

Using Information Technology to Deliver Benefits to Irish Cattle Farmers and the Breeding Industry.

ISITA Conference – 2nd November 2006 Technology adoption : Theory, practice and analysis.

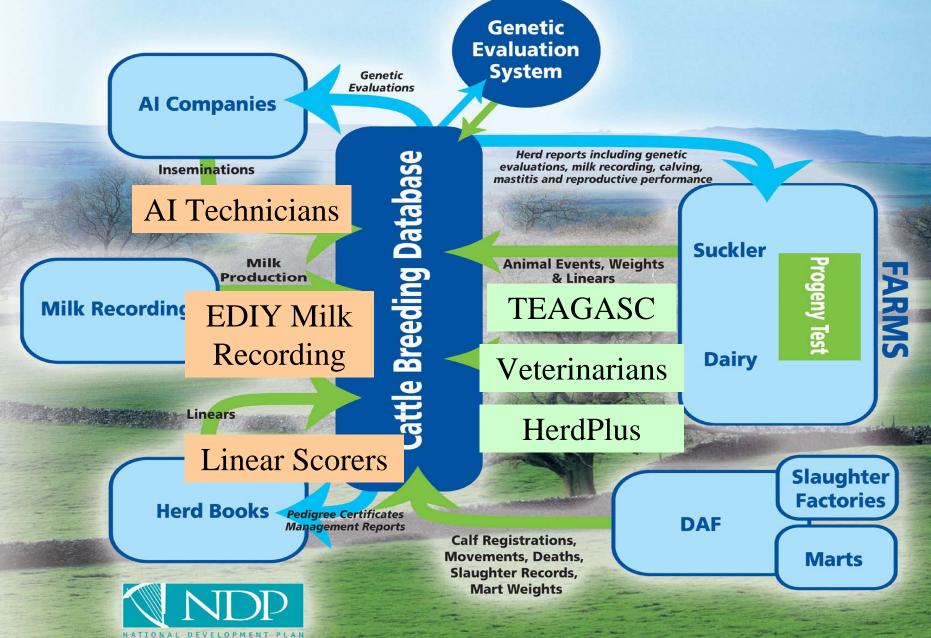
> Brian Wickham Chief Executive



Outline

- Background
- Data collection
 - Animal Events
 - EDIY Milk Recording
- Information provision
 - Advisors
 - HerdPlus
- Potential for the future

Shared Access & One Copy of Truth

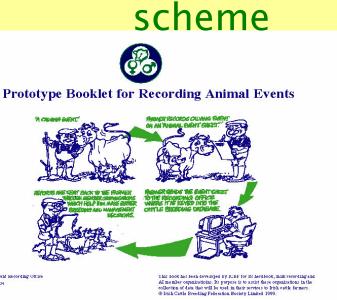


Data Collection

- Principles
 - -Single entry & shared usage
 - Electronic capture close to source as possible with immediate validation
 - -Live database updated ASAP

