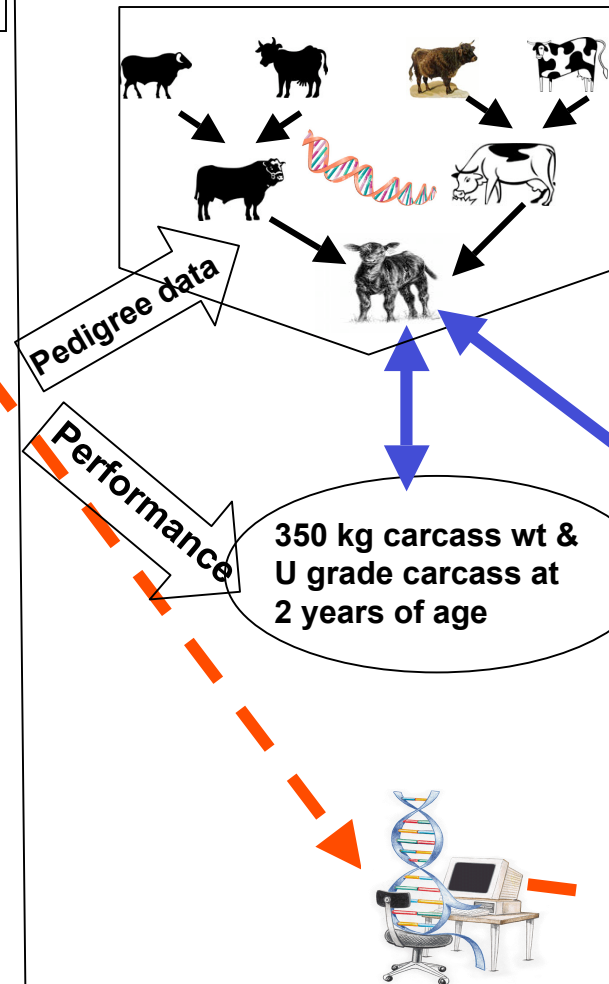
Use when selecting sires with the intention of producing animals for beef production

Use all indexes when selecting sires with the intention of keeping heifer calves as replacements

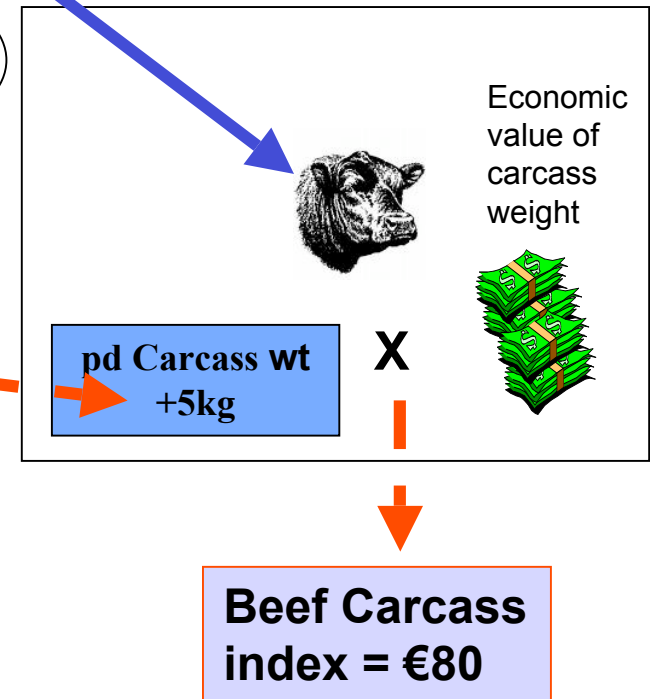
Collection of information



Genetic Evaluations



HerdPlus SBV, Reports etc





BEEF PRODUCT & SERVICES

**1.€URO-
STAR
REPORT**

**2. GROW
LINEAR &
WEIGHT
RECORDING**

**3.CALVING
REPORT**

**4.SLAUGHTER
REPORT**

9.POCKET NOTEBOOK

Annual Fee		Direct Debit Offer
Reports Online	€60 (VAT Incl.)	€20 (VAT Incl.)
Reports by Post	€120 (VAT Incl.)	€60 (VAT Incl.)



**8. DIRECT
HELPLINE TO
ICBF STAFF**

**7.ON-LINE
HERD
RECORING**

**5.SUCKLER
COW
REPORT**

**6. PRIORITY ACCESS
TO GEN€ IRELAND &
TULLY**

HerdPlus

Profit through Science

€uro-Star Report -

Every beef animal in the herd gets a suckler beef value (€ value) and a star rating (all females and males, both pedigree and commercial). Report issued 3 times per year after each genetic evaluation run.

