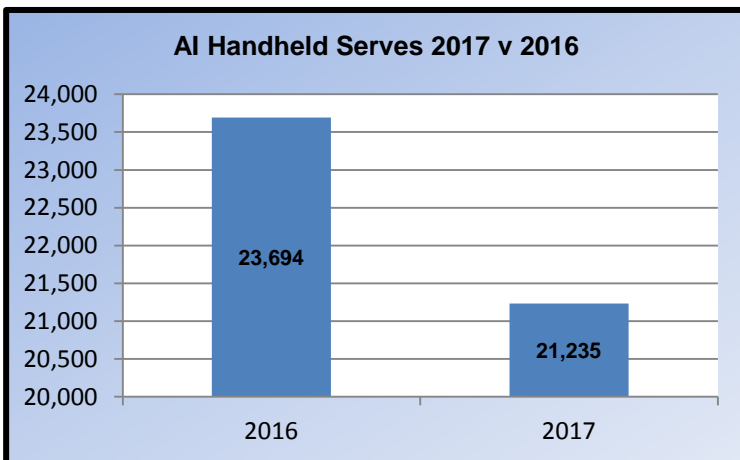
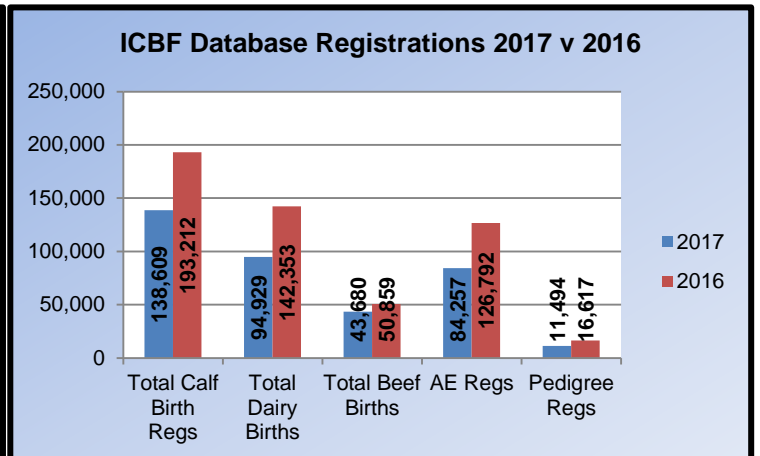
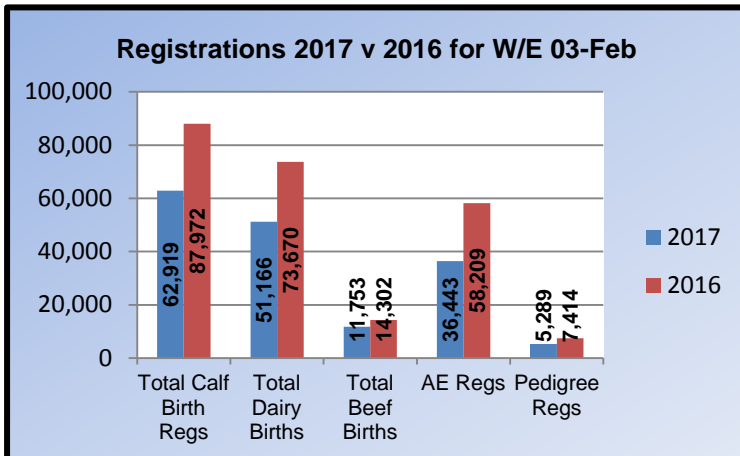


ICBF Weekly Update 3rd February 2017

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Audit & Finance Meeting** – Thursday 23rd March 2017 at 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 6th April at 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 6th April 2017 at 14:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

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 143,249 results received since January 1st, of which 53,803 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 9,673,503 results have now been received.
- ✚ The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2017 compared with 2016.

