ICBF Weekly Update 3rd November 2017

1 Important Dates

- **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 9th November at 10:30am, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 23rd November at 2:00pm, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- **Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Friday 17th November at 10:30am, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

2 Database

![Registrations 2017 v 2016 for W/E 03-Nov](image1)

![ICBF Database Registrations 2017 v 2016](image2)

![Al Handheld Serves 2017 v 2016](image3)

- 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 2,280.61 results received since January 1st, of which 14,783 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 11,810.841 results have now been received.
- The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2017 compared with 2016.

3 Herd Plus®

- ICBF and Teagasc launched a new decision support tool, the C.O.W. (Cow’s Own Worth), to aid in culling and retention decisions of dairy females on the 31st October. Click here for more details.
The new C.O.W. profile has been accessed by over 1,000 distinct herds since it was launched on Tuesday morning. Click here for further details.

We have taken the latest dairy cow population figures and broken them down county by county so we can see which counties are the most heavily populated. Click here for more details.

Bull
Nostalgia: Ballybanean Lad. Click here for more details.

4 GENE IRELAND® Beef

Sign-ups are continuing for the GI beef programme.

142 herds taking a total of 2130 straws have joined so far.

The average order is 15 straws per herd.

Details on the bulls available can be viewed on the ICBF website.

To learn more or to order straws please telephone 23 8820452.

Approximate total straws ordered to date for the bulls are detailed in table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Name of Bull</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Replacement Index</th>
<th>Across Breed Stars</th>
<th>Total Straws Ordered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AU4214</td>
<td>Johnstown Keith</td>
<td>AU</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI4250</td>
<td>Lis na Ri Gucci</td>
<td>SI</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SA2366</td>
<td>Carrentubber Pinocchio</td>
<td></td>
<td>153</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SI4322</td>
<td>Kickhams Handsome</td>
<td>SI</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LM4351</td>
<td>Grenache</td>
<td>LM</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA4089</td>
<td>Intelagri Matteo ET</td>
<td>AA</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SH4209</td>
<td>Stoneyroyd Halcyon Matrix P</td>
<td>SH</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4218</td>
<td>Woodhead Meldrew</td>
<td>CH</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA2357</td>
<td>Terelton Isaac</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PT4215</td>
<td>Leacan King</td>
<td>PT</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4213</td>
<td>Blanchefield Lester</td>
<td>CH</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4251</td>
<td>Goldstar Ludwig</td>
<td>CH</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4320</td>
<td>Liseron</td>
<td>CH</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH4252</td>
<td>Cavelands Levi</td>
<td>CH</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LJE</td>
<td>Lislea Hermes</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HE4292</td>
<td>Allowdale Rory</td>
<td>HE</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABP representatives and approximately 70 ABP suppliers attended the Gene Ireland Progeny Test Centre in Tully, Co. Kildare on Thursday 2nd November.

ICBF speakers included Stephen Conroy, Niall Kilrane, Ciarán Costello and Representative from AHI.

Topics presented and discussed included:

2. EURO-STAR indexes - Profitability Using the EURO-STARS.
3. Gene Ireland beef program.
4. Dairy beef Gene Ireland program.
5. Tully – importance of feed efficiency in finisher systems.

It was a very positive event and we hope to host more of these in the future.

6 Milk Recording

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milk Recording Organisation</th>
<th>Total Herds Recorded YTD 03/11/17</th>
<th>No. EDIY Herds YTD 03/11/17</th>
<th>% Herds EDIY</th>
<th>Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 03/11/17</th>
<th>No. EDIY Cows YTD 03/11/17</th>
<th>% Cows EDIY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Munster</td>
<td>3,883</td>
<td>1,279</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>394,694</td>
<td>141,841</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progressive</td>
<td>2,350</td>
<td>998</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>271,440</td>
<td>116,142</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tipperary</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>11,816</td>
<td>5,289</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,346</td>
<td>2,328</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>677,950</td>
<td>263,272</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milk Recording Organisation</th>
<th>YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16 - 03/11/16</th>
<th>YTD 2017 Cows Recorded 01/01/17 - 03/11/17</th>
<th>2017 vs 2016 Year on Year Difference (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Munster</td>
<td>364,491</td>
<td>394,694</td>
<td>8.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Progressive</td>
<td>255,125</td>
<td>271,440</td>
<td>6.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tipperary</td>
<td>11,379</td>
<td>11,816</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>630,995</td>
<td>677,950</td>
<td>7.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LambPlus Sign-up Forms 2018

We have begun to circulate our LambPlus sign-up forms this week and by next week all existing breeders and new society breeders should have received one. If by some reason that a breeder doesn’t receive a form the relevant information will also be available on our website, which is available to download. As always our deadline for receipt of the sign-ups is Friday 1st December but we will be sending regular reminders to all current LambPlus members.

