



IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION

ICBF Beef Industry Meeting

27th January 2010.

Agenda

- Developments in GROW service – PD
- Summary of new across breed evaluations for linear type & docility - RE
- New Euro-Star catalogue page – RE.
- Beef CIS research Update – RE
- Predicting Carcass Cut Data – TP.
- Preferential treatment & Mating – AC.
- Beef Genomics Update – AC.
- Breed Development & GEN€ IRELAND – AC
- AOB

ET's & Genomics.

- ET & Preferential Mating.
 - On-hold pending today's work.
 - Update for next meeting.
- Genomics.
 - New larger chip available in April.
 - DNA extracted – 300 bulls.
 - Semen in storage – 400 bulls.
 - Other bulls.....?
 - Target – 1200 bulls by end 2010.

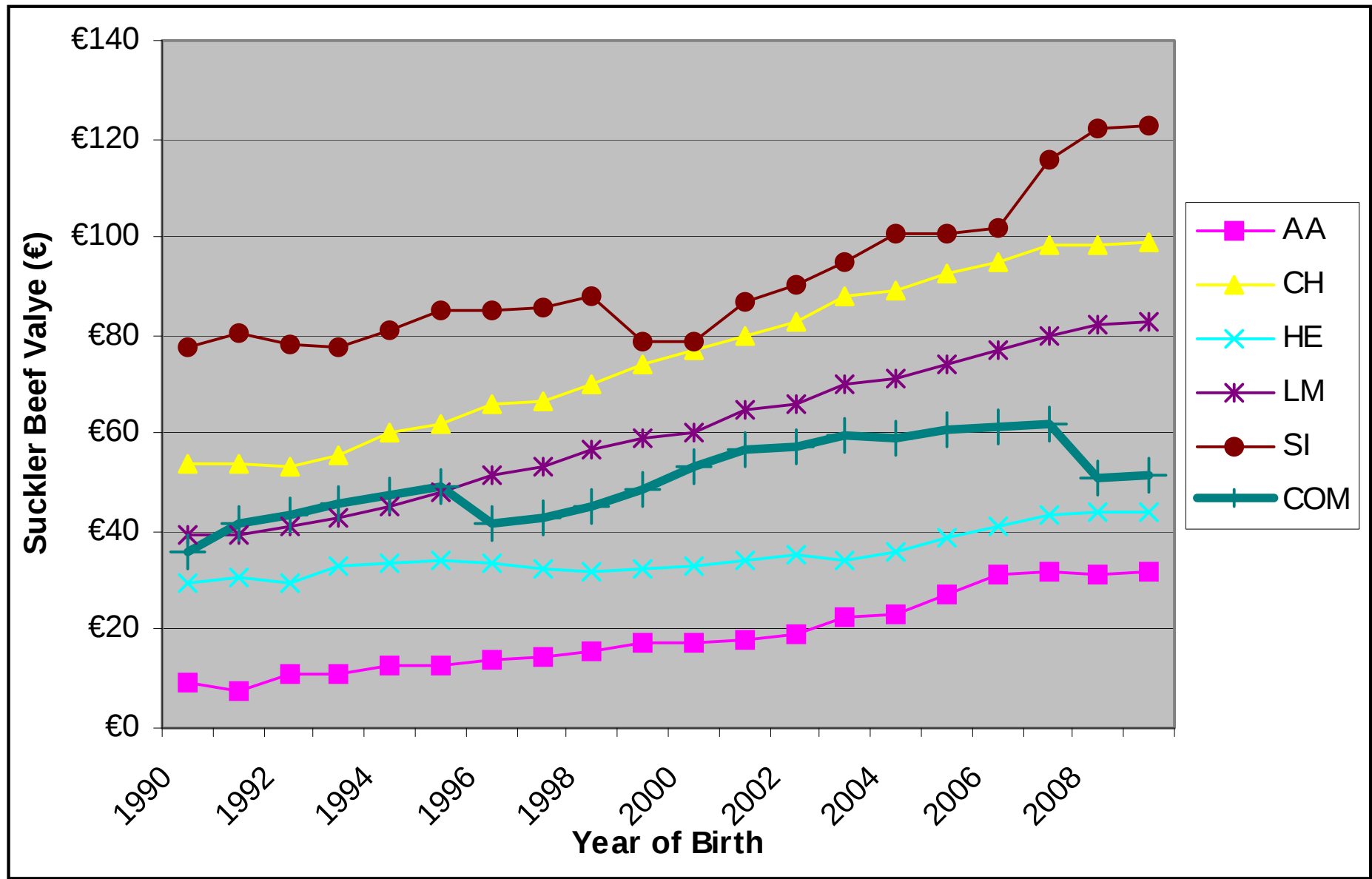


IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION

***Genetic Gain in our Beef
Industry.
Some Observations.***

27th January 2010.

Genetic Trends – SBV (€)

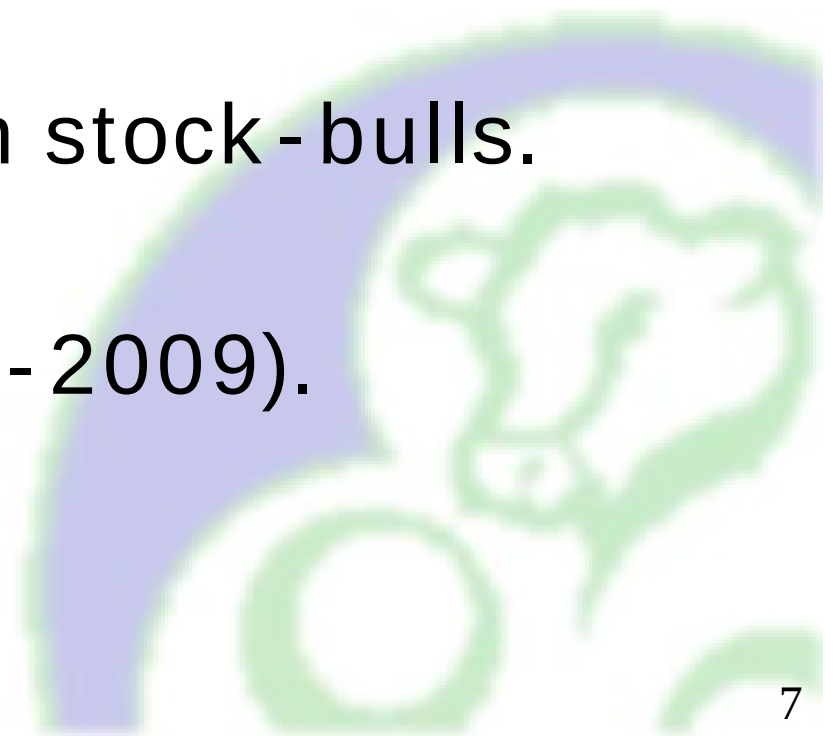


Increasing Genetic Gain.

- Current rate of gain = $\sim \text{€}5/\text{cow}/\text{year}$.
- Optimal rate of gain = $\text{€}20/\text{cow}/\text{year}$.
- Difference of $\text{€}15/\text{cow}/\text{year}$
- Worth $\text{€}100$ million to Irish beef farmers by 2020.
- How do we get to $\text{€}20/\text{cow}/\text{year}$?

A high-level view of our beef breeding industry.

- Trends in the Suckler beef herd.
- Analysis of 2009 beef births.
 - AI versus Stock Bulls?
- Analysis of 2006 born stock-bulls.
 - Where are they now?
- GEN€ IRELAND (2007-2009).
 - Latest trends.



Trends in National Suckler Herd.