3 Herd Plus®

- ✚ We are delighted to introduce our new Animal Search mobile app. This new app will now allow herd-owners quick access to the ICBF Animal Search through this new mobile app. The Animal Search allows ICBF users to search for males and females in HerdPlus/BDGP herds.

- ✚ The latest HerdPlus Dairy cow reports are now available to view online and are currently being dispatched by post. Herd-owners will receive these over the coming weeks.

- ✚ The latest HerdPlus Co-op Performance reports are now online and are available to view through your ICBF account. They will be dispatched by post next week.

- ✚ Springhaven Bidy 162 EX92 (pictured above), owned by Robert Troy Jnr. from Newtownshandrum, Co. Cork, is the top EBI cow in the country with an EBI of €342. She is a Holstein cow currently in her 11th



lactation with an average calving interval of 376 days. She is sired by Bagworth Zander Keet (BWZ). Click [here](#) for more on the Top 2000 cow listing.

- A question that is often asked is ‘Why are some of the newest bulls not on the active bull list?’ The reason for this is that some of these bulls do not meet the criteria to be included in the active bull list. The criteria are outlined [here](#)
- Herd-owners can now genotype all their female calves which will allow them to make a more informed decision around breeding and culling potential replacements. This service could cost herd-owners as little as €22/head. Please contact HerdPlus on **1850 600 900** or **023 8820452** for further details. Alternatively when logged into HerdPlus, herd-owners can make orders online by selecting ‘Services’ – ‘Genomic Services’ – ‘Place Order’

4 Beef Data and Genomics Programme (BDGP)

- The latest BDGP Euro-Star reports generated are available for participants to view online through their ICBF accounts.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 03/02/17						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 03/02/17	No. EDIY Herds YTD 03/02/17	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 03/02/17	No. EDIY Cows YTD 03/02/17	% Cows EDIY
Munster	248	6	2%	14,754	396	3%
Progressive	440	61	14%	30,658	3,919	13%
Tipperary	2	0	0%	163	0	0%
Total	690	67	10%	45,575	4,315	9%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 03/02/16	YTD 2017 Cows Recorded 01/01/17- 03/02/17	2017 vs 2016 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	16,409	14,754	-10.1%
Progressive	36,679	30,658	-16.4%
Tipperary	257	163	-36.6%
Total	53,345	45,575	-14.6%

6 Sheep Ireland

Promotion of Sheep Genetic Improvement

- It’s clear that there is no silver bullet in terms of promoting genetic improvement to the industry. One thing that is clear however is that farmers are now using a wide variety of mediums to access information which may help their sheep enterprise. With this in mind, Sheep Ireland will be using novel ways to get our messages out to the industry over the coming year.
- Examples of this are that we have utilised so far this year, have been the breeder case studies which illustrated the significant scanning% differences being realised by higher index sheep. Another method we

plan to use throughout 2017 will be produce short videos which carry important messages. These videos can then be spread via social media to reach as many viewers as possible.

Tackling low accuracy% by using a 'ram team'

- ✚ **Did you know** if you have more than one stock ram with Star ratings that you can then combine their accuracy (Acc%) figures to essentially form a ram team accuracy. This Acc% figure for the Ram Team will be much higher than any of the individual rams Acc% figures on their own, especially where rams are starting off with low Acc%. Work out your Ram Team Acc% by using the [Excel link](#)
- ✚ **For example**, if you have three stock rams that have Acc of 42%, 55% and 39%, then the Acc% value for that team would be Acc 86% as shown in the excel below. Let's say these three rams were high on the Replacement index, with an average ranking of top 10%, then this is the equivalent of having one ram with an Acc 86% ranked in the top 10%.
- ✚ Or in this video where the three stock rams have an Acc 40% each, their Team accuracy is Acc 85%.
- ✚ To work out your Ram Team Acc% save this excel ([RAM TEAM Acc%](#)), and input the accuracy for each of you rams for one specific index/trait (ie Terminal index, as shown in the video above).