The fee structure that was introduced last year will remain in place and is as follows:

- €50 for breeders that are members of flockbooks who host their flockbooks on the Sheep Ireland database (Belclare, Beltex, Galway, Rouge, Texel and Vendeen).
- €100 for breeders that are members of flockbooks that do not use the Sheep Ireland database to host their flockbooks.

Breed Society Meeting

Yesterday (Thursday 2nd November) members of the Sheep Ireland Board met with breed society representatives. The meeting proved to be very positive in general with societies raising some of their concerns with us. It is very encouraging to see all parties involved working together, striving for breed improvement across all breeds. All societies were given the opportunity to put forward topics for discussion; we would like to remind breeders that if they should ever wish to raise an issue we would encourage them to contact Sheep Ireland directly or indeed Board members themselves. We have Board members specifically that represent the Flockbooks and the LambPlus program. Any issues raised will be up for discussion at the next Board meeting and will be dealt with accordingly, to see Sheep Ireland’s current Board structure please click here.

Data to be recorded

A reminder to flocks that you can still record mating’s for the 2017/2018 season; although this is not mandatory for all breeds we encourage breeders to record this information as it will speed up the process of recording lambing information next Spring. A useful report will be generated as soon as you do so. Although not incorporated in our DQI calculation at the moment, the DQI will be under review and may be included in the future.

Pregnancy scans can also be recorded, but unfortunately at the moment this has to be recorded individually on each ewe. If breeders wish to send us a copy of their pregnancy scan results we would be happy to load them onto the database and we can generate some statistics based on the results.
Ulster
National Statistics

No. Herds Recorded | No. Cows Recorded | Avg Herd Size | Avg Milk kg/Cow | Average Fat % | Average Protein % | Average F+P kg | Average SCC*
---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---
Connaught | 17 | 1,318 | 78 | 14.6 | 4.72 | 3.75 | 1.20 | 230
Leinster | 93 | 10,171 | 109 | 15.3 | 4.63 | 3.80 | 1.28 | 177
Munster | 419 | 37,962 | 91 | 14.3 | 4.62 | 3.83 | 1.20 | 206
Ulster | 13 | 901 | 69 | 16.5 | 4.39 | 3.75 | 1.33 | 181
National Statistics | 542 | 50,352 | 93 | 14.5 | 4.62 | 3.82 | 1.22 | 201

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 25-OCT-2017 To 03-NOV-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. Herds Recorded</th>
<th>No. Cows Recorded</th>
<th>Avg Herd Size</th>
<th>% of Herds &lt;=200</th>
<th>% of Herds 201 - 300</th>
<th>% of Herds 301 - 400</th>
<th>% of Herds &gt;400</th>
<th>Average SCC*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Connaught | 17 | 1,318 | 78 | 29% | 35% | 6% | 29% | 230
| Leinster | 93 | 10,171 | 109 | 61% | 22% | 9% | 9% | 177
| Munster | 419 | 37,962 | 91 | 50% | 29% | 13% | 8% | 206
| Ulster | 13 | 901 | 69 | 62% | 15% | 8% | 15% | 181
| National Statistics | 542 | 50,352 | 93 | 51% | 27% | 12% | 9% | 201

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 25-OCT-2017 To 03-NOV-2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No. Herds Recorded</th>
<th>No. Cows Recorded</th>
<th>Avg Herd Size</th>
<th>Best 20% SCC</th>
<th>Best 40% SCC</th>
<th>Average SCC**</th>
<th>Worst 40% SCC</th>
<th>Worst 20% SCC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Connaught | 17 | 1,318 | 78 | 97 | 231 | 263 | 281 | 442
| Leinster | 93 | 10,171 | 109 | 105 | 152 | 170 | 196 | 263
| Munster | 419 | 37,962 | 91 | 138 | 179 | 201 | 226 | 304
| Ulster | 13 | 901 | 69 | 106 | 162 | 169 | 212 | 329
| National Statistics | 542 | 50,352 | 93 | 132 | 174 | 196 | 223 | 304

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

Breakdown of Average SCC by Herd Ranking

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Ulster
National Statistics

Breakdown of SCC by Province

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70%
% of Herds <=200 % of Herds 201 - 300 % of Herds 301 - 400 % of Herds >400

Connaught
Leinster
Munster
Ulster