Key Statistics.	2009	2008	2007	2006	Decline 08 vs 09
1. Number of Suckler Beef Cows	1,067,338	1,096,261	1,087,534	1,075,284	2.6%
2. Number of cows from 1 (above) with a calving in the previous 12 months.	892,813	950,737	933,524	934,142	6.1%
3. Number of cows from 2 (above) that are heifers.	159,270	184,582	164,818	157,756	13.7%

- **Key Message:**
 - Suckler Herd is on Decline

Analysis of 2009 Beef Births

		No.	% Total
Total progeny	Progeny	701,772	100%
	Bulls	41,323	100%
	Ave SBV	2.90	
- Progeny by AI sires	Progeny	134,858	19%
	Bulls	1,371	3%
	Ave SBV	3.03*	
- Progeny by pedigree Stock bulls	Progeny	456,865	65%
	Bulls	29,919	72%
	Ave SBV	2.84*	
- Progeny by non pedigree stock bulls	Progeny	110,049	16%
	Bulls	10,033	24%
	Ave SBV		

* Weighted average EBI of all progeny = 3.5 for AI & 2.3 for SB.

Average age of ped SB = Mar 2004

Trends in Pedigree Beef Male Registrations.

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Total	12,381	16,352	14,862	15,781	15,226
SBV	3.26	3.25	3.17	3.01	2.77
AI Bred	6767	9140	8424	9045	8973
% total	55%	56%	57%	57%	59%
SBV	3.50	3.46	3.25	3.24	3.06
SB Bred	5,616	7,211	6,438	6,736	6,253
% total	45%	44%	43%	43%	41%
SBV	3.02	2.96	2.88	2.71	2.56

Births - Key Message.

- 80% of births are from stock bulls.
 - 75% of these are pedigree bulls.
 - Weighted average SBV = 2.8
- AI bulls.
 - Weighted average SBV = 3.0.
- Need to increase SBV of stock bulls & AI bulls.
 - 55 - 60% of stock bulls are AI bred.
 - Making genetic gain – *but not enough.*

What happens to stock bulls? Summary of 2006 born bulls.

	On-Farm	Slaughtered	Dead	Export	Total	% Total
Non-Sold Bulls						
- Breeder Herd	1,165	2,898	756	482	5,301	33.6%
Sold Bulls						
- Beef Herd	5,460	2,124	316	187	8,087	51.2%
- Dual Herd	500	243	30	13	786	5.0%
- Milk Herd	1,021	412	27	8	1,468	9.3%
- Dormant Herd	82	47	3	6	138	0.9%
Total	8,228	5,724	1,132	696	15,780	100.0%
% Total	52.1%	36.3%	7.2%	4.4%	100.0%	

Progeny Counts for Bulls sold to beef Herds with 90% sire rec.

Progeny	Data	On-Farm	Dead	Export	Slaught	Total	% Total
0	Count	481	118	1	720	1,320	22.8%
	Sum	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
1-5	Count	226	16		119	361	6.2%
	Sum	701	40		358	1,099	1.0%
6-10	Count	391	14		115	520	9.0%
	Sum	3,241	113		936	4,290	4.1%
11-20	Count	1,167	27		196	1,390	24.0%
	Sum	18,004	396		3,010	21,410	20.4%
21-50	Count	1,634	42		251	1,927	33.2%
	Sum	50,693	1,234		7,855	59,782	57.1%
51+	Count	248	8	1	27	284	4.9%
	Sum	15,831	517	62	1,785	18,195	17.4%
Herds	Total	4,147	225	2	1,428	5,802	100.0%
Progeny	Total	88,470	2,300	62	13,944	104,776	100.0%

Stock Bulls – Key message.

- 15.8k stock bulls born in 2006.
 - 5.3k don't make it off breeder farm (33%)
 - 10.5k sold to commercial farms (66%).
 - 8.1k of these are beef herds.
- Based on beef herds with 90% sire recording;
 - 62% of bulls have >10 progeny after 1.5 breeding seasons.
- Suggests that of 15.8k stock bulls born in 2006, *41% are covering their costs* ($.66 * .62$), across the industry.
- Need to improve stock bull offering.

