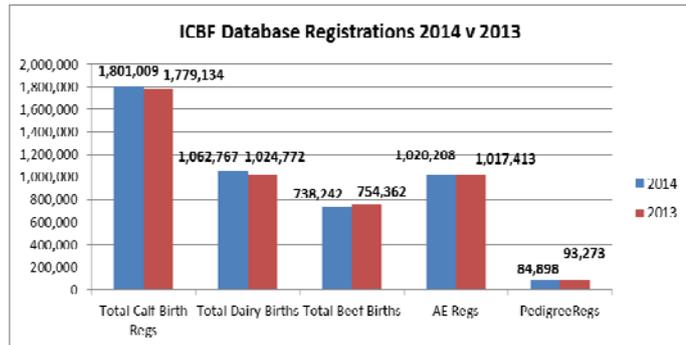
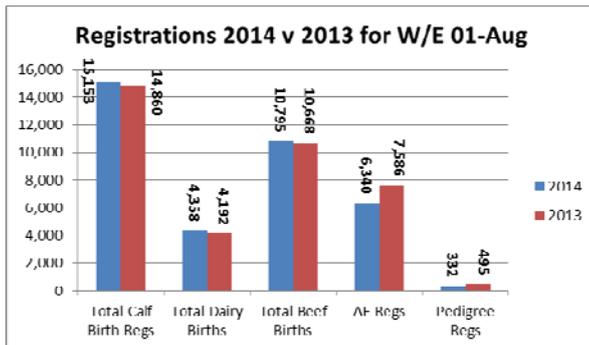


ICBF Weekly Update 1st August 2014

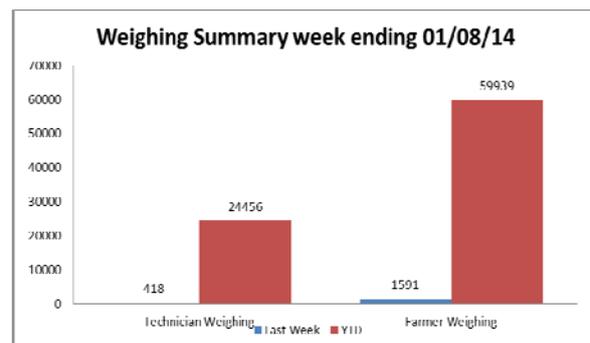
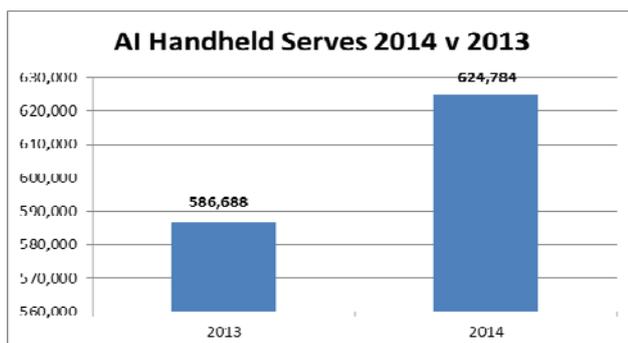
1 Important Dates

- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th September 2014, 10:30am to 13:30pm, Highfield House, Bandon.
- Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th September 2014, 14:00 to 16:30, Highfield House, Bandon.

2 Database



- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,915,000 results received since January 1st, of which 20,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 4.58 million results have now been received.
- The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
- This week there were 418 weights received through the technician service and 1591 weights recorded by farmers. The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 Genetic Evaluations

- Domestic evaluations for the August routine evaluation update are nearing completed at this stage and the process of loading these new evaluations to the database has commenced.

4 Herd Plus®

IGA Beef Summer Tour

- The Irish Grassland Association (IGA) Beef Summer Tour 2014 was titled “Making Suckling Work for You – The right cow on the right grass” and took place on last Tuesday 29th July.