Good Weanling Price?

Good grades in Factory?

Good Breeding Cow?



Suckler Beef Value					
Beef Value			↓	Replacement Value	
Calving Traits	Weanling Export	Beef Carcass		Milk & Fert	Calf Quality
Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds		Within Breed Across Breeds	Within Breed Across Breeds
- € 4	€ 55	€ 81		€113	€ 205
*****	***	*****	*****	*****	*****
****	***	*****	*****	*****	****

What does 5 Star bull mean ??

A 5 Star bull means he is the top 20% in the country – see table below.

* * * * * ICBF Euro-Star profit indexes * * * * *		
<u>Within breed</u> : compares this animal against all pedigree animals in breed born in the last 5 years.		<u>Across breed</u> : compares this animal against all pedigree animals in all beef breeds born in the last 5 years.
*****	5 stars = Excellent (Ranking 80 to 100%)	*****
****	4 stars = Above average (Ranking 60% to 79%)	****
***	3 stars = Average (Ranking 40% to 59%).	***
**	2 stars = Below Average = (Ranking 20% to 39%)	**
*	1 stars = Poor (Ranking < 20%)	*



Suckler Cow Report –

Performance history for each cow in the herd, showing all her calving and progeny data – important for breeding/culling decisions

Slaughter Report –

Tracks your slaughter performance - as we get the data from the factories and return a farmer a report with the carcass grades and weights from each kill sheet

Other Management Reports –

Suite of basic herd management reports like Calving, Fertility Performance

On-Line Access to Herd –

Each farmer gets a unique HerdPlus password which gives him access to all his animals, profiles, reports on the web. All recording of events can be done on line

www.icbf.com



BEEF PROGRESS

Sept 2007 - Euro-Star Reports sent to ;

1. All Pedigree breeders (copies sent to Herdbk secretaries)
2. Herds Linear Scored in last 2 yrs (Ped & Comm)
3. HerdPlus Launched at Ploughing

Oct 2007 - Suckler Beef Profiles available on web

Nov 2007 – On Line Events for input slaughter data, weight records etc

Mar 2008 - Euro-Star Reports SPRING '08

- Spring Suckler Cow Report released.

Beef Genetic Improvement (€)



Beef Genetic Improvement (€)



GROW

Genetic Recording Of Weanlings



2007 Statistics

Breed	Scored	Weighed	Scored in a group of 5	150-300 Days old	In WWT Evaluation	%
AA	187	58	157	50	27	14%
AU	217	99	192	40	28	13%
BA	103	42	93	58	35	34%
BB	131	13	66	34	4	3%
CH	3362	1400	2551	856	392	12%
CO	3772	3479	3719	2680	2563	68%
HE	301	99	260	60	33	11%
LM	4446	1426	3395	1062	430	10%
PI	63	-	44	19	-	-
PT	47	23	44	15	12	26%
SA	147	86	128	36	27	18%
SH	23	7	17	7	4	17%
SI	1259	790	1020	389	237	19%

 **15% of Pedigree cattle scored made it into Wean Wt Evaluation**

2. Problem with the Quality of the Score & Weight data being recorded



New Scoring & Weighing Rules

From 1st July 2008

▪ **All eligible animals must be Scored AND Weighed**

▪ **Eligible Animals:**

- 1. 150 – 300 days old**
- 2. Min group of 5 – can include different Ped Breeds**
- 3. Preferably by 2 different Sires**
- 4. Commercials with known Sires may be included**
- 5. Max of 3 visits/Breeder/Year**
- 6. Only sick/injured animals may be excluded at discretion of Scorer**

▪ **If above rules are not complied with:**

Scores & Weights will NOT be used in your BLUP's & €uro-Stars



Why are these Rules necessary?

- 1. Ensure you receive accurate BLUP & €uro-Star figures**
- 2. To comply with best practise in other Countries**
 - France, UK, Australia etc**

Bottom Line

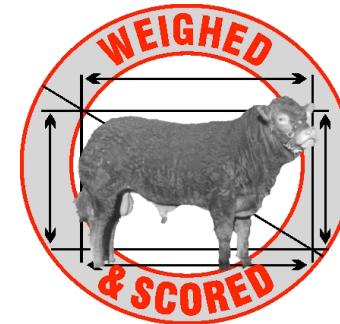
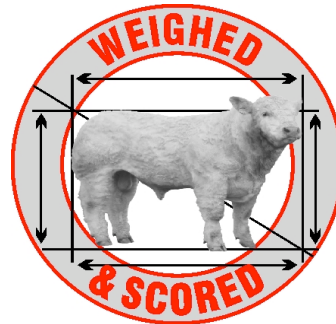
Too many cattle are being scored over 300 days old, in small group sizes, without being weighed.