Upcoming Teagasc Hill Sheep Conference Wednesday 8th February

- ✚ Click [here](#) for details of next week's Teagasc Hill Sheep Conference. Both lowland conferences took place during the past week and were hugely informative events.

Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland , Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Email info@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 CLG 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, 25-JAN-2017 To 03-FEB-2017

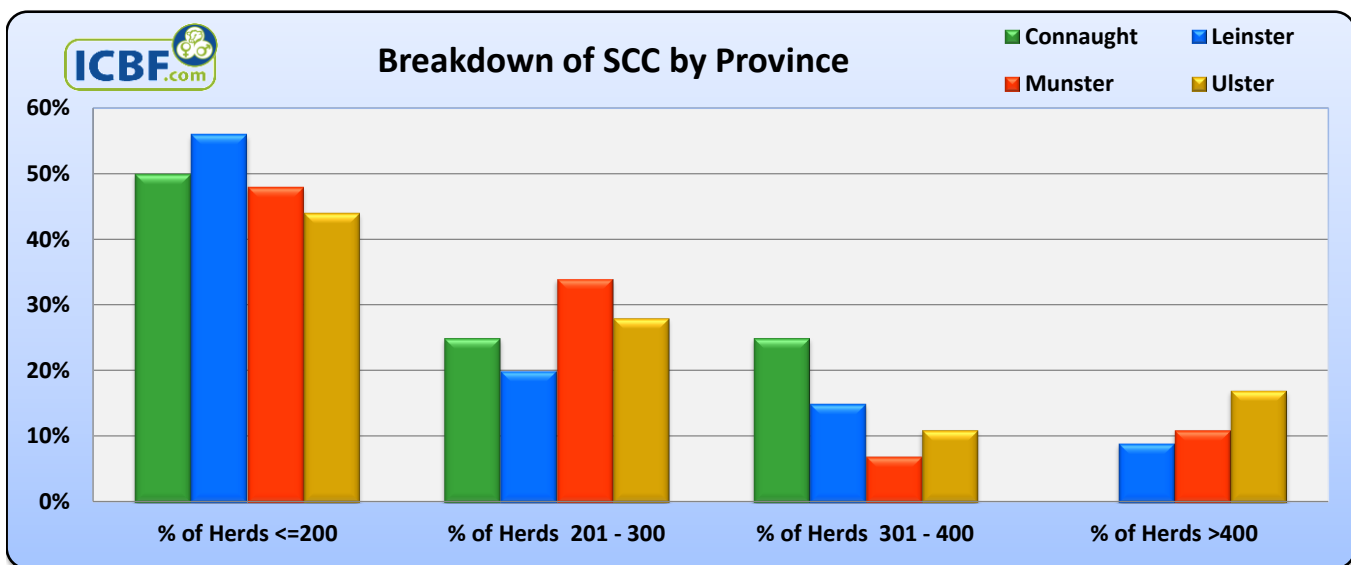
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	4	250	63	19.8	3.88	3.25	1.41	176
Leinster	54	3,890	72	22.2	4.36	3.36	1.71	174
Munster	71	4,383	62	23.1	4.21	3.34	1.74	178
Ulster	18	938	52	22.1	4.01	3.29	1.60	202
National Statistics	147	9,461	64	22.5	4.23	3.34	1.70	179

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 25-JAN-2017 To 03-FEB-2017

ICBF.com	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	4	250	63	50%	25%	25%	0%	176
Leinster	54	3,890	72	56%	20%	15%	9%	174
Munster	71	4,383	62	48%	34%	7%	11%	178
Ulster	18	938	52	44%	28%	11%	17%	202
National Statistics	147	9,461	64	50%	28%	11%	11%	179

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 25-JAN-2017 To 03-FEB-2017								
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	4	250	63	111	159	192	224	305
Leinster	54	3,890	72	96	154	187	230	339
Munster	71	4,383	62	92	177	205	237	291
Ulster	18	938	52	123	175	206	232	354
National Statistics	147	9,461	64	94	166	200	235	306

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