- ✚ It was jointly sponsored by IFAC and Herdplus and was held on 2 beef farms (both of whom are Herdplus members):
 - Tom and Bridget Murphy, Ballycahane, Portlaw, Co. Waterford.
 - James and Mary Grace, Ballincur, Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny.
- ✚ The day was a great success with both farmers openly explaining how their farms are operated. This provided everyone with a great opportunity to discover the factors underpinning their profitability.
- ✚ All of the main aspects of both farming enterprises were discussed. Topics covered included grass & fodder growing & management techniques, reseeding, soil testing, calf rearing, autumn vs. spring calving, breeding vs. purchasing replacements.
- ✚ The future plans for both farms were also discussed in a very open and informative way.



Jim Grace's drystock animals grazing.



Paul Crossan, Teagasc speaks with Eoin & Tom Murphy about Spring & Autumn Calving herds.

Beef Gene Ireland Open Day

- ✚ Discussion group facilitators that are interested in organizing groups to attend a Gene Ireland Open Day at Tully, Co. Kildare should contact Stephen Conroy or Niall Kilrane at **045 521 573** or by email sconroy@icbf.com.

Bull Tracker Reports

- ✚ The Bull Tracker Report has been posted to all Beef Herdplus members with eligible bulls. Eligible bulls are defined as “any Bull that was ever in your herd and which was registered as the sire of a calf in the ICBF database over the last 5 years”. As the name suggests this report will track how a Pedigree Bull has performed in the years after it was sold by its breeder in terms of the quantity and the quality of stock that it sired. Pedigree Breeders will be able to learn more about which of their pedigree cows have produced bulls that have bred well for their purchasers. This report will also be of interest to Commercial Suckler farmers as the performance of Stockbull progeny will also be shown on the report.
- ✚ The 'Bull Tracker' report is made up of an index and an individual bull section. The index section lists all of the bulls that a breeder has sold and that have had calves registered to them in the ICBF database within the last 5 years.
- ✚ The Bull section dedicates a full page per bull giving details as to the performance of each Bull's progeny (calving performance, average daily gains, slaughter grades etc.)
- ✚ Figure 1 shows an example of a current stock bull within a herd. The bull details are shown, his own performance details, ancestry and euro-stars. Progeny records that help contribute to the euro-star evaluations for the bull are shown. A summary of all the progeny registered from this bull are shown, this is further broken down by year. The number of calves registered, sex of calves, number of herds born into,

calving surveys recorded, deaths at birth, difficult calving's, weights, carcass data and daughters calving details are all shown in the report.

Current Stock Bull																																																																																																																																																																																																												
Animal Details						Ancestry Details				Euro-Star Index (07/07/2014)																																																																																																																																																																																																		
Jumbo: CH146 Official Tag: IE321453740146 CASTLECONNOR DONAL Date of Birth: 23-JAN-2008 Breed: CH (100%) Herdbook: Pedigree Registered Sold: Progeny: 58 (100% Commercial) Current Status: Alive						Sire's Sire: HME HERMES Sire's Dam: 7193100567 INTRUSE CF52 DOONALLY NEW IE321453780075 CASTLECONNOR (KHO) SKYLLA				<table border="1"> <tr><td>Within Breed</td><td>Economic Indexes</td><td>Index</td><td>Rel</td><td>Across</td></tr> <tr><td>*****</td><td>Terminal</td><td>€135</td><td>60%</td><td>*****</td></tr> <tr><td>*</td><td>Replacement</td><td>€-3</td><td>49%</td><td>*</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="5">Dairy Beef</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="5">Expected Progeny Performance</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Calving Diff (%3&4)</td><td>8%</td><td>60%</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Docility (1-5 scale)</td><td>+0.05</td><td>35%</td><td>*****</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Carcass Weight (Kg)</td><td>+38 Kg</td><td>74%</td><td>*****</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Carc Conf (1-5 Scale)</td><td>+1.90</td><td>69%</td><td>*****</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="5">Expected Daughter Breeding Performance</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Dau Calving Diff (%3&4)</td><td>5.2%</td><td>32%</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Dau Milk (Kg)</td><td>-8.8 Kg</td><td>35%</td><td>*</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Dau Calv Interval (days)</td><td>5.53 Days</td><td>33%</td><td>*</td></tr> </table>				Within Breed	Economic Indexes	Index	Rel	Across	*****	Terminal	€135	60%	*****	*	Replacement	€-3	49%	*	Dairy Beef					Expected Progeny Performance					Calving Diff (%3&4)		8%	60%		Docility (1-5 scale)		+0.05	35%	*****	Carcass Weight (Kg)		+38 Kg	74%	*****	Carc Conf (1-5 Scale)		+1.90	69%	*****	Expected Daughter Breeding Performance					Dau Calving Diff (%3&4)		5.2%	32%		Dau Milk (Kg)		-8.8 Kg	35%	*	Dau Calv Interval (days)		5.53 Days	33%	*																																																																																																																														
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Comments: *Assumed Birthweight: 45 Kgs for Males. 40Kg for Females						Average Breed % in Dam's of Calves SH 25% LM 24% AA 17% CH 10% HE 5% HO 3% Other 16%				1. Recorded in a group of at least 5 other animals over a two month period 2. Be within certain biological limits for age & weight 3. Show variation across data recorded for that trait in the herd 4. Be recorded individually e.g. Mat Weights Please note that the Euro-Star Values are not solely based on the above data Performance records from relatives of this bull also affect his Euro-Stars																																																																																																																																																																																																		