This is leading to inaccurate BLUP & €uro-Star figures.



Why should you Linear Score & Weight Record?

-  Get more accurate Euro-Star & BLUP figures for your herd.
 -  Ensure your Top Bulls are identified for Tully & AI Centres.
 -  Ensure your females qualify for Breed Society female qualification schemes.
 -  Ensure your cattle have evaluations in the new On-Line Herdbook.
5. Get that edge at Society Sales – Performance Test Stamp
 6. Examples:





What will Scoring & Weighing affect?

€uro-Stars

Weanling Export		Beef Carcass		Reliability%	Milk & Fertility		Calf Value
Breed		Suckler Beef Value (Reliability %)			Replacement Value		
Group	No.	Calving Traits (Rel %)	Weanling Export (Rel %)	Beef Carcass (Rel %)	Within Across	Milk & Fert (Rel %)	Calf Value (Rel %)
		Within Breed Across Breed	Within Across	Within Across		Within Across	Within Across
New Bull	1	-€ 4	€ 55	€ 81	€ 128	€ 113	€ 205
		(32%)	(37%)	(35%)	(38%)	(25%)	(36%)
		*****	***	****	*****	*****	****
		***	*	****	*****	****	*****

BLUP's

- Muscle Skeletal Function Docility Reliability%

Progress to-date - 2008

 **Scorers trained, examined & passed test set by French Master Scorer.**

 **% of Pedigree cattle Scored & Weighed has improved.**

2007	January 2008	February 2008
35%	57%	67%

 **Weighing Scales plastic coated for ease of use.**

 **Rules document almost ready for Herdbooks to distribute.**

 **New Herd Scheduling system in place. Scorers have web screens that allow them:**

- **View up-to-date profile of herds.**
- **Alert Farmer about eligible cattle by text**
- **Correct invalid tag numbers on-line**
- **Add new Herds to Handheld**

Scorer Herd Scheduling Tool

ICBF - Web Application - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Reload Home Search Favorites RSS Feeds Print Mail Stop Watched Folders

My Web Search Search Address http://www.icbf.com/taurus/report/grow_herd_window_sub.php Go Links »

 **ICBF Web Application** GER O'BRIEN
Logged in at : 04-Mar-2008 11:07

TAURUS LOGOUT

Herd Profile

Participant	BTE	Name	Address	0-100	101-130	131-150	151-280	281-300	Total
IE2113552	J1950179	WILLIE JOHN KEHOE	CLIFDEN KILKENNY	9	3	7	12	0	31
IE2113555	J1950209	JOHN MEANEY	RATHCASH CLIFDEN	1	0	0	1	0	2
IE2113688	J1980779	OLIVER J BYRNE	BALLYQUIRKE GOWRAN	6	2	0	0	0	8
IE2113715	J1990219	EAMONN SHEEHAN	BAWNLUSK CUFFESGRANGE	22	11	11	7	1	52
IE2113923	J2030464	WILLIAM LAHART	CALLAN ROAD KILKENNY	0	0	0	0	0	0
IE2114498	J2040443	NOEL BRENNAN	GARRYDUFF GOWRAN	7	0	2	5	0	14
IE2114036	J2070016	SEAMUS NEARY	TROYWOOD CO KILKENNY	0	0	0	0	0	0
IE2114051	J2070253	JOHN DELEHANTY	KEATINGSTOWN KILKENNY	5	3	3	19	0	30
IE2114088	J2080402	ANDREW O'CARROLL	RATHCASH CLIFDEN	0	0	0	0	0	0
IE2114118	J2090050	JOHN BAMBRICK	BAURNAFEA CASTLEWARREN	6	3	2	3	0	14
IE2114135	J209027X	MAURICE TREACY	BALLYVALDEN CASTLEWARREN	7	3	0	1	0	11
IE2114176	J2100098	JEREMIAH & PAT DOHENY	UPPER TULLAROAN TULLAROAN KILKENNY	0	0	0	1	0	1
Herd Total				154					

To download and save as File, click [HERE](#) Back..

