

Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF)

BEEF BREEDING IN IRELAND



International Beef Expo - 12th October 2008


GROW
for Good Measure


GENE IRELAND[®]
Breeding future Profits


HerdPlus[®]
Profit through Science



FBD
TRUST

Introduction

Cattle breeding is one of the tools available to the Irish beef industry to improve profitability. Over the last 10 years, since the formation of ICBF (the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Soc. Ltd), our industry has embarked on a major infrastructure redevelopment. Developments include the establishment of a national cattle breeding database which now meets the information needs of our breeding industry.

Breeding objectives and genetic evaluation systems have been reviewed and redeveloped. Our current focus is on establishing breeding schemes to deliver near optimal rates of genetic improvement for each breed in Ireland using the best available technologies. Fortunately, we are part of an international community which takes a scientific approach to cattle breeding and is innovative in the use of new knowledge and technologies. Our progress in the last few years is a reflection of the benefits that arise from the knowledge sharing.

We have compiled this booklet to provide you with an insight into our industry as it exists in 2008. It provides a snapshot of each of the main breeds in Ireland, including information on their phenotypic performance, genetic merit for important traits and various trends.

We trust you will enjoy your trip to Ireland and we look forward to meeting and interacting with you during the course of the conference activities.

Brian Wickham

Chief Executive, ICBF

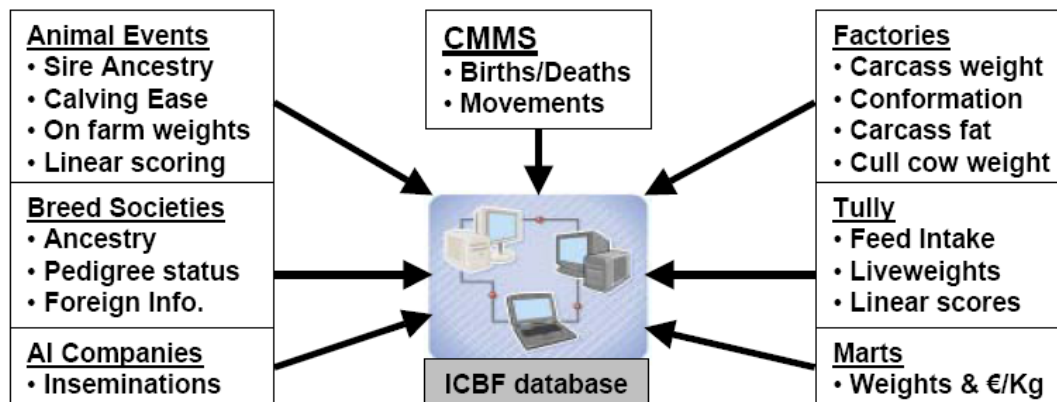
ICBF; Information for breeding more profitable beef cattle.

The Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF) is a Federation of Irish herdbooks, AI companies, milk recording organisations and farm bodies. It has the objective of increasing Irish farm profits through better breeding.

ICBF is committed to delivering increased profit for Irish beef farmers through seven key initiatives;

1. **Animal Events & the Cattle Breeding Database**
2. **GROW linear scoring & weight recording service**
3. **€uro-Star Indexes**
4. **Database services for beef Herd Books**
5. **G€N€ IRELAND® breeding program**
6. **HerdPlus® for beef, and the**
7. **Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme.**

1. ***Animal Events & the Cattle Breeding Database.*** ICBF collects animal identification, ancestry and performance data from Irish beef herds using the Animal Events recording system. This system covers the full range of events (calvings, births, matings, weighing, ...) and collects the data required for official purposes and Herd Book registrations. In addition to storing this data the Cattle Breeding Database is also linked into marts and meat factories. These links allow the easy collection of weights, values (€) and carcass data (weights, and grades).



2. ***GROW linear scoring and weight recording service.*** This is a service ICBF provides to pedigree and commercial herds. In this service the weights and physical attributes of weanlings (150 to 300 days) of all breeds and crosses are determined by a team of specialists.



3. ***€uro-Star Indexes.*** ICBF use the data collected from Irish beef farms and meat factories and marts, to generate €uro-Star indexes for all breeding animals including AI sires, stock bulls & replacement males & females. The €uro-Star indexes indicate the genetic potential of an animal to deliver extra profit, compared to the average animal, for a series of traits including calving, weanling export, carcass, and maternal. Extensive research work by ICBF has indicated a consistent range of €100 within each of the main beef breeds in terms of profit per calf born. The €uro-Star indexes can be compared between animals of different breeds.

4. **Database Services for beef Herd Books.** ICBF provides a database service for the beef Herd Books in Ireland. This service enables the Herd Books to benefit from the animal events recording system, to have ready access to genetic evaluations including Euro-Star indexes and to support their own on-line herd books available through their respective websites.
5. **G€N€ IRELAND®.** The G€N€ IRELAND® breeding program has the objective of achieving the optimal breeding scheme design for Irish beef breeds. This requires the progeny testing of 100 bulls per year, over all breeds, with an average of 100 daughters per bull. It was launched in Spring 2007. To date 10 bulls have been tested through the program, across a range of breeds, with 350 commercial beef farmers now involved in the initiative. ICBF intends to progeny test 20 beef bulls in the autumn of 2008. This is an exciting initiative for Irish beef farmers, with excellent rewards for farmers wishing to get involved (€800 per 25 straws used). It is being strongly supported by the Irish beef industry, including the National Development Plan, FBD Trust & Meat Industry Ireland.
6. **HerdPlus® for beef.** The objective of the HerdPlus® for beef service is to provide farmers with high quality reports for breeding & management decisions. This initiative for beef farmers was launched in Autumn 2007. The information provided by the service includes a range of reports containing information on Euro-Stars, calving & fertility, weaning and slaughter. In addition, farmers using the HerdPlus® for beef service have direct access via the web and printed reports to all information on their animals in the Cattle Breeding database. Some 500 beef farmers are now using the beef HerdPlus® service.
7. **The Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme.** This scheme was introduced by DAFF on 1st January 2008 with the objective of improving the welfare of the cattle in beef production in Ireland. A key element of the scheme is the collection of data through ICBF's animal events recording system. The introduction of the Suckler Cow Welfare scheme has revolutionised the quantity and quality of data available for beef breeding. The number of suckler beef farmers involved in contributing ancestry, calving and weanling performance data to the cattle breeding database has increased from some 12,000 herds in 2007, to 53,000 herd in 2008. Over 90% of all beef cattle in Ireland and now being performance recorded.



Together these initiatives place Irish beef cattle breeding at the leading edge worldwide. For further information: www.icbf.com, Telephone: 1850 600 900; email query@icbf.com.



Euro-Star Explained

5 Stars = Excellent (Ranking 80 - 100%) 4 Stars = Above Average (Ranking 60 - 79%) 3 Stars = Average (Ranking 40 - 59%). 2 Stars = Below Average = (Ranking 20 - 39%) 1 Star = Poor (Ranking 1 - 19%)			Suckler Beef Value (Reliability %)				
			Beef Value				Replacement Value
Group	No.	Calving Traits (Rel %)	Weanling Export (Rel %)	Beef Carcass (Rel %)	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%)
		*****	***	****	*****	*****	****
		***	*	****	****	****	*****

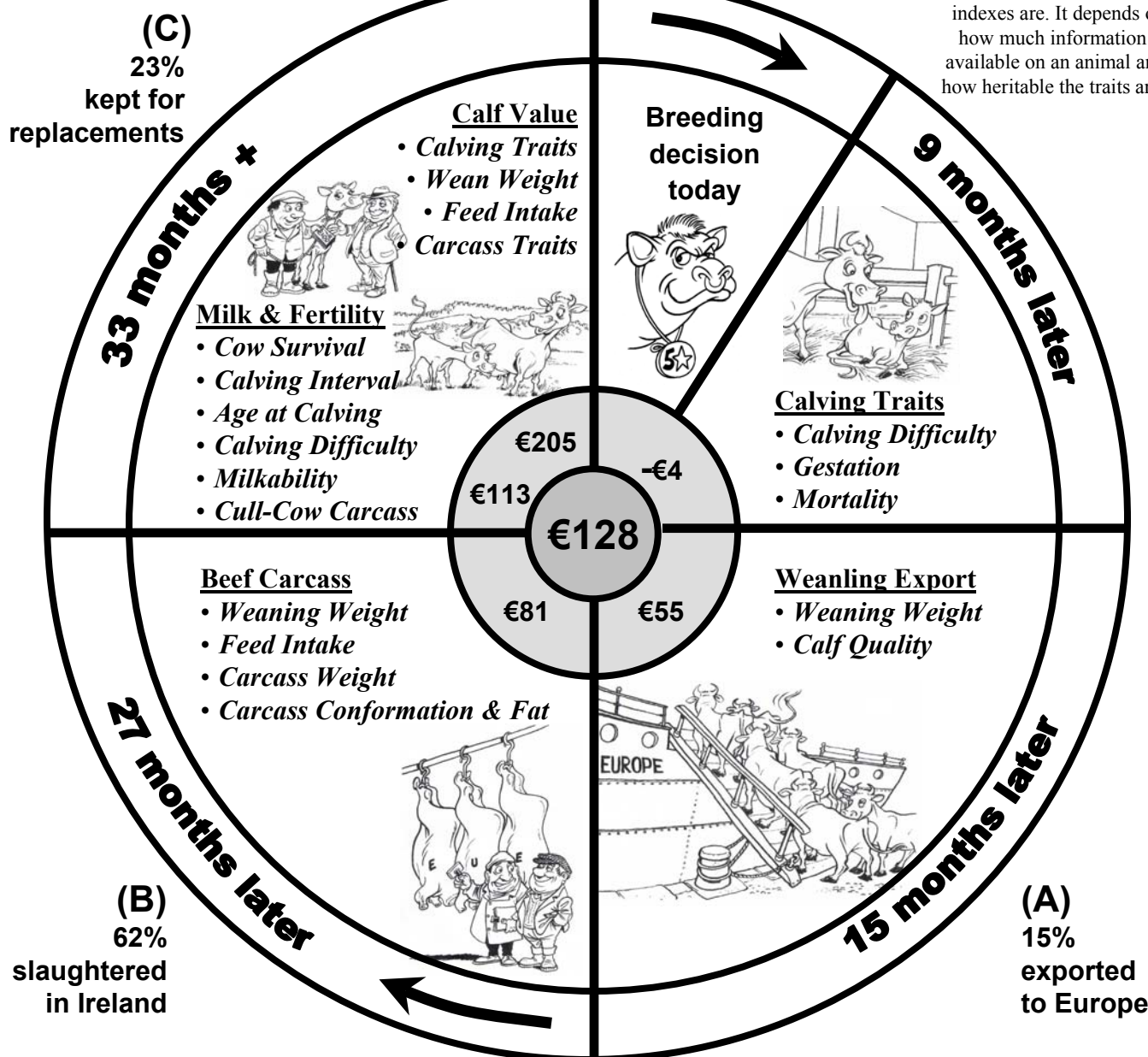
Within Breed
Compares animals against all pedigree animals in the breed born in the last 5 yrs.

Across Breed
Compares animals against all pedigree animals, in all beef breeds, born in the last 5 yrs.

Reliability %

This figure is important as it tells you how reliable the indexes are. It depends on how much information is available on an animal and how heritable the traits are.

SBV = overall profit measure, per calf born to a bull.



Suckler Beef Value (SBV) =

((A+B) * Calving Traits) + (A * Weanling Export) + (B * Beef Carcass) + (C * (Milk & Fertility + Calf Value))

New Bull above: €128 = ((0.15 + 0.62) * -€4) + (0.15 * €55) + (0.62 * €81) + (0.23 * (€113 + €205))

INDIVIDUAL BREED STATISTICS



Breed Fact Sheet: Angus

- First imported into Ireland from Great Britain in 1843.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Angus.	262,139
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Angus.	130,571
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Angus (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	34,379

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Angus Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	2,426
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	6,704

* Live cows with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.



Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

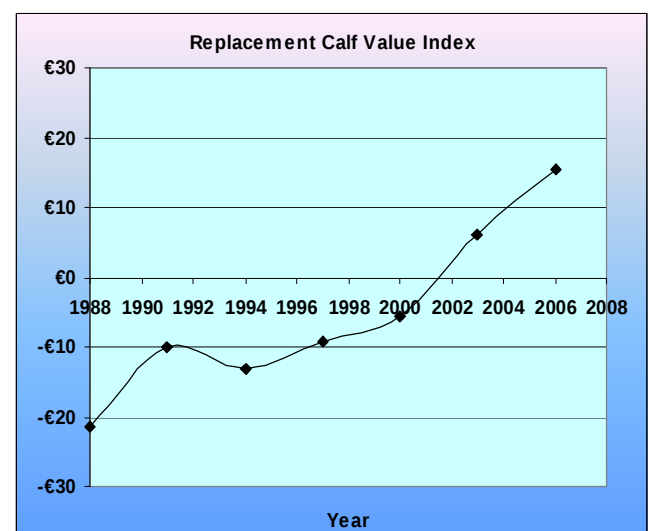
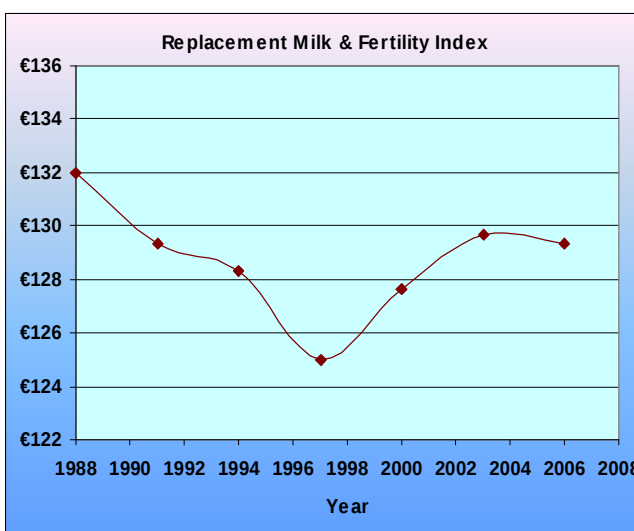
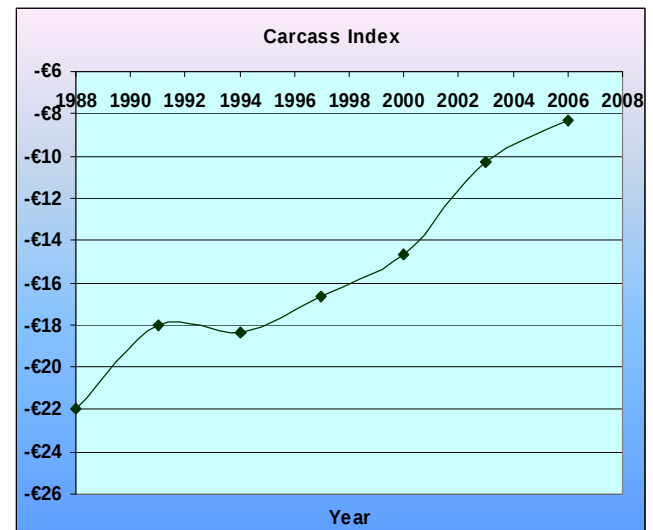
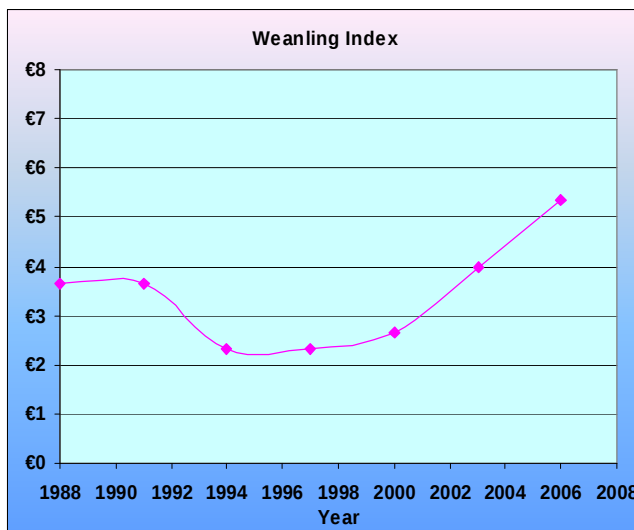
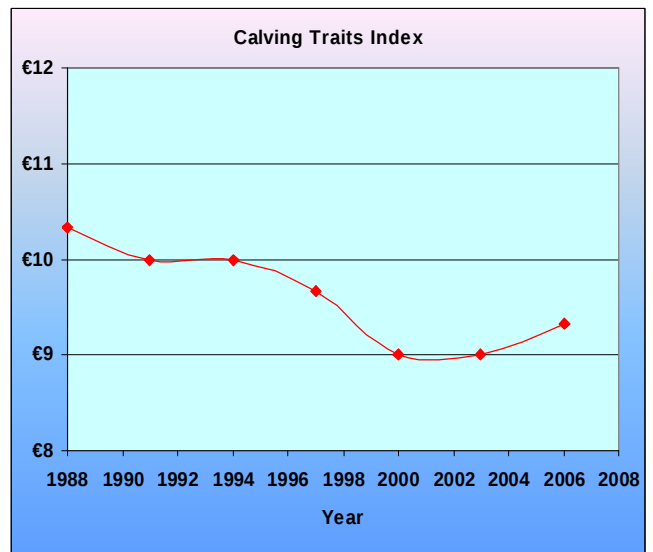
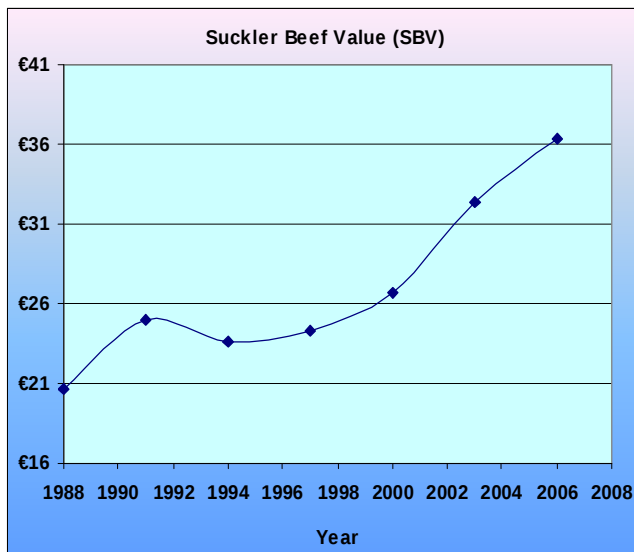
	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	256,589	4.3%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	58,649	283.3
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean=226 days	2,834	263.8
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale=226 days.	1,203	157.2
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15)	1,955	7.2
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15)	1,955	6.8
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter=759 days. 73% of carcasses from dairy dams.	73,483	305.7
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	73,483	O+
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	73,483	3+
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	105	10.6
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	14,236	28.9
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	7,855	387.4
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	10,865	83.4%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	1,442	295
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	2,427	205

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	-€11	€11	€19	€36	€53	€61	€86
Calving	€0	€6	€7	€10	€12	€13	€16
Export	-€20	-€7	-€3	€5	€12	€17	€32
Slaughter	-€43	-€27	-€20	-€8	€5	€11	€26
Maternal Cow	€61	€96	€108	€129	€149	€160	€184
Maternal Calf.	-€93	-€43	-€23	€15	€54	€74	€127

* Based on 16,863 pedigree Angus animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.

Genetic Trends in Pedigree Angus Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	167	3,811	6,790	7,135

Breed Fact Sheet: Blonde d'Aquitaine

- First imported into Ireland from France in 1974.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Blonde d'Aquitaine.	11,716
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Blonde d'Aquitaine.	7,084
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam are Blonde d'Aquitaine. (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	1,990

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Breed Society

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	370
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	733

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.

Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	11,930	4.3%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	886	290.7
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean=225 days	593	303.3
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale=226 days	257	184.3
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	716	8.0
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	716	8.7
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter=689 days & 34% carcass records from dairy dams.	1,592	358.6
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	1,592	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	1,592	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	95	8.9
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	1,223	30.1
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	512	404.9
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	777	78.1%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	161	289
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	65	281.0

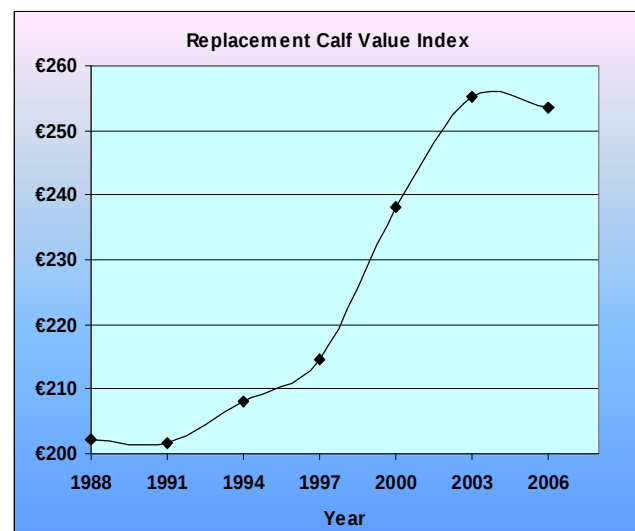
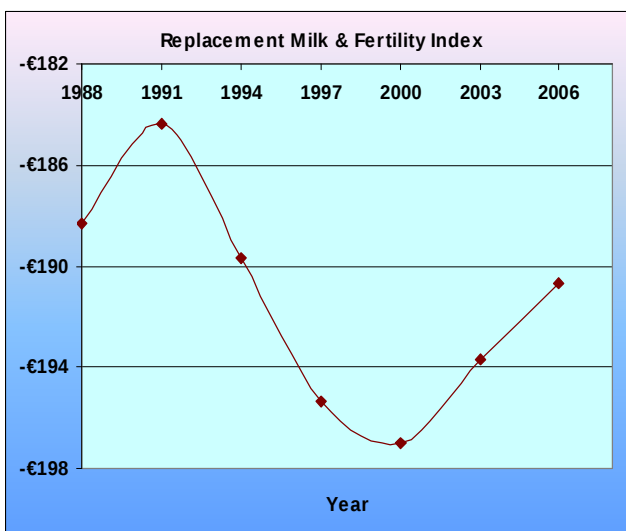
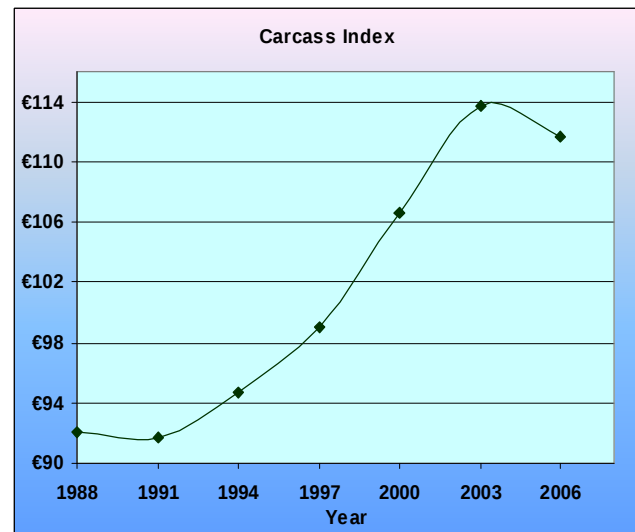
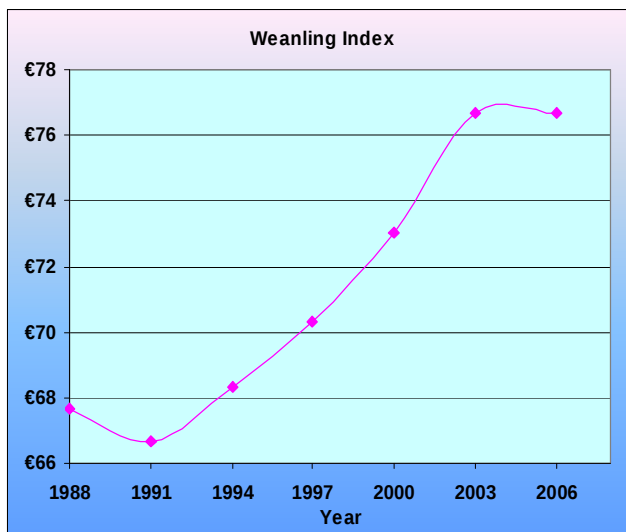
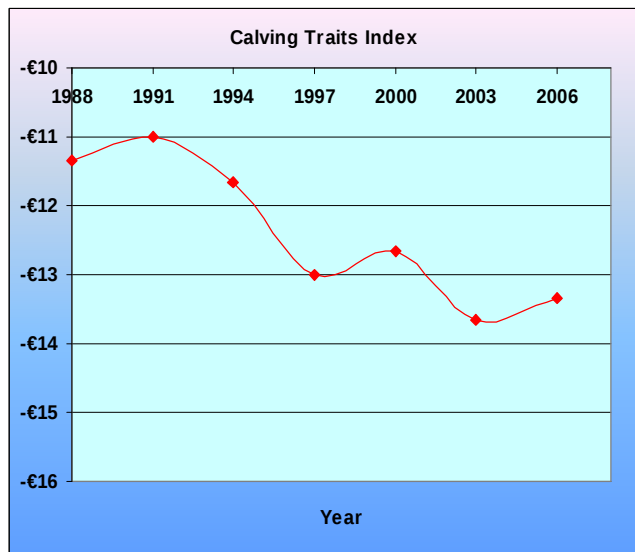
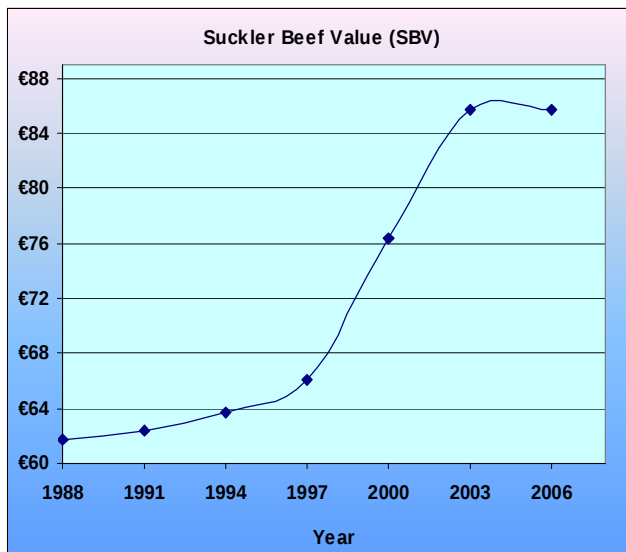
Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€21	€56	€65	€84	€105	€114	€139
Calving	-€32	-€22	-€18	-€12	-€8	-€6	-€3
Export	€34	€62	€68	€77	€85	€89	€98
Slaughter	€49	€88	€95	€111	€128	€136	€161
Maternal Cow	-€259	-€223	-€212	-€190	-€171	-€156	-€89
Maternal Calf.	€64	€182	€205	€252	€299	€324	€377

* Based on 1680 Blonde d'Aquitaine animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



Genetic Trends in Pedigree Blonde Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	277	395	509	1,337

Breed Fact Sheet: Belgian Blue

- First imported into Ireland from Belgium in 1980.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Belgian Blue.	87,229
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Belgian Blue.	56,196
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Belgian Blue (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	7,674

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Belgian Blue Cattle Breeding Society

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	331
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	565

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.

Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	85,368	8.4%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	30,613	284.0
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean=228 kg	5,400	310.9
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale=226 days	3,395	193.8
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	2,463	8.1
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	2,463	9.1
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter=781 days & 55% carcass records from dairy dams.	30,772	342.8
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	30,772	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	30,772	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	72	8.7
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	7,860	28.7
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	4,543	394.8
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	6,510	79.5%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	991	312
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	1,999	255.1

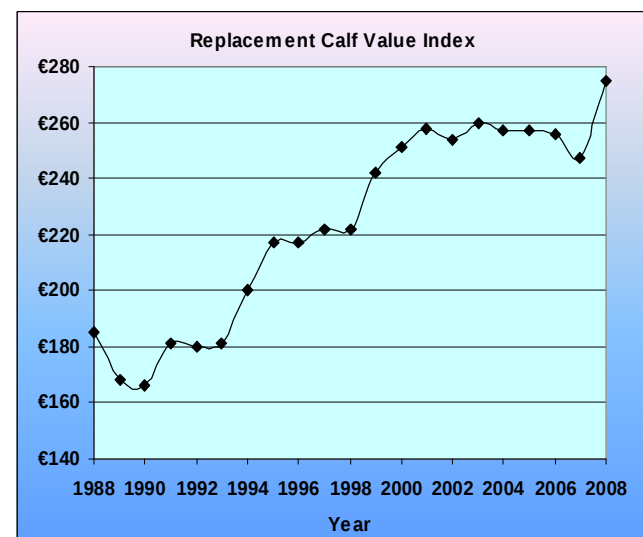
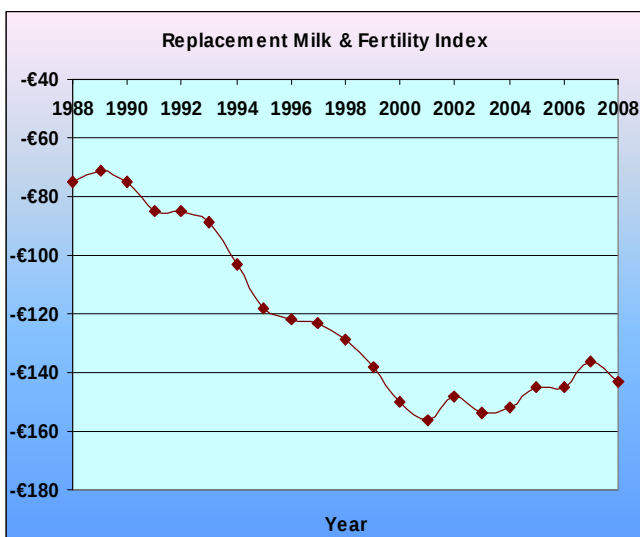
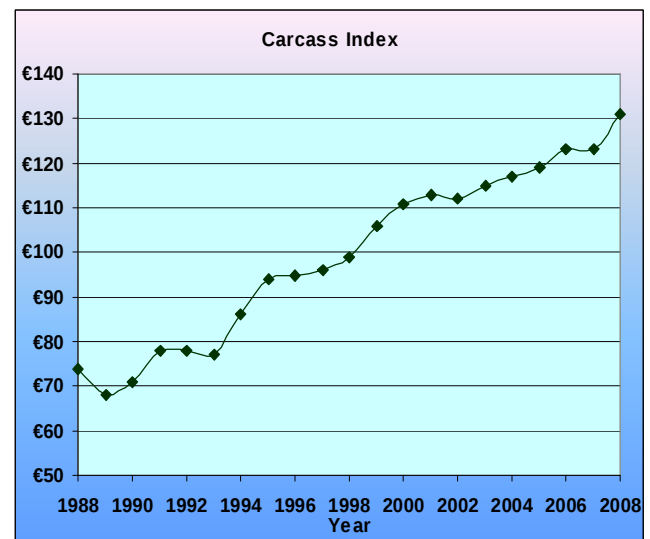
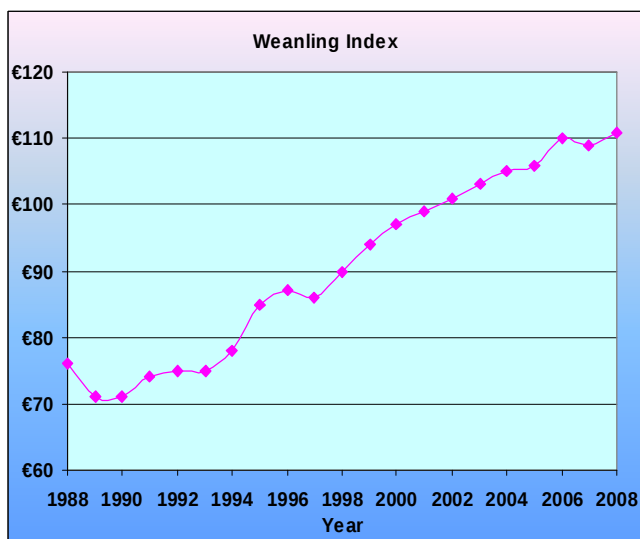
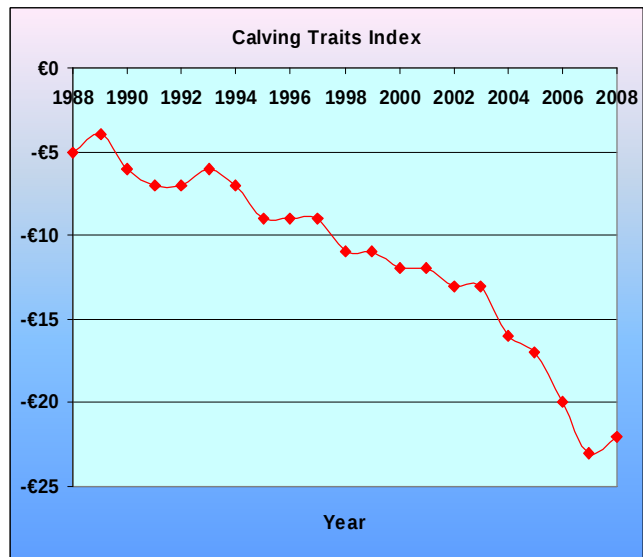
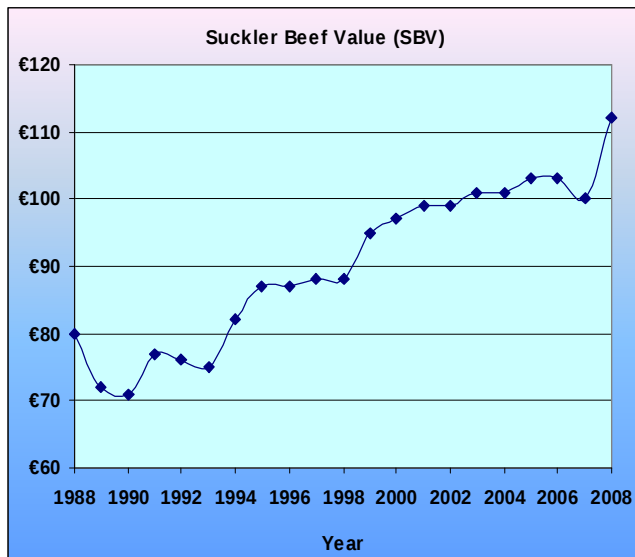
Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€29	€66	€80	€102	€124	€134	€157
Calving	-€47	-€34	-€28	-€18	-€9	-€5	€4
Export	€57	€85	€93	€107	€119	€125	€138
Slaughter	€53	€89	€102	€121	€138	€146	€167
Maternal Cow	-€227	-€194	-€176	-€141	-€103	-€85	-€44
Maternal Calf.	€74	€167	€198	€255	€307	€332	€394

* Based on 1809 Belgian Blue animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



Genetic Trends in Pedigree Belgian Blue Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	489	1,012	1,365	1,125

Breed Fact Sheet: Charolais

- First imported into Ireland from France in 1964.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Charolais.	463,507
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Charolais.	258,560
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Charolais (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	162,231

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Charolais Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	9,495
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	17,855

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.



Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

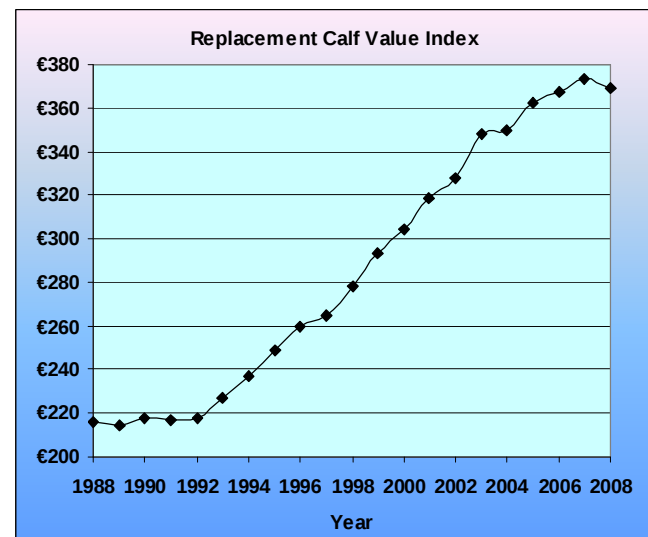
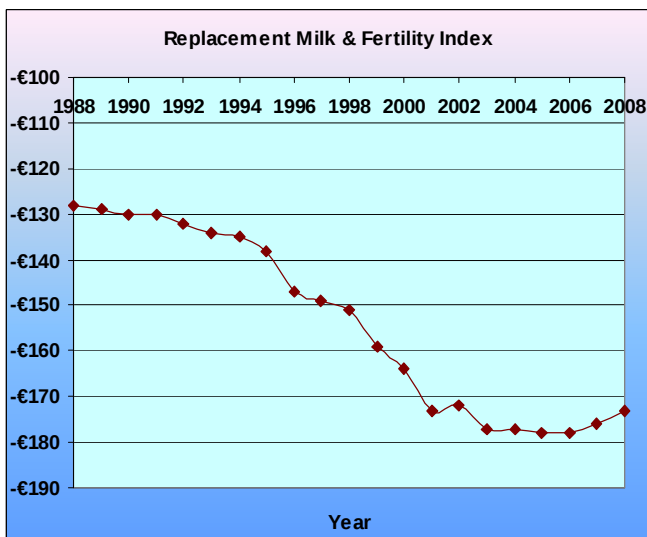
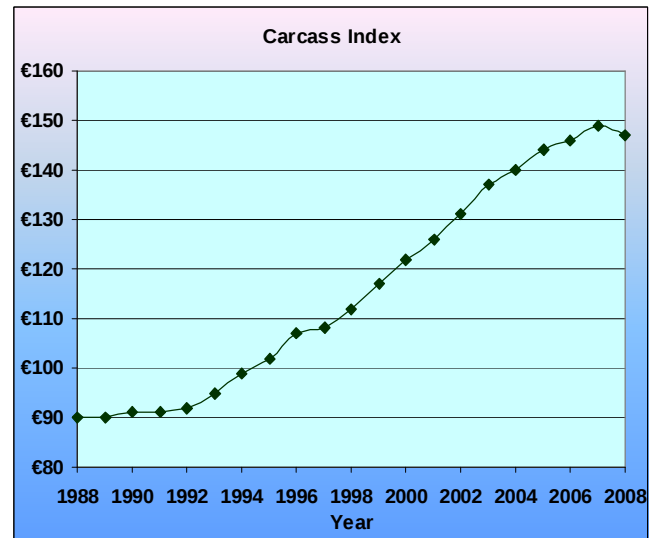
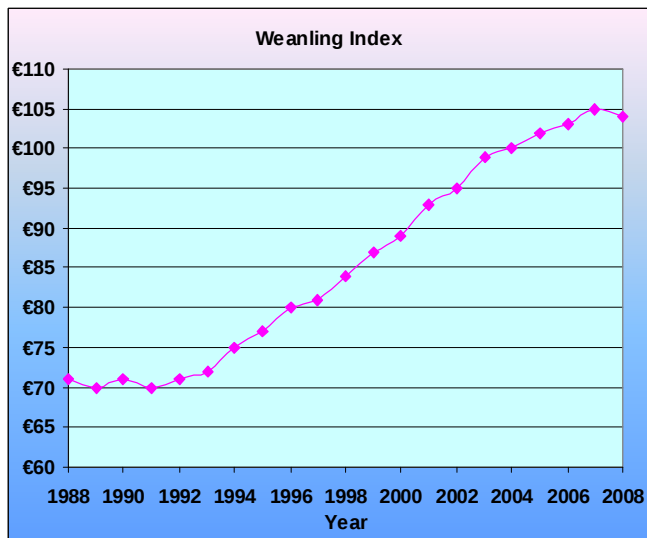
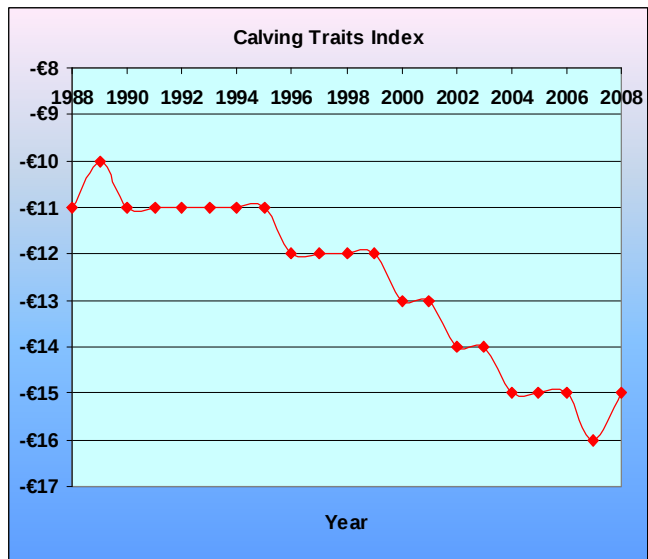
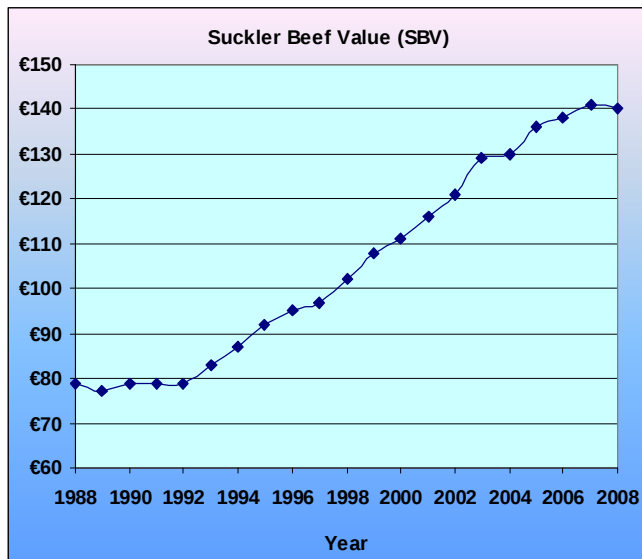
	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	245,392	5.1%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	17,831	288.2
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean=224 days.	29,334	316.3
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale=221 days.	10,245	185.2
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	35,630	8.4
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	35,630	8.3
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 720 days & 21% carcass records from dairy dams.	31,410	367.5
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	31,410	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	31,410	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	810	9.6
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	18,256	30.6
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	10,380	400.3
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	14,468	81.7%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	15,185	318
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	2,678	296.7