On-farm data collection

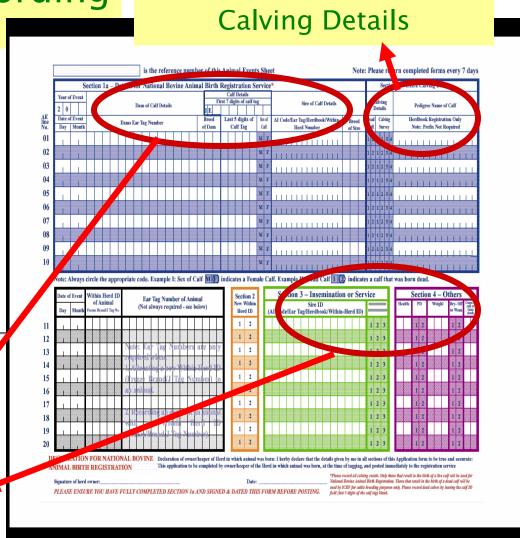
Animal events recording



Data for DAF calf registration & passport, Pedigree/HB registration

Shinagh House

Other events:
Insemination, Weights, Dry
off, Treatments, Culling
reason



On-farm data collection

Animal events recording scheme

Calving Details

Multiple options: Paper, PC Packages, DAF Website, ICBF Website

Data for DAF calf registration & passport, Pedigree/HB registration

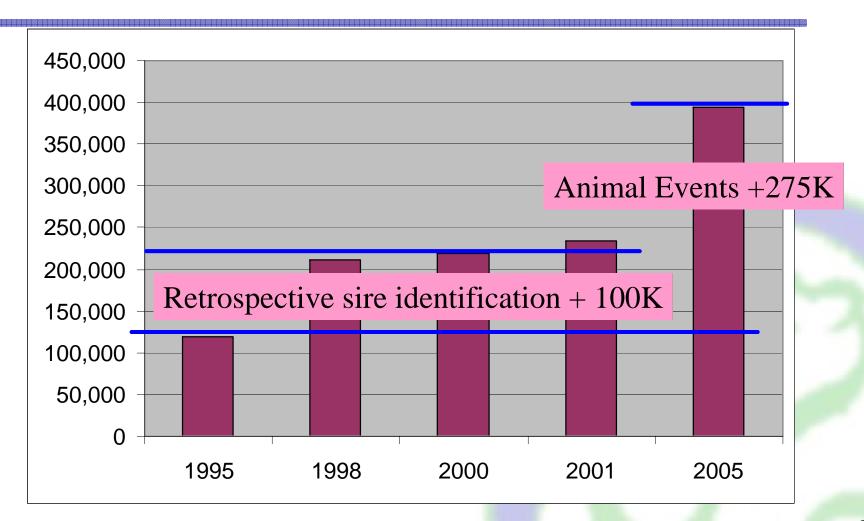
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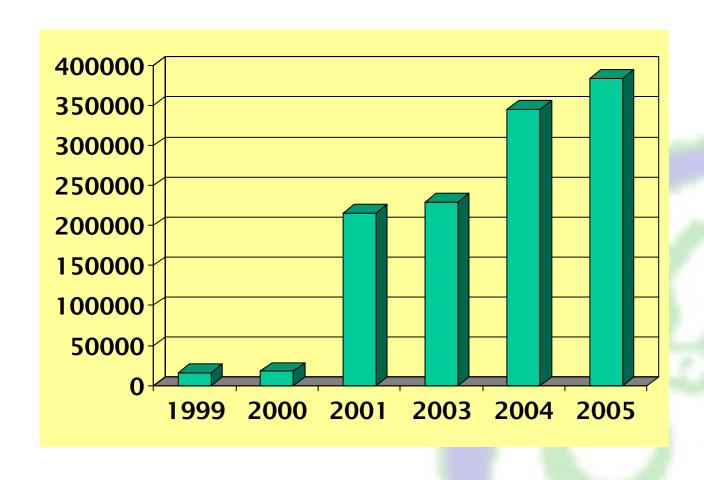
ICBF – Website On-line services

- Web access to PDF copies of all reports.
- Herd profiles live database query
- Data recording live recording against known information and database updating (all events except registrations)

Success: cattle with known sire by year of birth



Success: calving ease records



Data collection: Electronic DIY Milk Recording





- · Electronic meter and data handler.
- Twelve cells van, 65 meters, 8 data handlers, printer, home computer, bar-coded sample vials, driver. Each cell services 4 to 5 herds per day.





Meter automatically collects milk sample into bar coded bottle for laboratory testing.



Success

- · 1,000 herds on EDIY in 2006
- 50% of herds are new to milk recording
- 7% increase in cows milk recorded in 2006 over 2005
- Still large growth potential

Information Provision

Principles

- Farmer controls access
- All data available for potential inclusion in reports
- Use of best science to summarise data into information
- All accessible via ICBF website to authorised persons

Advisors – from www.icbf.com

- TEAGASC some 7,000 dairy & beef herds
- Veterinarians small numbers so far

Information Provision - farmer



- Launched 13th September '06
- · Whole herd: breeding and reproduction
- · Includes: EBI report, animal events notebook, breeding chart, calving report, help desk ... User Pays
- · Electronic & Postal with price difference
- · Goal: high percent of all dairy and beef herds
- Early days: 75% signed for electronic driven by price differential

Opportunities for the future

Animal Events:

- Increase usage from 25% to 80% of calf registrations.
- Increase use of electronic options from 18% to 50%+.
- Milk Recording:
 - 100% increase.
- Artificial Insemination
 - Electronic technician data (160,000 in 2006 out of potential 500,000+).
 - 100% increase in Al.
- · Animal Health:
 - Veterinarian access to database reports
 - Veterinarian data collection
 - Laboratory data collection