

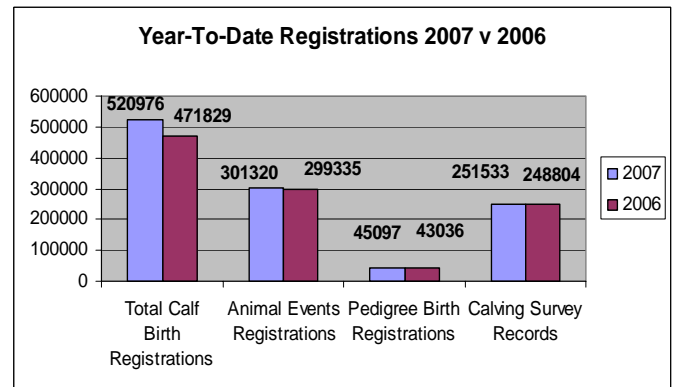
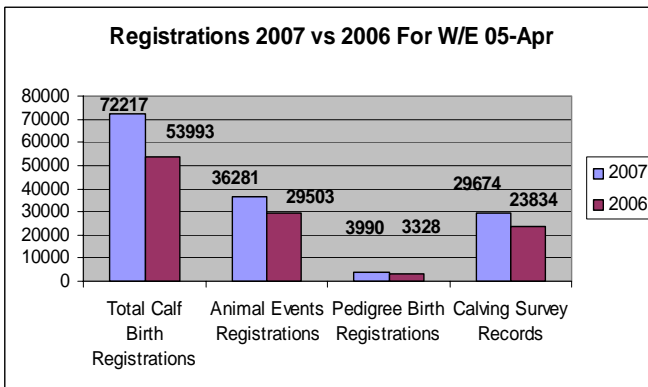


UPDATE – for period 31st March – 5th April 2007

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **High EBI Heifer Sales** - Kilkenny 16th April.
- ✚ **International Dairy Symposium**, hosted by Teagasc Moorepark – Wednesday 11th April.
- ✚ **ICAR Milk Recording Sub Committee** meeting hosted by ICBF, Radisson Cork – 12th & 13th April.
- ✚ **ICBF Board meeting** on Thursday 3rd May 2007. Comfort Inn Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Annual General Meeting** on Thursday 3rd May at 2.30pm. Comfort Inn Portlaoise.

2 Database Update



The Year To Date Statistics

- ✚ The number of herds on the database for whom we have received registrations in 2007 (either white cards or Animal Events sheets) is 23,662. At this stage last year, we had received registrations from 21,110 herds. The main reason for the increase in herds is herds signing up for the AI handheld project. However, the number of herds using Animal Events is only marginally up in the same period from 12,789 herds to 12,851 herds.
- ✚ 31,857 inseminations have been received so far in 2007, compared with 6,000 in 2006 for the same period. This increase is due to two factors (1) More technicians are using the handhelds (2) Most technicians only began using the handhelds in March of last year.

Database Update

- ✚ The use of the Sire Advice program is on-going.
- ✚ The Herdbook front end has continued to get further use this week and it will be discussed in detail when we meet with the beef herd-books on Wednesday next.