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€56	€95	€109	€136	€159	€171	€200
Calving	-€35	-€23	-€20	-€14	-€10	-€7	-€2
Export	€61	€81	€89	€102	€113	€119	€136
Slaughter	€80	€110	€122	€144	€164	€173	€195
Maternal Cow	-€271	-€232	-€214	-€174	-€139	-€123	-€82
Maternal Calf.	€171	€264	€299	€360	€419	€447	€519

* Based on 44,888 Charolais animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.

Genetic Trends in Pedigree Charolais Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	6,396	14,471	24,360	31,898

Breed Fact Sheet: Hereford

- First imported into Ireland from Great Britain in 1775.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Hereford.	181,865
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Hereford.	131,438
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Hereford (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	24,662

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Hereford Breed Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	3,307
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	4,613

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.



Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

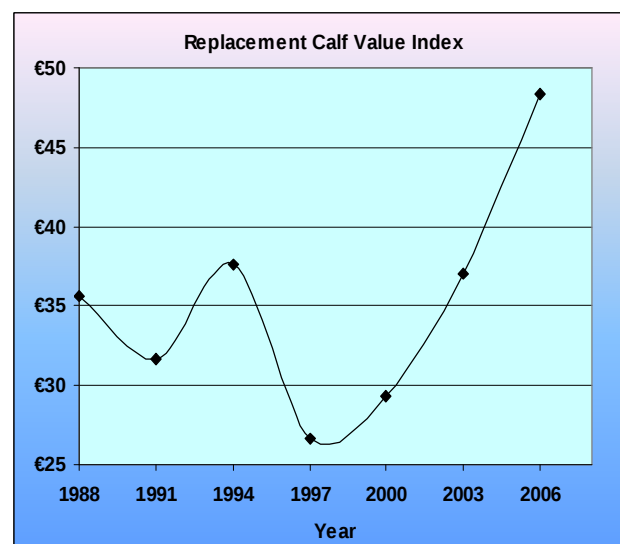
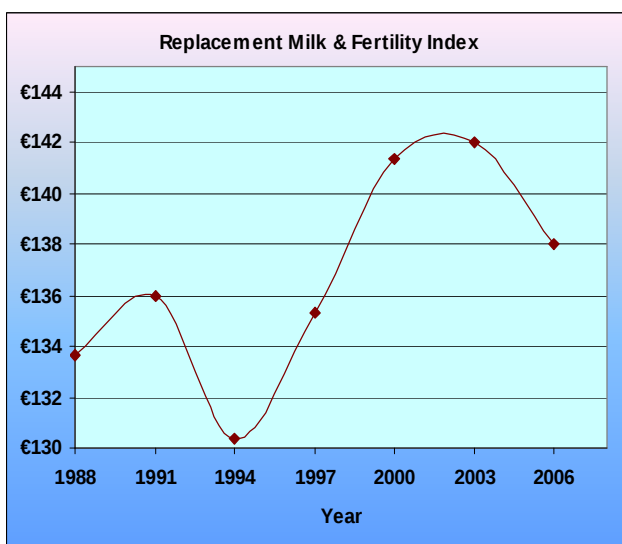
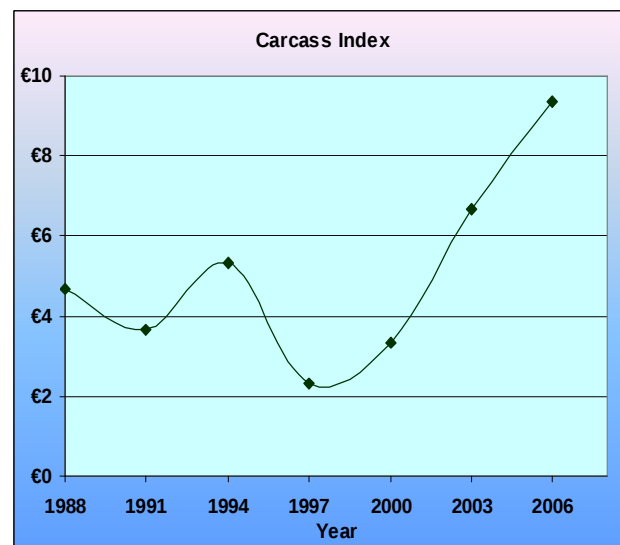
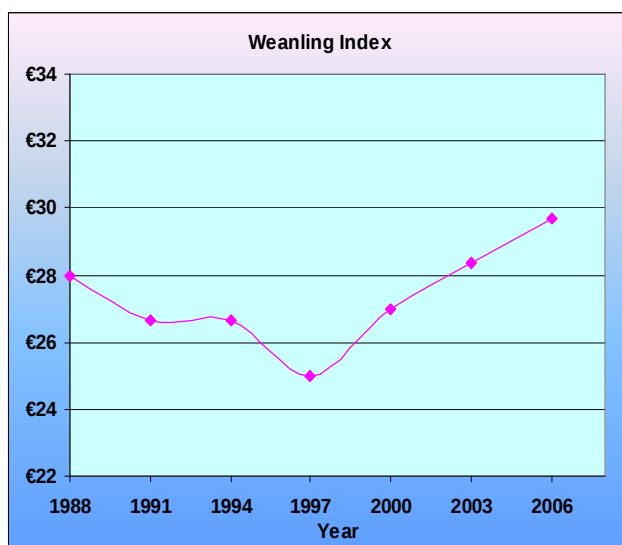
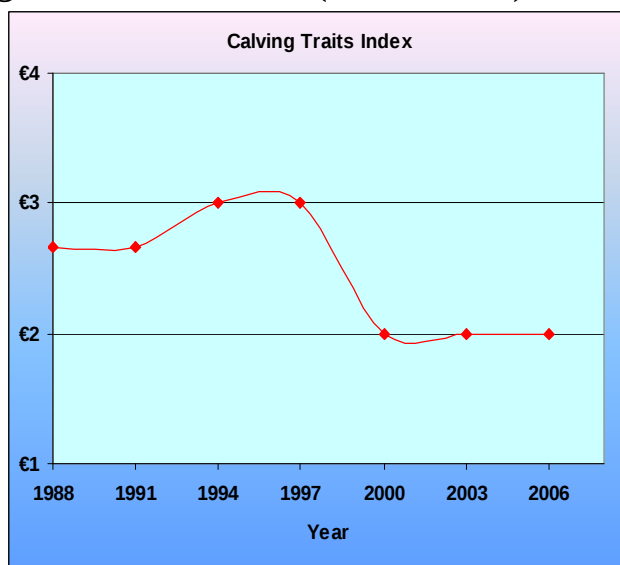
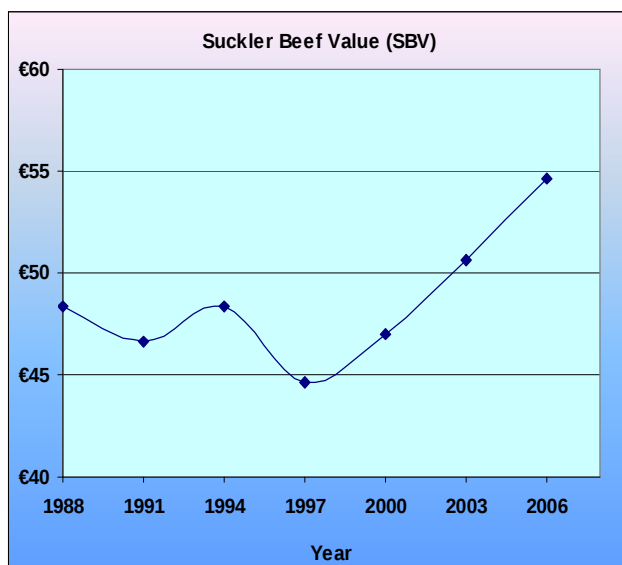
	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	133,896	4.6%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	24,941	286.0
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean= 231 days.	2,738	280.7
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale= 227 days.	307	165.4
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	2,337	7.8
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	2,337	7.1
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 763 days & 70 % carcass records from dairy dams.	38,557	309.7
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	38,557	O+
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	38,557	3+
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	152	9.9
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	8,213	29.5
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	4,362	386.8
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	6,247	81.9%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	971	293
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	1,306	207.2

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€4	€29	€37	€51	€68	€77	€101
Calving	-€13	-€3	-€1	€2	€5	€7	€10
Export	€7	€18	€22	€28	€35	€39	€50
Slaughter	-€26	-€9	-€4	€7	€19	€26	€42
Maternal Cow	€73	€107	€119	€140	€160	€171	€200
Maternal Calf.	-€74	-€14	€4	€40	€81	€103	€157

* Based on 13,450 Hereford animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.

Genetic Trends in Pedigree Hereford Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	336	3,498	9,385	9,111

Breed Fact Sheet: Limousin

- First imported into Ireland from France in 1972.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Limousin	425,969
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Limousin.	277,873
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Limousin (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	56,518

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Limousin Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	8,574
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	15,312

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.



Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

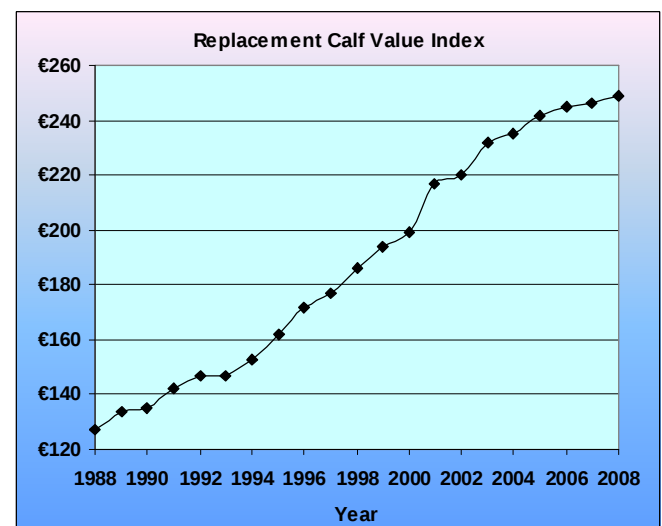
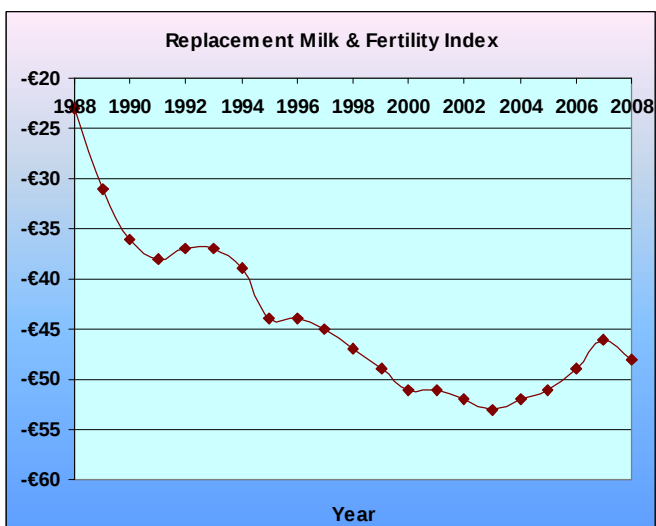
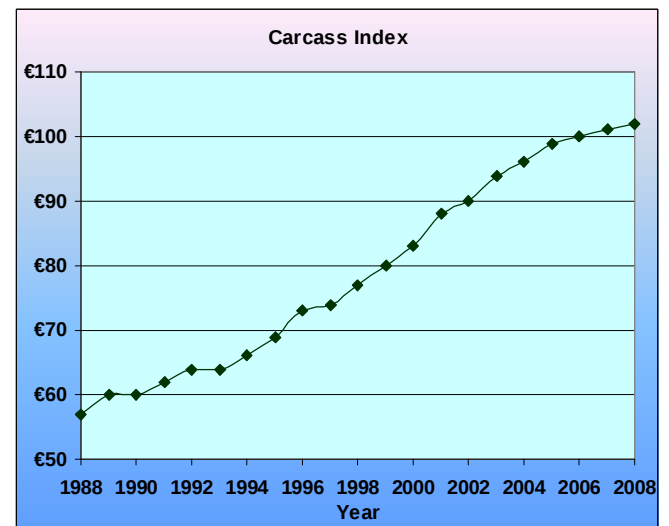
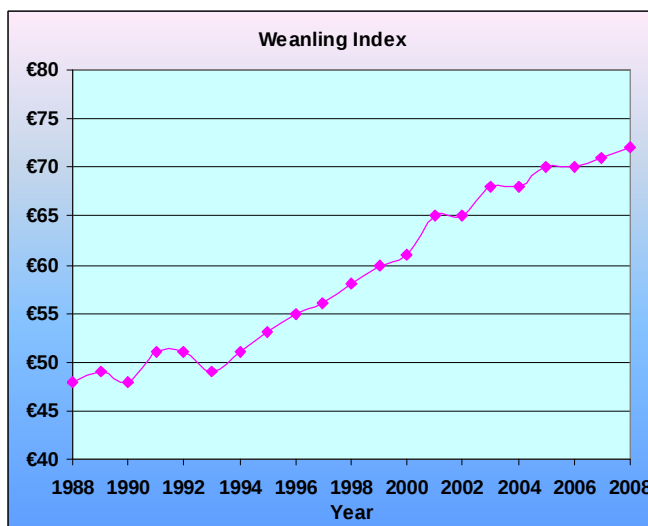
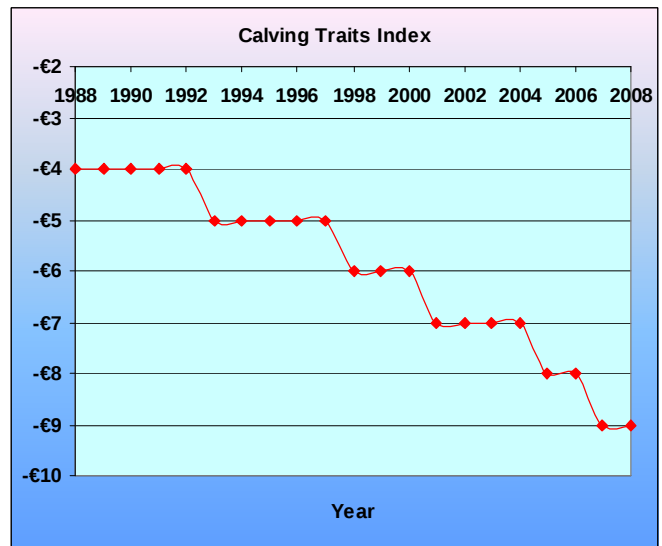
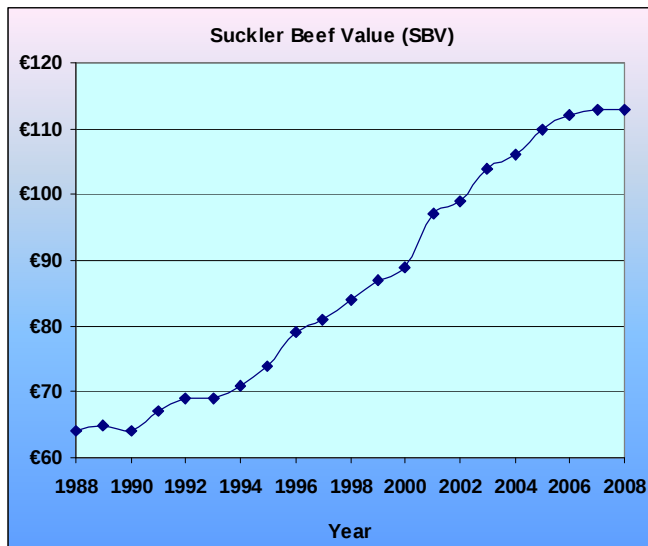
	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	264,856	3.8%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	28,744	289.4
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean= 226 days.	18,644	295.5
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale= 225 days.	7,349	179.3
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	42,722	8.6
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	42,722	8.9
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 751 days & 40% carcass records from dairy dams.	43,182	343.9
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	43,182	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	43,182	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	1,176	8.7
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	27,744	30.44
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	16,090	398.9
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	21,476	84.3%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	10,281	295
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	2,802	252.7

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€49	€78	€89	€108	€128	€141	€173
Calving	-€24	-€15	-€12	-€7	-€4	-€2	€2
Export	€39	€54	€59	€69	€79	€85	€100
Slaughter	€53	€75	€83	€98	€113	€122	€144
Maternal Cow	-€128	-€91	-€76	-€48	-€21	-€7	€23
Maternal Calf.	€105	€171	€196	€240	€282	€308	€371

* Based on 39,085 Limousin animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.

Genetic Trends in Pedigree Limousine Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	3,427	6,945	13,325	31,745

Breed Fact Sheet: Saler

- First imported into Ireland from France in 1997.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Saler.	12,359
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Saler.	8,677
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Saler (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	2,608

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Saler Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	732
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	1,314

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.

Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	13,479	1.4%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	1,433	285.9
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean= 232 days.	419	306.2
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale= 226 days.	246	181.7
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	693	7.9
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	693	8.1
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 697 days & 21% carcass records from dairy dams.	1,273	350.1
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	1,273	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	1,273	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	68	9.2
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	1,554	30.1
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	887	389.1
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	1,084	88.6%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	247	307
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	54	246.8

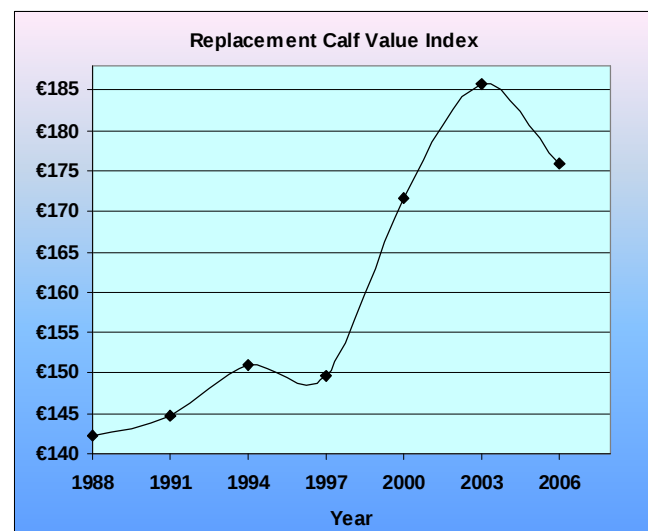
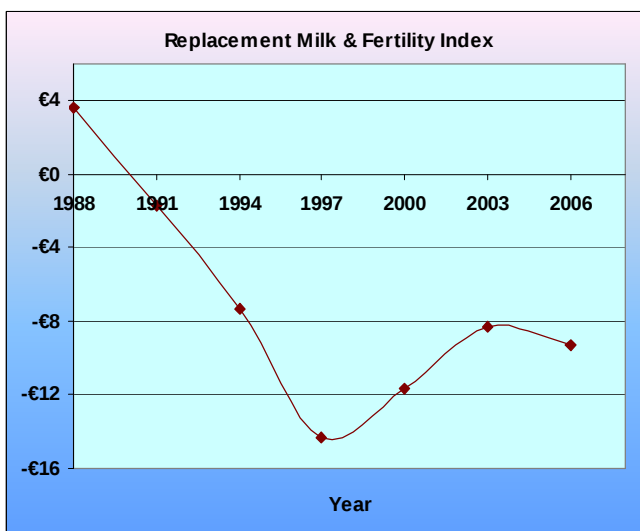
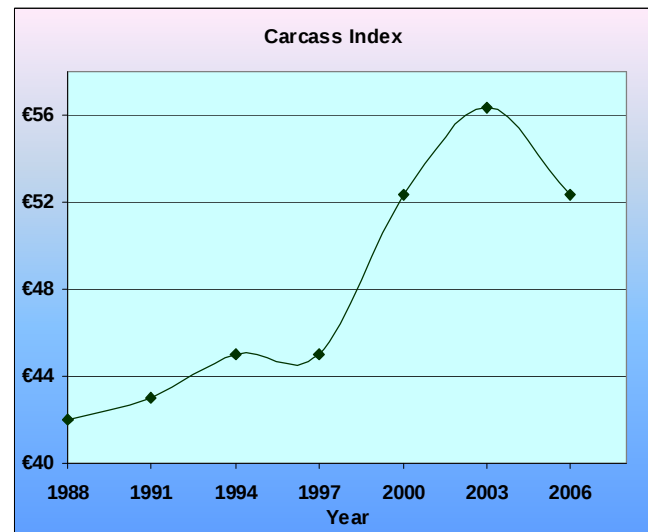
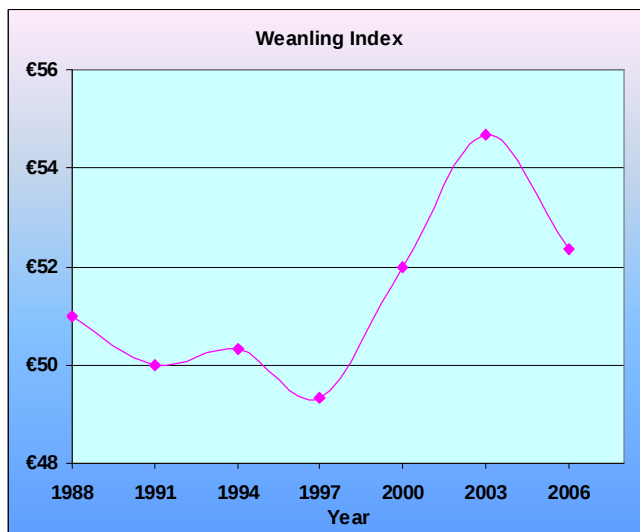
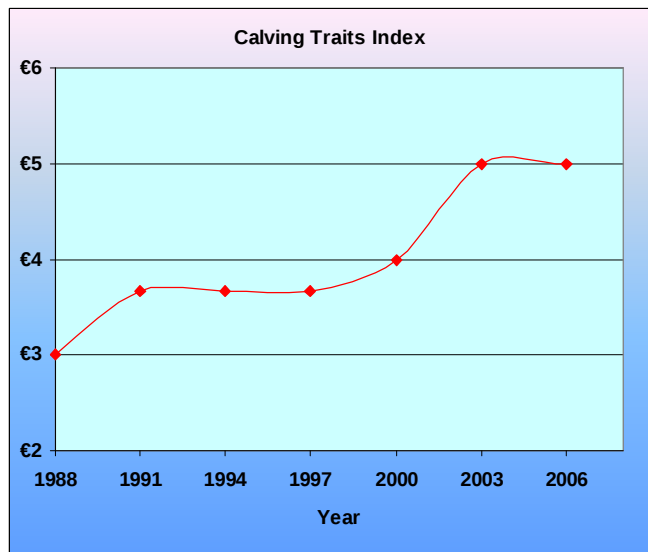
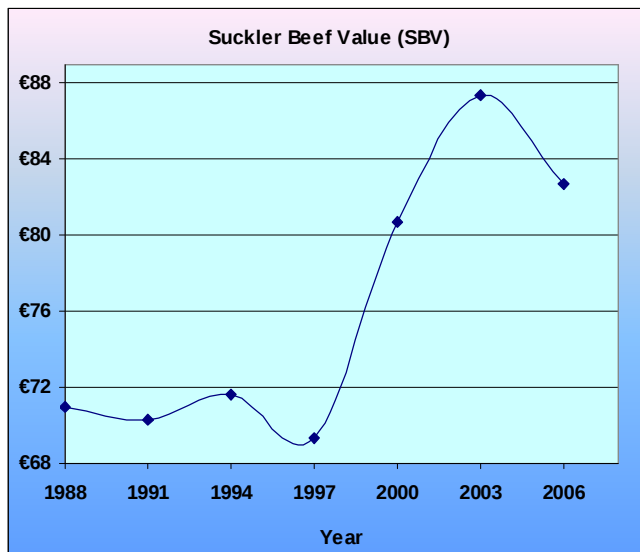
Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€29	€53	€63	€81	€99	€109	€135
Calving	-€1	€2	€3	€5	€7	€8	€10
Export	€23	€39	€43	€52	€59	€63	€76
Slaughter	€16	€31	€39	€51	€64	€71	€89
Maternal Cow	-€71	-€37	-€25	-€6	€14	€25	€57
Maternal Calf.	€59	€109	€133	€171	€209	€229	€291

* Based on 2,789 Saler animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



Genetic Trends in Pedigree Saler Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	277	395	509	1,337

Breed Fact Sheet: Simmental

- First imported into Ireland from Austria in 1971.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Simmental.	106,601
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Simmental.	148,823
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Simmental (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	31,010

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Simmental Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	2,546
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	5,317

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.

Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	74,233	4.7%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	8,383	287.9
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean= days.	7,293	319.5
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale= days.	1,672	171.8
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	9,516	8.4
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	9,516	8.4
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= days & % carcass records from dairy dams.	18,176	340.3
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	18,176	R-
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	18,176	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	917	9.8
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	11,564	29.1
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	6,405	390.4
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	8,831	84.7%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	5,111	321
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	1,146	241.3

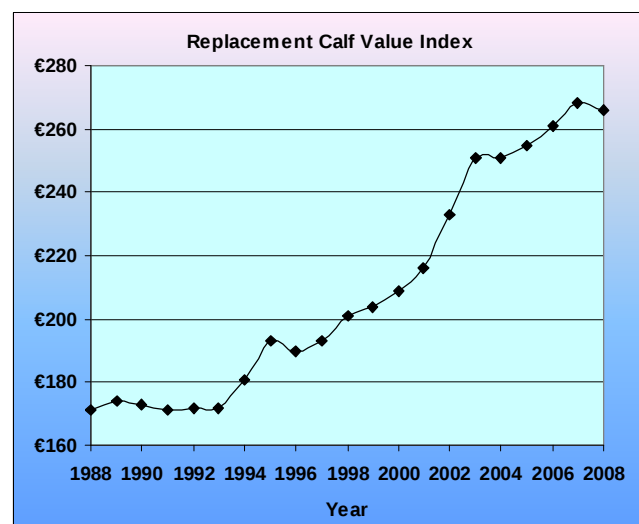
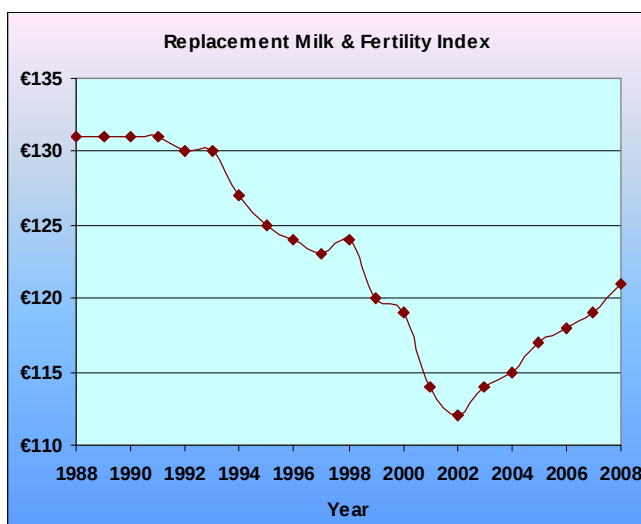
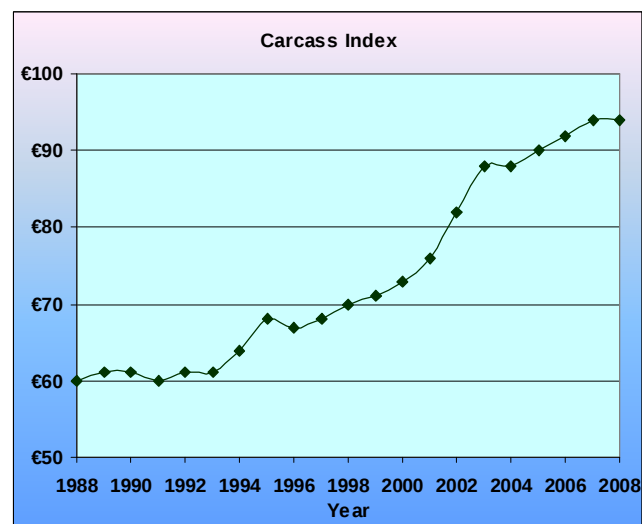
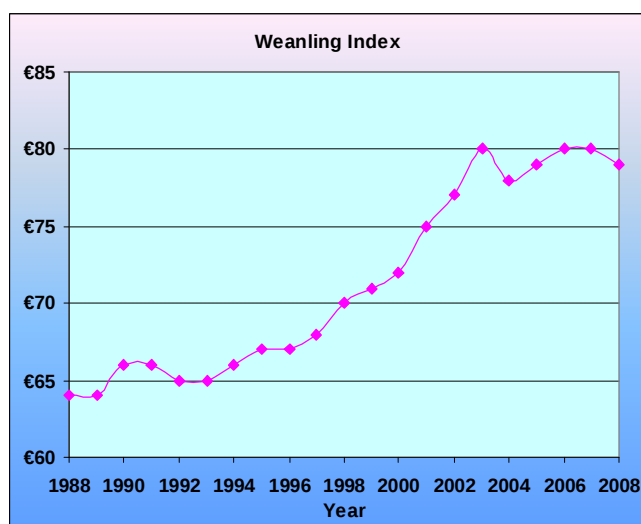
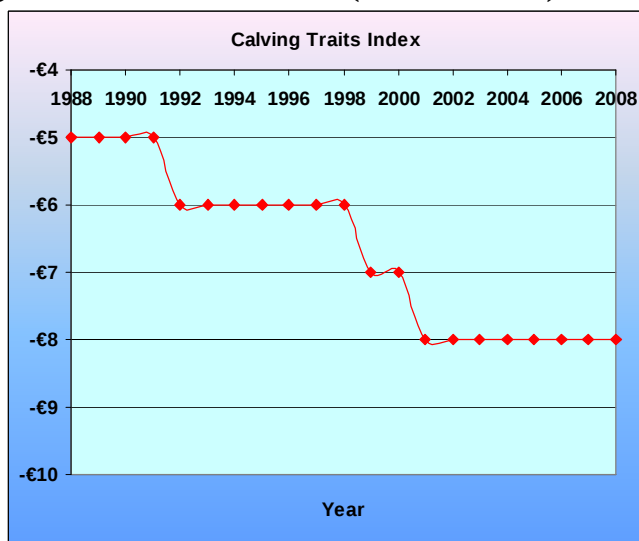
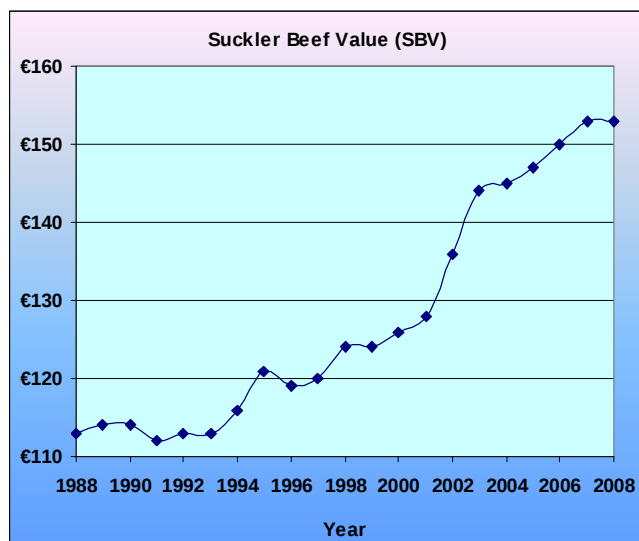
Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€72	€108	€122	€148	€173	€184	€213
Calving	-€26	-€15	-€12	-€7	-€3	-€1	€3
Export	€40	€61	€68	€78	€89	€94	€111
Slaughter	€37	€62	€72	€90	€107	€116	€137
Maternal Cow	€53	€80	€93	€118	€145	€160	€198
Maternal Calf.	€88	€168	€199	€255	€310	€337	€407

* Based on animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



Genetic Trends in Pedigree Simmentals Males (1988 – 2008)



Year of birth	1988 - 1992	1993 - 1997	1998 - 2002	2003 - 2008
No. of animals in graph	6,021	9,452	7,498	6,748

Breed Fact Sheet: Aubrac

- First imported into Ireland from France in 1992.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Aubrac.	810
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Angus.	2,786
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Angus (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	659

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Aubrac Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	388
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	820

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.



Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	5,777	6.7%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	399	285.4
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean=227 kg	244	299.7
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale=218 days	38	182.1
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15)	743	7.8
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15)	743	8.2
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter=699 days & 35% records from dairy dams.	850	331.1
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	850	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	850	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	37	8.5
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	775	32.9
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	507	387.6
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	613	87.3%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	187	303
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	53	243

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€33	€58	€65	€80	€96	€107	€138
Calving	-€10	-€1	€1	€3	€5	€6	€8
Export	€34	€45	€49	€56	€65	€70	€83
Slaughter	€21	€35	€40	€50	€62	€70	€91
Maternal Cow	-€59	-€30	-€18	€1	€18	€28	€60
Maternal Calf.	€57	€118	€132	€165	€200	€223	€292

Based on 2095 Aubrac animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.

Breed Fact Sheet: Piemontese

- First imported into Ireland from Italy in 1982

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Piemontese.	846
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Piemontese.	350
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Piemontese (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	146

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Piemontese Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	112
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	293

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.

Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	2,195	5.8%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	193	286.6
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean= 240 days.	79	299.3
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale= 223 days.	23	168.4
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	202	8.2
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	202	9.2
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 749 days & 53% carcass records from dairy dams.	247	347.0
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	247	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	247	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	12	9.6
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	299	28.8
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	108	392.8
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	164	73.7%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	32	244
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	18	264.0

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€2	€31	€40	€53	€66	€74	€100
Calving	-€28	-€10	-€6	-€1	€2	€3	€7
Export	€20	€36	€43	€53	€61	€66	€81
Slaughter	€7	€20	€26	€35	€45	€51	€78
Maternal Cow	-€50	-€21	-€10	€9	€24	€31	€49
Maternal Calf.	-€24	€51	€70	€101	€132	€151	€207

* Based on 633 animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



Breed Fact Sheet: Parthenaise

- First imported into Ireland from France in 1997.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Parthenaise	1,006
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Parthenaise	270
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Parthenaise (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	217

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Parthenaise Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	113
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	271

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.

Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	2,444	7.8%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	136	286.5
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean= 225 days.	107	318.1
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale= 236 days.	69	187.9
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	158	8.7
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	158	9.8
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 647 days & 31% carcass records from dairy dams.	181	379.7
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	181	R+
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	181	3-
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	14	10.2
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	196	32.2
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	47	396.4
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	101	62.4%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	15	279
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	3	251.5

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€27	€50	€57	€74	€98	€113	€175
Calving	-€16	-€5	-€3	€0	€2	€4	€7
Export	€26	€48	€52	€59	€72	€77	€90
Slaughter	€18	€32	€36	€47	€65	€76	€133
Maternal Cow	-€37	-€23	-€17	€0	€16	€25	€42
Maternal Calf.	€56	€97	€117	€148	€204	€239	€349

* Based on 675 Parthenaise animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



Breed Fact Sheet: Shorthorn

- First imported into Ireland from Great Britain in 1882.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Shorthorn.	19,433
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Shorthorn.	35,727
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Shorthorn (i.e., $\frac{3}{4}$ bred or more)	7,982

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,100,723 (DAF, CMMS Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Shorthorn Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births	1,250
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	2,655

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.



Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
<u>Calving Traits.</u>		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	13,865	3.8%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	1,427	285.8
<u>Beef Performance Traits.</u>		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean= 215 days.	436	276.9
Weanling Price (€ cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale= 220 days.	292	172.2
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	252	7.0
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	252	6.5
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 782 days & 38% carcass records from dairy dams.	2,103	325.8
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	2,103	O+
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	2,103	3
Feed Intake (Kg/DM/Day on Performance Test).	16	10.1
<u>Maternal Traits.</u>		
Age at first Calving (Months)	3,410	29.6
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	2,109	387.9
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	2,631	88%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	414	292
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	314	213.3

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20% (1 star)	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20% (5 stars)	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€8	€26	€34	€47	€61	€68	€90
Calving	-€6	€0	€2	€6	€8	€9	€12
Export	€3	€11	€15	€22	€28	€30	€39
Slaughter	-€37	-€20	-€14	-€3	€6	€11	€27
Maternal Cow	€60	€134	€150	€175	€194	€205	€243
Maternal Calf.	-€78	-€33	-€16	€15	€42	€56	€111

* Based on 4,241 Shorthorn animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION

Beef Cattle Breeding in Ireland.

Andrew Cromie (ICBF)

International Beef Expo.