ICBF Commercial Suckler Herd Project – 2008.

To collect weights and scores to link breeds & AI bulls.

 **Herds that would be ideal GEN€ IR€LAND Herds.**

 **Willing to Score & Weigh their Weanlings.**

 **Preferably:**

- **In Discussion Groups.**
- **Using AI.**
- **At least 15-20 Suckler Cows.**
- **Good level of Sire Recording through Animal Events**

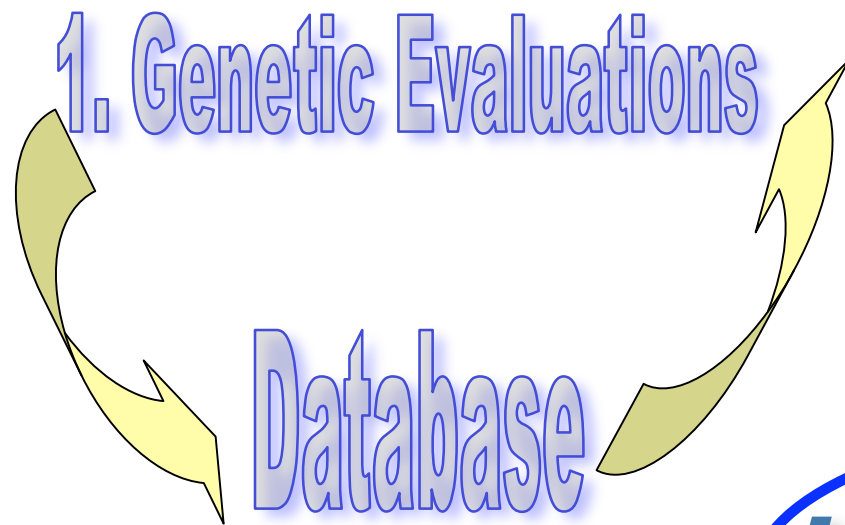


 **Yard & Crush facilities available.**

 **Farmer will receive full ICBF report on the scores & weights.**

 **ICBF will cover the full cost of the visit.**

Beef Genetic Improvement (€)



2. GENE IRELAND

3. HerdPlus

4. GROW

5. On-line Herd Book

6. Suckler Scheme

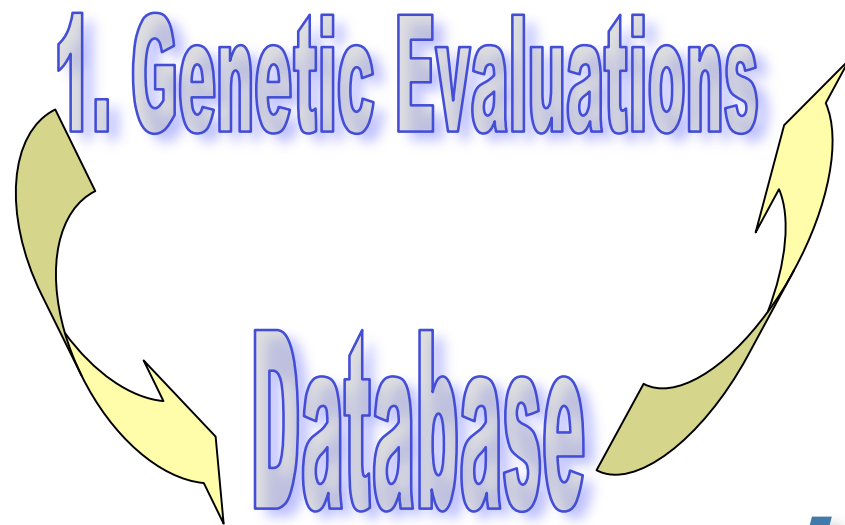
Beef Genetic Improvement (€)

On-Line Herdbook

Key Elements

1. Available through Herdbook Websites
2. Displays all fully registered animals
3. Names and Address display controlled by the herdbook
4. Demonstration

Beef Genetic Improvement (€)



2. GENE IRELAND

3. HerdPlus

4. GROW

5. On-line Herd Book

6. Suckler Scheme

Beef Genetic Improvement (€)

Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme

Key Points

1. 42,000 herds signed up, covering ~800,000 calves
2. 34,000 new to Animal Events
3. Beef Animal Events now bigger than Dairy
4. Will provide massive surge of data for genetic evaluations – a generation late unless we address recording in pedigree herds
5. Will help educate the breeding herds on Genetic Evaluations/€uro-Stars