

G€N€ IRELAND (GI) Maternal Beef Breeding Program



1. Sign Up

- All Irish Pedigree Beef Breeders can sign up to the program by completing an application form (available from ICBF - 1850-600-900). There is an annual fee of €250/herd which must also be included with the application form (cheque or Direct Debit)

2. Maternal Bull Breeder Qualification Process

- Herds that sign up to the program will begin the process of getting themselves qualified as official 'Bull Breeder' herds.
- All data records are assessed using the ICBF 'Herd Data Quality Index' (HDQI).

3. Qualified Maternal Bull Breeder Herds

- Herds that have achieved an excellent HDQI rating become qualified Maternal 'Bull Breeder' herds.
- Each 'Bull Breeder' herd will have to maintain a very high 'HDQI' rating in order to retain their 'Bull Breeder' status

4. Bull Breeder Advice

- Guidance on best practice in relation to herd health & the rearing of young bulls thus ensuring that all Bulls produced from the herd are fit & ready for breeding.
- Mating advice on all breeding females in the herd - minimizing inbreeding and maximizing genetic gain.
- Provide priority access to new technology's such as genomics.

5. G€N€ IRELAND STAMP

- A G€N€ IRELAND (GI) stamp will be displayed on all publically available ICBF material.
- All Bulls & Heifers being sold will have this stamp printed beside them in Sales Catalogues, on Bull Search Web Pages & in Breed Society Online Herdbooks etc.
- This stamp demonstrates to a purchaser that the herd from which the animal is being sold from has achieved an extremely high standard of data quality (i.e. correct dates of birth, accurate insemination/mating dates etc.).

6. AI Bull

- There is the possibility that the GI program will purchase a bull from your herd from which semen will be collected
- 500 Semen straws will be used as part of progeny testing the bull.
- The remaining 500 semen straws will be stored until the bull is proven.
- Only 'Bull Breeder' herds will then receive complimentary straws from the very best of these proven bulls.