12th October 2008



1



- €100 profit difference between 5 star & 1 star bulls.
 - ***How have ICBF established this?***
 - ***How can we help farmers capture this in the future?***

Overview

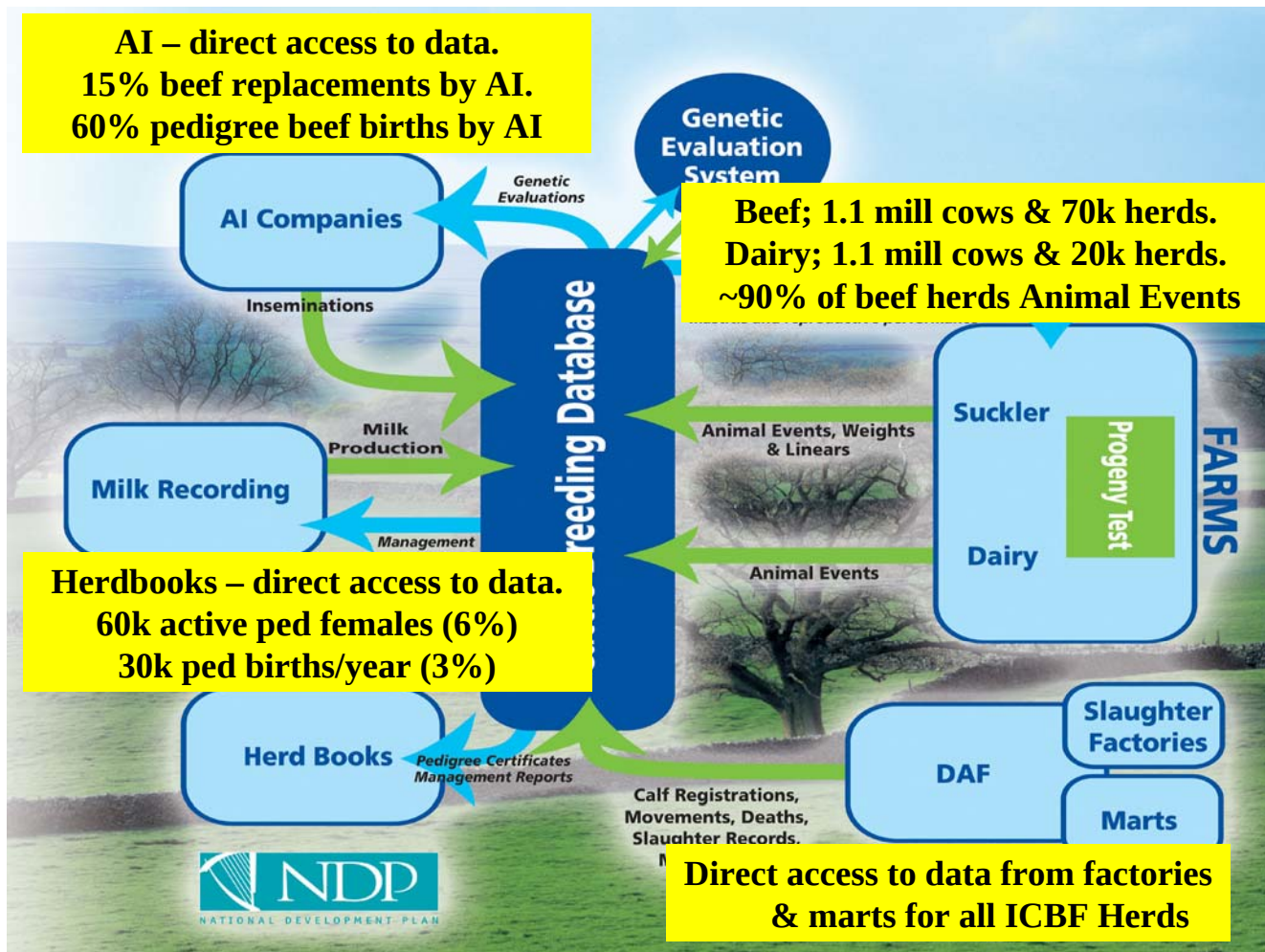
- Background – Irish Cattle Breeding.
- ICBF; Delivering beef profit (€) through;
 1. Data Collection – *establish*
 - Animal Events & Cattle Breeding Database
 2. Genetic Evaluations - *establish*
 - Euro-Star indexes.
 3. Cattle Breeding Services – *capture*.
 - Information for breeding, Beef HerdPlus, GENE IRELAND, GROW, Herdbook Services & Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme.
- Where next & Summary

3

Irish Cattle Breeding

- ICBF established in 2000.
- Federation of Irish cattle breeding organisations; (HB, AI, MR & Farm Orgs.)
- One shared database; Remove duplication, reduce cost & promote new services for farmers.
- Separate DAF system for EU traceability.
- Strong support from DAF (guidance & financial) & other industry stakeholders, e.g., Teagasc, marts, meat factories.
- True synergies exist; **1+1 = 3.**

4



All beef data in one central system



1. Animal Events & Cattle Breeding Database.

- Starting point for Irelands beef system.
 - Birth registration data for DAF & ICBF.
 - Extra data for cattle breeding, e.g., name & calving performance.
 - No duplication.
 - Now 25% records electronic.
- 80% beef herds now on Animal Events (Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme – launched in 2008).
- Major breakthrough; ***Sire of Calf is Key.***

7

Benefits of a Central Database

<u>Data flows</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2008 (proj)</u>	<u>% Total</u>
Calf Births	0	1,835,386	87.4%
Calving performance	18,183	1,101,232	52.4%
Slaughter records	2,450	707,517	39.3%
Mart weight recording	0	331,595	33.2%
Total Inseminations	18,183	565,500	56.6%
Pedigree Beef Linears	9,809	15,748	52.5%
Pedigree Weights	6,039	14,356	47.9%

- Establishment of Cattle Breeding Database (2002) = huge increases in data for cattle breeding.
- ~70% data edited from GE due to missing sires & small herd-size (benefits of SCWS)
- Still large volumes for GE (~2m for calving perf).

8

2. Genetic Evaluations.

- Taking “data recorded” and turning it into valuable breeding information for farmers & industry.
- Challenges:
 - Which traits; terminal, maternal....
 - How to handle multiple breeds & cross-breeds?
 - What about foreign data?
 - How to “package & present”?



9

(i) Turning data into “Profit Traits”.

- 15 key “Profit Traits” identified.
- Grouped into calving, weanling, beef & maternal.
- Additional ~25 traits used as predictor traits, e.g., linear type traits & carcass attributes.

Type of data stored in ICBF database	Source of Information	Data Recording and Traits Created
Pedigree Data	Herdbooks, Animal Events	Sire and dam ancestry, breed of sire and dam, sex of calf
Cattle Movements	DAF - CMMS	CMMS: All cattle movements
Calving Performance	Animal Events	Calving difficulty, gestation, mortality, maternal Calving difficulty
Weaning Weight	Livestock Marts & on-farm recording	Individual weight at 150 - 300 days
Calf Quality	Marts	Mart price per kg at 150 - 300 days
Linear Score	On-farm, Tully	15 linear type traits
Liveweight	Marts, Tully & on-farm	Individual weight at 300 - 600 days
Feed Intake	Tully & Teagasc	KG daily DM intake on test
Carcass data	Meat Factories	EU grading systems, Carcass weight, conformation, fat, Digital Carcass images
Fertility/Survival	Animal Events, AI technicians	Age at first Calving, Gestation, calving to service intervals, Calving interval, survival, Lifespan,

10

(ii) Multiple Breeds

- 30k pedigree beef calves.
- 300k $\frac{3}{4}$ bred beef (yellow shade).
- 700k cross-bred beef calves (grey shade).
- 500k beef calves from dairy herd (white shade).
- Access to commercial beef & dairy cross data – *major plus for Irish beef industry.*
- Evaluations for all profit traits.
- All profit indexes are comparable across breeds.

Dam Breed	Breed of Sire																
	Charolais	HolFries	Limousin	Angus	Hereford	Simment	BBue	Montbel	Shthorn	Blonde	Saler	Rotbunt	Jersey	MRI	Other	Total	
Charolais	168,419	556	52,559	9,711	4,651	11,170	7,807	117	1,245	1,156	1,123	6	3	22	561	259,106	
HolFries	39,698	487,285	92,520	148,908	131,275	38,874	41,959	12,656	2,851	1,744	1,577	4,455	4,135	1,157	4,211	1,013,305	
Limousine	90,048	1,052	120,731	12,487	5,357	11,618	12,827	126	1,610	1,701	1,304	30	7	35	663	259,596	
Angus	52,017	1,371	31,193	28,814	5,129	6,742	5,914	105	1,473	685	834	27	12	27	573	134,916	
Hereford	62,654	1,534	40,474	10,428	27,400	12,246	5,949	133	1,464	965	656	22	9	19	446	164,399	
Simmental	67,216	1,522	40,954	7,923	5,309	32,844	7,326	306	856	1,114	818	33	5	36	459	166,721	
BBue	20,460	848	17,111	4,314	1,890	2,958	7,349	76	478	621	317	23	11	10	235	56,701	
Montbel	1,736	3,805	2,615	3,576	2,002	1,061	1,181	6,110	124	97	76	197	85	32	283	22,980	
Shorthorn	13,597	538	8,754	2,844	1,675	1,992	1,373	59	7,207	219	386	20	17	10	189	38,880	
Blonde	1,472	28	1,550	311	128	238	494	3	17	1,793	69	1	0	2	47	6,153	
Saler	2,385	10	1,122	275	111	194	193	2	57	24	1,952	0	0	1	45	6,371	
Rotbunt	115	1,212	248	939	451	78	117	108	47	36	14	1,488	110	14	58	5,035	
Jersey	116	1,177	135	351	167	26	101	41	26	8	3	18	1,328	7	54	3,558	
MRI	353	917	560	415	521	186	212	252	93	21	22	145	15	1,095	101	4,908	
Other	802	811	839	1,229	324	253	249	119	77	34	58	66	94	9	2,472	7,436	
Total	521,088	502,666	411,365	232,525	186,390	120,480	93,051	20,213	17,625	10,218	9,209	6,531	5,831	2,476	10,397	2,150,065	
percent	24.2	23.4	19.1	10.8	8.7	5.6	4.3	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.5	100.0	

11

(iii) Foreign Data

- Pedigree breeders wish to source best genetics from all around world.
- The reason for today!
- €uro-Star Indexes include EBV's from foreign countries.
- Major +ive for Irish breeders.
- Imported animals don't start at zero.

Index officiels des taureaux
d'insémination animale de race à viande au 10 novembre 2007
10494 dossiers répondent à votre choix

Index officiel des taureaux d'insémination animale de race à viande
INRA
Département de Génétique Animale

Mise à jour des index du 10/11/2007 Éché le 07/03/2008

Race Charolaise **RITMO** **Qualité RJR** **N° FR 7121650113**
Né le 29/03/2008 N°E 38-56744
Naisseur ETS GAEC DES ENDOULEVENT Père FR 7193116002 ICARE Race 38
Maître d'oeuvre du programme : UCEF Mère FR 7191133892 HOULETTE Race 38

Autorisé à la mise à l'épreuve le 21/08/2001
Agrée Qualité Maternelle le 15/10/2007

Facilité de Naissance
Base de référence CH.SF.06
9 NAISS 88 CD 0.92

IBOVAL Base de référence CH.SF.06 Rang d'indexation 61 (index en base 100)
CR D'essai D'essai 126VR CD AIVM ALAB MERParv IVMAT CD N° de camp d'utilisation : 2
116 114 101 119 0.90 102 102 112 120 0.93 N° de troupeaux : 78
DEE LAD ARC LAC EPO GRC LOD LOB LAH DEV TET AAV AAR REP RPO LAP LAT LOC ETA N° de veaux : 111
N° de filles : 33

Station de Contrôle Individuel Base de référence CH.CL.06 (index en base 100)
(suffite 10) CR VOS EFA DE MBV CD DS AF GR MOCRC CD
116 106 102 112 117 0.98 93 98 114 0.97

Consulter un autre outil
version pdf Consulter la nomenclature des index dans sa dernière version Consulter une autre race

12

(iv) Package & Present

- Euro-Star Indexes
- Launched in 2007
- Profit (€) from;
 - Calving, Export, Beef Carcass, Replacement (milk, fertility & calf value).
 - Sub-indexes combined into an overall Suckler Beef Value.
- All animals get a Euro-Star.
- Higher is better.
- Aim to buy & breed from 5 star animals.



CF52 Doonally New
 Breed: CH Owner: NCBC DOB: Jan 2000
Euro-Star rating (ICBF Jan 2007)

Star rating within breed		Star rating across all breeds
★★★★★	Suckler beef value €145	★★★★★
BEEF VALUE		
★★	Calving -€20	★
★★★★★	Weanling export €123	★★★★★
★★★★★	Beef carcass €154	★★★★★
REPLACEMENT VALUE		
★	Milk & fertility -€148	★
★★★★★	Calf quality €351	★★★★★
OTHER KEY TRAITS		
★★	Calving difficulty 13%	★★
★★★	Docility 100	★★★

Key to symbols ★ High reliability ★ Average reliability ★ Low reliability
 © Irish Cattle Breeding Federation 2007

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Example; Top AI Bull CF52

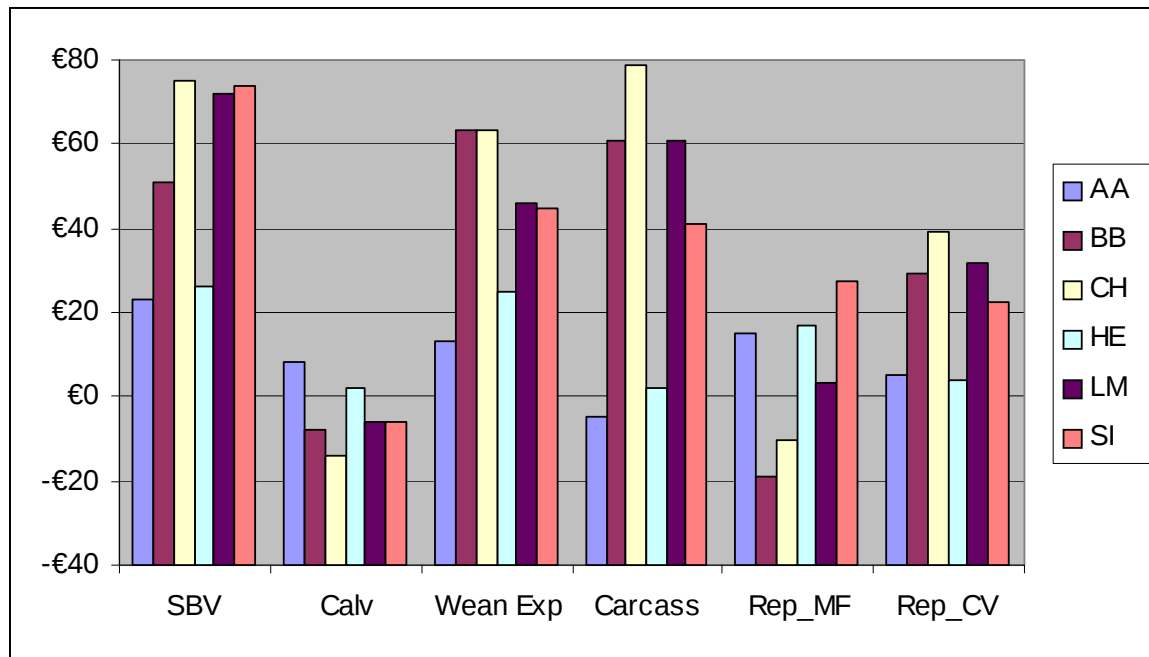
Euro-Star Rating (ICBF, Feb 2008)

Within Breed		Index	Data rel	Across Breed
★★★★★	Suckler Beef Value	€ 169	97%	★★★★★

Beef Value	
• Suckler Beef Value of €169 • €169 more profit per calf. • 5 stars within Charolais breed. • 5 stars across all breeds.	