1/31

Figure 1. Sample Bull Tracker report for Castleconnor Donal.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 01/08/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 01/08/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 01/08/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 01/08/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 01/08/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,834	1,143	30%	325,438	102,997	32%
Progressive	2,489	1,074	43%	234,653	101,789	43%
Tipperary	115	44	38%	9,936	3,836	39%
Total	6,438	2,261	35%	570,027	208,622	37%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 01/08/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 01/08/14	2014 vs. 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	307,009	325,438	5.7%
Progressive	226,425	234,653	3.5%
Tipperary	9,738	9,936	2.0%
Total	533,434	570,027	6.4%

6 Sheep Ireland

✚ Yesterday (Thursday 31st July), Sheep Ireland took part in the annual Irish Grassland Association sheep event which took place on the farm of Philip and Jonathon Higgins in Skreen, Co. Sligo. This was a very successful farm walk on a very well managed sheep and suckler enterprise. They run a very successful commercial flock along with a small pedigree Texel flock. Jonathon performance records his pedigree flock in the Sheep Ireland LambPlus programme and is making great progress, his high EuroStar Indices for 2014 reflect this. This event was the first of a two part IGA sheep programme for 2014. The next IGA sheep event will take place on the farm of Anthony McShane in Carlingford, Co. Louth, next Thursday 7th August from 3-5pm. For more details on this event please go to www.irishgrassland.com.

See attached for some images from Thursday's event.

✚ This week we continued to provide EuroStar evaluations for upcoming pedigree ram sales. On Saturday 2nd August, the Irish Suffolk sheep society will hold their premier sale in Roscrea Mart, Co. Tipperary. On Tuesday 5th August, the Irish Belclare Sheep Society will hold their Premier sale in Cillin Hill Mart, Co. Kilkenny. The next Premier sale to take place will be the Irish Texel Sheep Society in Blessington, Co. Wicklow on Saturday 9th August. Sheep Ireland will be in attendance at all these important sale events and look forward to speaking with breeders and commercial farmer to discuss the stars. Interested ram buyers should visit the relevant breed society websites to find sales catalogues for these sales.

✚ The deadline for entering sheep in the Sheep Ireland multi-breed sale on Saturday 23rd August in Tullamore Mart is today Friday 1st August. All LambPlus breeders have received letters and entry forms with all the criteria for this sale. We will be preparing a sales catalogue and uploading to www.sheep.ie for public viewing as soon as possible.

Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 872903121, Email scoughlan@icbf.com, **Registered Office:** Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Society Ltd trading as "ICBF", Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 4914R, Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 1893 to 1978. Web: www.icbf.com. **Registered Office:** Sheep Database Ltd trading as "Sheep Ireland". Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 465004, Companies Acts 1963 to 2006. Web: www.sheep.ie.

National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 23-JUL-2014 To 01-AUG-2014

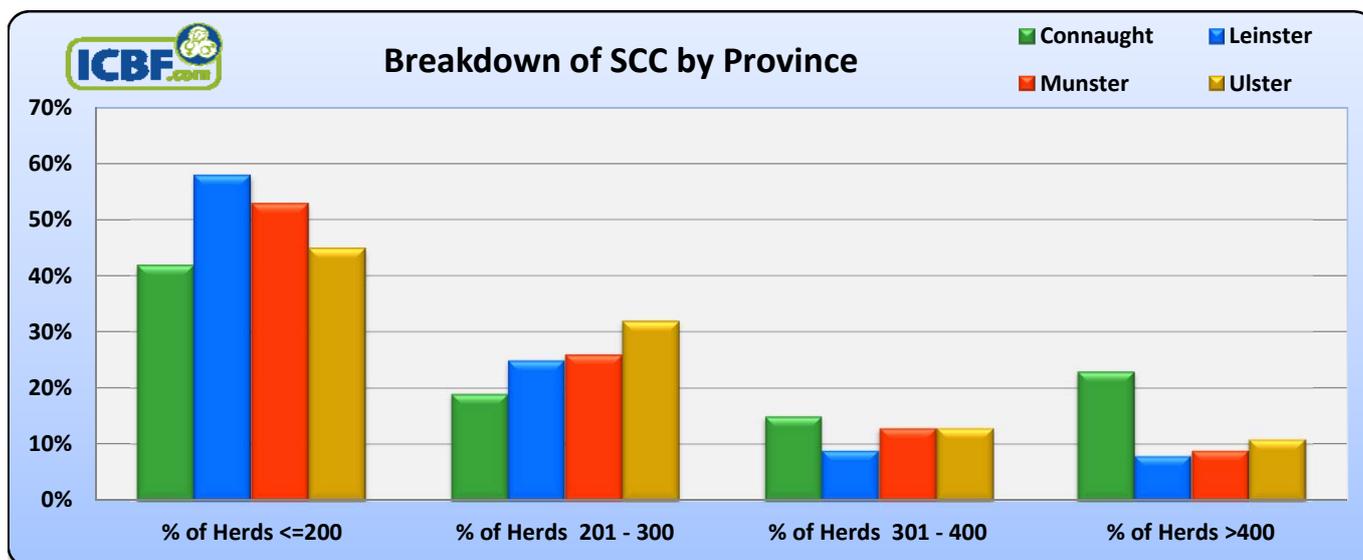
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	26	1,789	69	23.7	3.71	3.32	1.65	223
Leinster	173	14,895	86	21.8	3.81	3.41	1.57	173
Munster	629	48,530	77	21.8	3.83	3.41	1.58	193
Ulster	38	2,526	66	24.6	3.61	3.34	1.71	193
National Statistics	866	67,740	78	22.0	3.82	3.41	1.58	189

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 23-JUL-2014 To 01-AUG-2014

ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	% of Herds <=200	% of Herds 201 - 300	% of Herds 301 - 400	% of Herds >400	Average SCC*
Connaught	26	1,789	69	42%	19%	15%	23%	223
Leinster	173	14,895	86	58%	25%	9%	8%	173
Munster	629	48,530	77	53%	26%	13%	9%	193
Ulster	38	2,526	66	45%	32%	13%	11%	193
National Statistics	866	67,740	78	53%	26%	12%	9%	189

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 23-JUL-2014 To 01-AUG-2014

ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	26	1,789	69	126	185	235	266	406
Leinster	173	14,895	86	103	154	179	205	277
Munster	629	48,530	77	122	163	192	220	310
Ulster	38	2,526	66	133	167	208	226	325
National Statistics	866	67,740	78	119	162	192	219	308

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