3 Tully

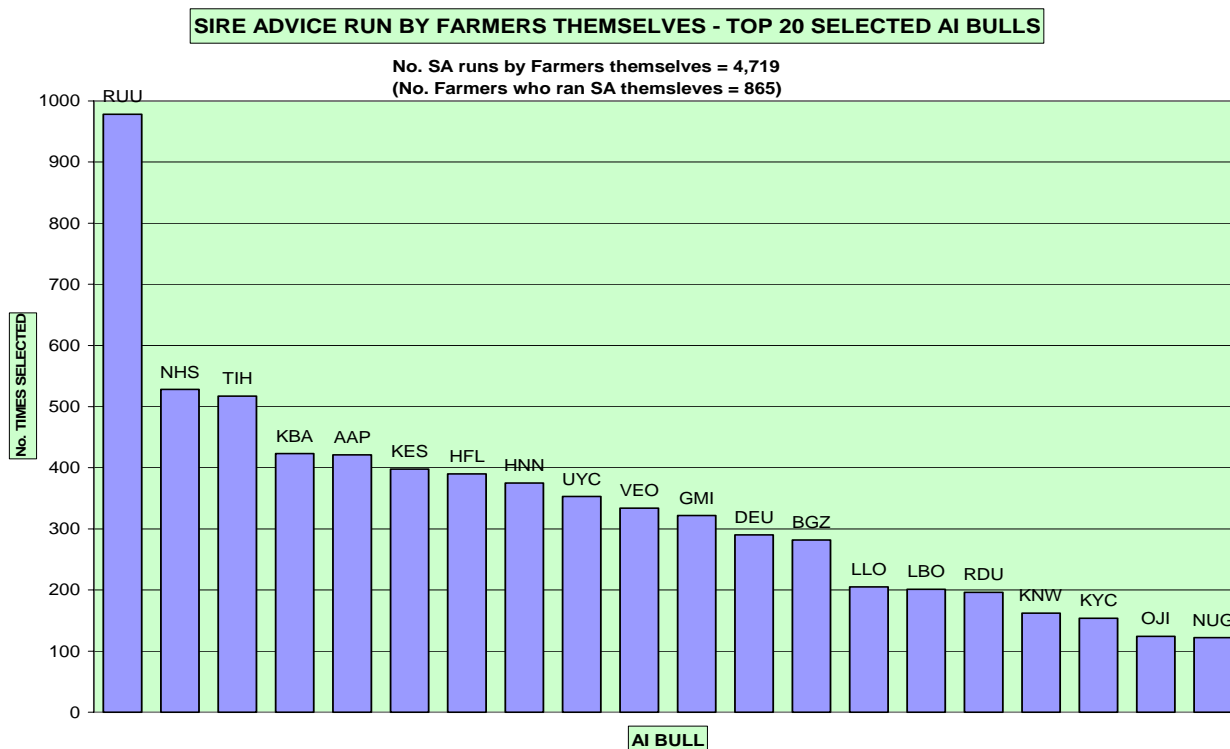
- ✚ A total of six bulls from the March and May groups were sold this week.
- ✚ It is planned to have exporters and factory agents visit Tully over the next week to look at the bulls for slaughter.
- ✚ Three bulls from the March group will be exported to Northern Ireland on the 10-4-07.
- ✚ A review of the future for Tully has been initiated this week. Our plan is to have a report with recommendations ready for the May 3rd meeting of the ICBF Board. An invitation to make written submissions has been distributed to organisations with a known interest in Tully. Any other written submissions will be welcomed. The deadline for written submissions is Friday 20th April.



✚ Statements to bull owners are being issued today.

4 HerdPlus

✚ Sire Advice activity: To date there were some 865 distinct herdowners who ran the program themselves - Graph shows top 20 Bulls selected by Farmers (advanced program).



✚ Breeding charts were posted this week to all HerdPlus clients. The **attached example** shows a herd which has run sire advice and saved the results. It shows the bulls that have been selected for each cow.

5 International Beef Evaluations

✚ Work continues on the development of conversion formulae for key traits between Ireland and France for Limousine and Charolais.

✚ A meeting with Charolais and Limousin herd book representatives was held in Bandon today. Issues discussed and to be progressed included:

- clarification on the procedures to be followed by ICBF and the relevant Herd Book for the entry of details of imported animals into the database,
- provision of clear guidelines for linear scoring and weight recording, and the communication of these to breeders,
- the next update of beef evaluations is to take place in May with results available for use in catalogues and available on the ICBF website by 1st June,
- the change-over in May from the old BLUP system to the new across breed system for linear traits and the introduction of a new 02-05 base for these traits,
- the inclusion of foreign information in evaluations for imported cattle, and
- latest developments in GEN€IR€LAND® for beef.