14

Across Breed; All breeds have strengths & weakness.



17

Using the Stars Remember.

- 1 star bull (*) €50/calf
- 5 star bull (* * * * *) €150/calf
- Difference of €100/calf
- Difference apparent within all breeds.
- Pick your breed & pick the best bulls within that breed.
- Across 30 calves/bull/year
- **€3,000 more profit/year.**

18

3. Cattle Breeding Services.

- Helping farmers “capture” the €100.
- Proving information & services.
 - Beef Expo, ICBF Website, & ICBF Active Bull List.
 - ICBF Beef HerdPlus.
 - GROW
 - GEN€ IRELAND
 - Herdbook Services.
 - Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme

BEEF BREEDING IN IRELAND



Beef Expo – 12th October 2008



(i) Beef Expo – Breeding Information.

- Breed Fact Sheet;
 - National Calf Registration.
 - Herdbook Registration.
 - Performance Data.
 - Genetic Evaluations
 - Genetic Trends.
- Euro-Star Indexes for all animals in show.
- Euro-Star Index catalogue (limited availability).

Breed Fact Sheet: Charolais

- First imported into Ireland from France in 1964.

Table 1. National Birth Registration Data (Dept Agriculture & Food)*

	Records
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire of calf is Charolais.	463,507
Number of 2007 calf births, where dam of calf is Charolais.	258,560
Number of 2007 calf births, where sire & dam of calf are Charolais (i.e. % bred or more).	162,231

* Total calf births in Ireland in 2007 = 2,180,723 (DAF, CMOI Report, 2007).

Table 2. Herdbook Registration Data – Irish Charolais Cattle Society.

	Records
Number of 2007 pedigree calf births.	9,825
Number of “active” pedigree females in ICBF database*	17,855

* Live cows currently on ICBF database with 1 or more calvings since 1st January 2006.

Table 3. ICBF Performance Data (based on records in Euro-Star evaluations).

	Records	Mean
Calving Traits:		
Calving Difficulty (% calving's scored 3 or 4)	245,392	5.1%
Gestation Length (days from insemination to birth)	17,831	288.2
Beef Performance Traits:		
Weaning Weight (Kg); Ave age@wean=224 days.	29,334	316.3
Weanling Price (Cents/Kg); Ave age@wean sale=221 days.	10,245	185.2
Linear Score - Loin Development (1-15).	35,630	8.4
Linear Score - Hind Quarter Development (1-15).	35,630	8.3
Carcass Weight Kg (Cold); Ave age@slaughter= 720 days & 21% carcass records from dairy dams.	31,410	367.5
Carcass Grade (EUROP)	31,410	R
Carcass Fat Score (1-5)	31,410	3
Feed Intake (Kg DM Day on Performance Test).	810	9.6
Maternal Traits:		
Age at first Calving (Months)	18,256	30.6
Calving Interval (Interval in days between 1 st & 2 nd Parity).	10,380	400.3
Cow Survival (% Females Surviving from 1 st & 2 nd Parity)	14,468	81.7%
Maternal Weaning Weight Kg (150-300 days)	15,185	318
Cull Cow Weight (Kg)	2,678	296.7

Table 4. ICBF Genetic Index Data*

Indexes & Sub-Indexes.	Btm 1%	Btm 10%	Btm 20%	Mean (3 stars)	Top 20%	Top 10%	Top 1%
Suckler Beef Value	€56	€95	€109	€136	€159	€171	€200
Calving	-€35	-€23	-€20	-€14	-€10	-€7	-€2
Export	€61	€81	€89	€102	€113	€119	€136
Slaughter	€80	€110	€122	€144	€164	€173	€195
Maternal Cow	-€271	-€232	-€214	-€174	-€139	-€123	-€82
Maternal Calf	€171	€264	€299	€360	€419	€447	€519

* Based on 44,883 Charolais animals born since 1st January 2004 & with Euro-Star Index data.



(i) ICBF Active Beef Bull List 2008

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

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

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(ii) ICBF Beef HerdPlus

- Valuable reports for breeding & management decisions.
- Minimal cost;
 - €20/herd/year for electronic.
 - €60/herd/year for paper.
- Direct access to your herd data in database.
- Can you afford to miss out?

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




22

Example; Beef Euro-Star Report

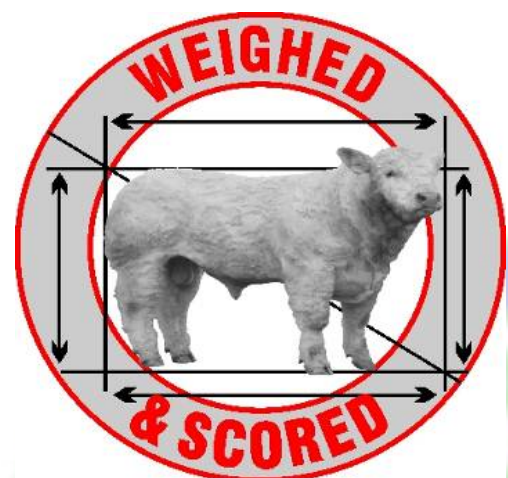
		Suckler Beef Value (Reliability %)					
Commercial		Beef Value			↓ Within Across	Replacement Value	
Group	No.	Calving Traits	Weanling Export	Beef Carcass		Milk & Fert	Calf Value
		Within Corn Across All Peds	Within Across	Within Across		Within Across	Within Across
All cows	32	-€ 1.6	€ 66	€ 81	€ 112	€ 17	€ 215
		****	*****	*****	*****	***	*****
		****	*****	****	*****	****	*****

- Excellent herd for Beef Euro-Star Indexes.
- 32 commercial cows – 5 star cows.
- Another €100 (5 star bull (€100) + 5 star cow (€100) = €200 additional profit.

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(iii) GROW – Genetic Recording of Weanlings

- Promote weaning weight recording amongst breeders & commercial farmers.
- Launched Spring 08
- Excellent uptake.
 - Weanling weight recording has doubled this year.
- Reports for farmers.



**Buy bulls from
farmers with the
weighed & scored logo**

24

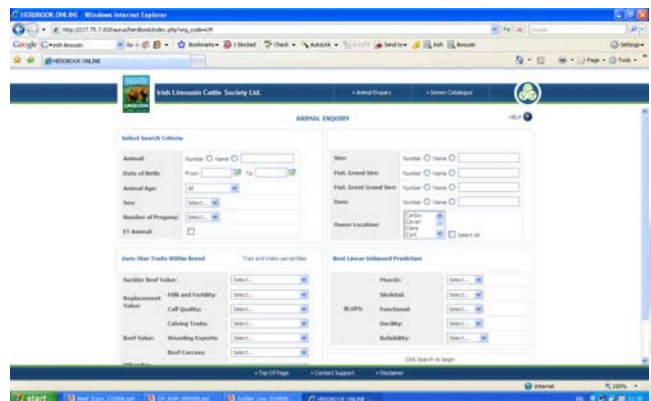
(iv) GENE IRELAND Beef - 2008

- Objective; To provide a better bull each year for breeders & farmers.
- Program launched in 2007.
 - To-date 400 herds on program & 15 bulls tested.
- Program is expanding (breeds & herds)
- Aim to progeny test 20 bulls in this Autumn.
 - 600 herds required.
 - Good incentives for farmers; ~€600 for 25 straws.
- Main source of bulls for program is high Euro-Star bulls from Tully.

25

(v) Herdbook Services.

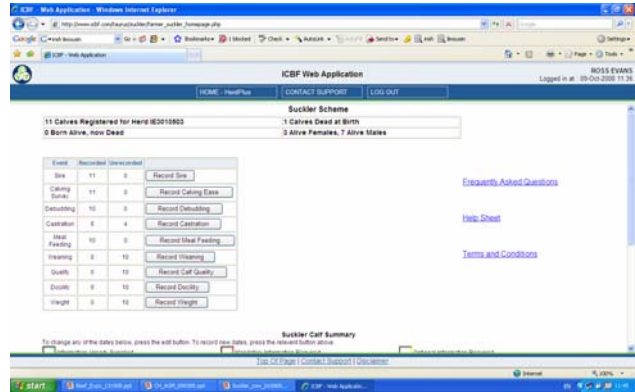
- Irish beef herdbooks manage members data within central database.
 - Pedigree registration, errors, invoicing, catalogues...
- New “on-line” herdbook launched in conjunction with breed societies.
 - Animal search; pedigree, progeny, indexes.



26

(vi) Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme.

- DAF funded scheme.
- Operated from ICBF cattle breeding database.
- Animal Events as a key component.
- Manage your data “on-line”.
 - ICBF website; User name & password.
 - Births, sire’s, calving, castration, meal feeding..
 - Making it “easier” for farmers & industry.



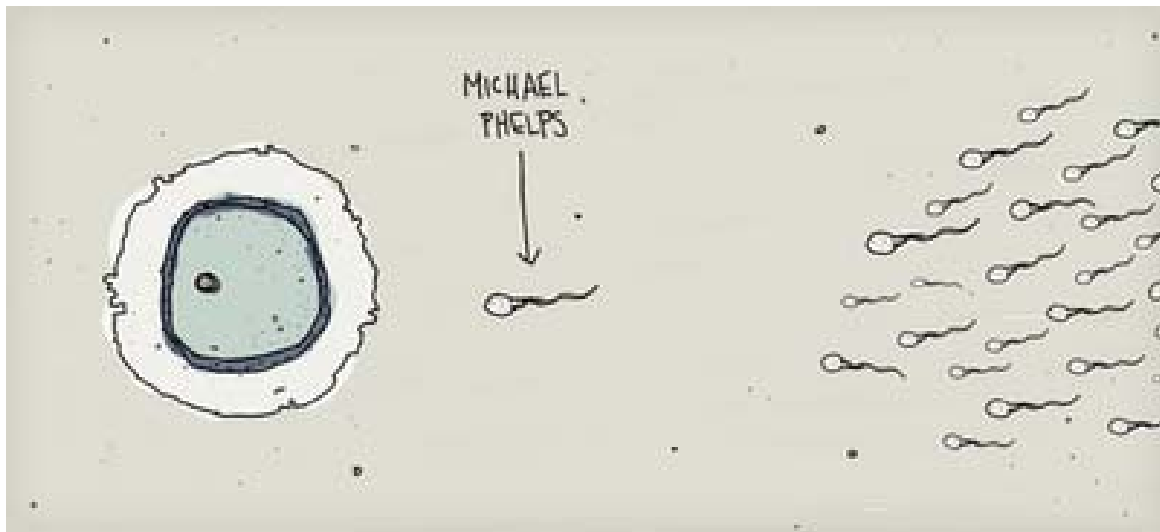
27

Summary - Trying to capture the €100!

1. Data for Cattle Breeding.
 - Single database, used by farmers & stakeholders.
 - Quality of data is improving rapidly.
2. Euro-Star Indexes.
 - Profit focused (€100 difference within breeds).
 - Technically strong (across breed & foreign data).
3. Providing Valuable Services.
 - Opportunity for big uptake in beef breeding information & services by farmers & industry.
 - Start to-day...the next bull you buy, information for breeding (HerdPlus), GEN€ IR€.....

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Trying to find a winner!



***Use breeding information
Thank-You.***



HerdPlus
Profit through Science



ICBF's HerdPlus Beef service offers you an Independent, Scientific & Profit based assessment of your herd through access to the following :

€uro-Star Report

Beef

Slaughter Report

Suckler Cow Report

Online Herd Profiles

Calving & Fertility Reports

Linear & Weight Recording

Personalised Pocket Notebook

Priority Access to G€N€ Irl & Tully



To Sign up to HerdPlus Lo-Call 1850-600-900



Annual Fee

Reports Online

€60 (VAT Incl.)

Reports by Post

€120 (VAT Incl.)

Direct Debit Offer

€20 (VAT Incl.)

€60 (VAT Incl.)



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