G€N€ IR€LAND – Review.

- First launched in Spring 2007.
- Focused on 3 areas;
 - **Scale**; A target of 100 bulls tested.
 - **Efficiency**; 700 straws per bull to return, 252 births & 100 replacement females (maternal test).
 - **Indexes**; A minimum of 5 stars for SBV (80%+) & 3 stars for M&F (40%+).
- Goal; to increase profitability of our National Suckler herd.

(i) Scale – Herds Involved.

Table 1. Summary of programs (2007, 2008 & 2009)

	2007	2008	2009
Herds involved in the program	146	468	726
Straws dispatched	2,920	7,956	12,342
Straws/herd	20	17	17
Bull equivalents tested	4.2	11.4	18

(i) Scale – Bulls Involved.

Table 2. Summary of bulls on test, by start year.

	Bulls	SBV - Rank	M&F - Rank
2007	8	87	69
2008	16	59	55
2009	13	89	74
2010	10	79	53
Total	47	77	62

(i) Scale – Orgs Involved.

Table 3. Summary of bulls on test, by owner

	Bulls	SBV - Rank	M&F - Rank
Dovea	14	86	51
Eurogene	1	96	32
NCBC	25	71	68
Private	6	80	79
Herdbook	1	48	42
Total	47	77	62

(ii) Efficiency – Bulls fully tested to-date*

Table 4. Efficiency of Program.

	G€N€ IR€ Only	G€N€ IR€ + Outside
No. Bulls	7	6
SBV - Rank	67	76
M&F - Rank	66	66
Straws dispatched	700	700
Inseminations	473	1405
Births	375	797
Linear score	82	100

- * Based on 13 bulls completed test by December 2008. Of these bulls, 7 were tested in G€N€ IR€ only herds & 6 were tested in a combination of G€N€ IR€ & additional AI company herds.*

(iii) Indexes - Bulls

Table 5. Indexes - Bulls on Program

	Completed Test	Currently on Test	Due to go on Test	Overall
No. Bulls	26	11	10	47
SBV - Rank	74	82	79	77
M&F - Rank	66	61	53	62

(iii) Indexes - SBV

Table 6. Indexes - Influence of SBV

	Top 5% on SBV	Others	Overall
No. Bulls	11	15	26
SBV - Rank	99	76	76
M&F - Rank	70	66	66
Time taken to be tested (months)	6.4	8.6	7.8

(iii) Indexes - Origin

Table 7. Indexes - Origin of Bulls on Program

	Purchased from Tully	Purchased on Farm	Purchahsed in France	Overall
No. Bulls	6	12	8	26
SBV - Rank	92	76	76	76
M&F - Rank	76	66	66	66
Time taken to be tested (months)	5.4	9	7.8	7.8

Tully – Summary of Intakes

Table 8. Summary of Tully Intake process.

	Nov-09	May-09	Dec-08	May-08
Targetted	1790	1000	1208	1196
Applied	302	178	294	172
Passed Visual	226	98	154	148
Bloods Sent In	177	78	81	104
Bloods Passed	110	45	64	42
Entered Tully	105	45	58	27
Purchased for AI	On-test	6	5	5

G€N€ IR€ - Key Findings.

- Scale – Limited progress (back-log of bulls). Must increase scale of program.
 - Target: 50 bulls for 2010.
- Efficiency – Excellent efficiency achieved (375 births versus target of 252).
 - Target: Reduce straws/bull to 500.
- Indexes – Limited progress over programs. Clear user preference for high index bulls from Tully.
 - Target: Make better use of bulls from latest Tully Intake. 105 bulls – 30 for G€N€ IR€LAND in Autumn 2010

Where next?

- Now have an accurate picture on key trends in our National beef herd.
- Continue to build the picture.
- Develop a breeding & genetic gain plan for our beef industry.
- 105 high index bulls in Tully. How can we secure 30 of these for G€N€ IR€LAND?