6 Genetic Evaluations

Dairy

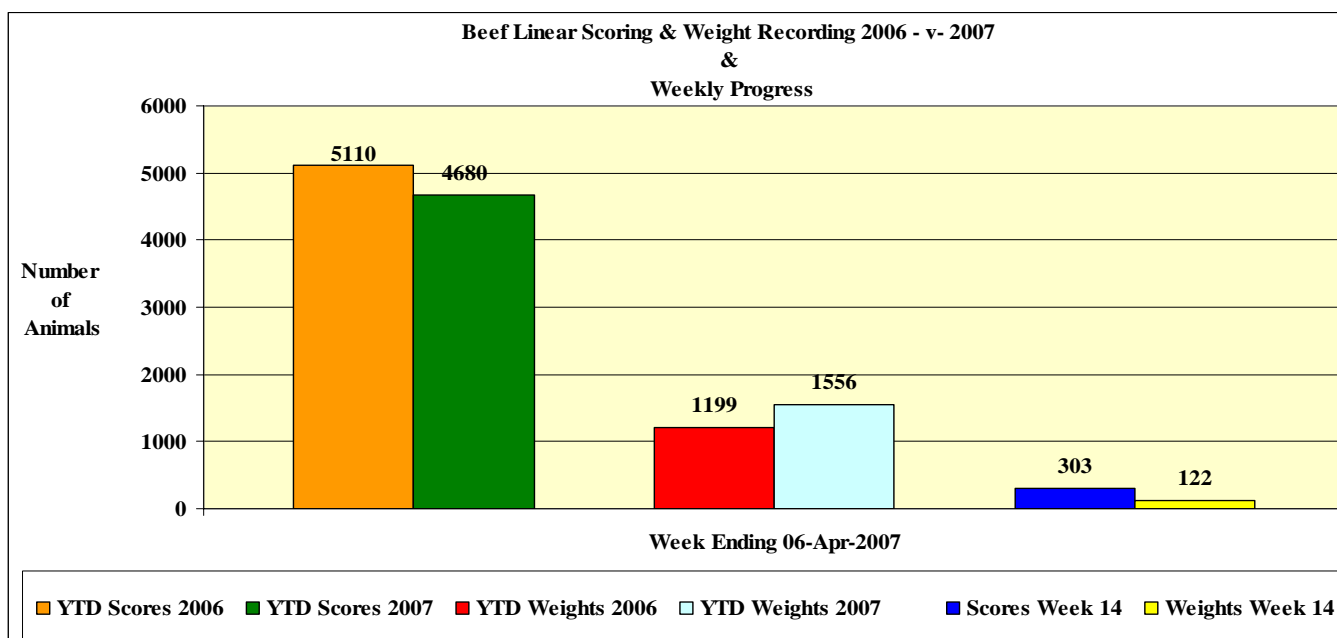
- ✚ Extracts for the next evaluation are currently in progress.

Beef

- ✚ Historical Tully data from 1976 to 1992 has been keyed and will be loaded to the database and used in the next genetic evaluation in the coming weeks. A new file of slaughter data has also been received from the Department of Agriculture.
- ✚ The process of collecting more mart data has also begun. A member of the ICBF team will visit the relevant Marts to download the available information for transfer back to the ICBF database over the next few weeks.

7 Beef Linear Scoring

- ✚ Effective from next week John Beirne will taking over Linear Scoring in County Clare and Ger O'Brien will be taking over scoring in County Laois.



8 Milk Recording

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 05/04/06	YTD 2007 Cows Recorded 01/01/07 - 05/04/07
Progressive	94,583	94,038
Dairygold	47,192	46,640
Kerry	33,782	33,842
SWS	34,750	36,507
Tipperary	4,032	3,076
Arrabawn	2,797	3,800
Connacht	4,414	4,892
Donegal	486	259
Total	222,036	223,054



Milk Recording Organisation	2007 Herds Recorded Week 30/03/07 - 05/04/07
Progressive	206
Dairygold	207
Kerry	132
SWS	142
Arrabawn	14
Tipperary	5
Connacht	18
Total	724

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Dairy Herd Breeding Chart

Year 2007

HerdOwner M _____ A

NID IE151013

Cow Tag	Cow Details										Proposed Bulls			Service Information									
	Cow FB	Cow EBI (€)	Milk (€)	Fert (€)	Cow's Sire	Mat Grand Sire	Lact No.	Date Calved	Calv Ease	T/A	Bull 1	Bull 2	Bull 3	PreServe Heat	First		Second		Third		Fourth		Preg Test Result
														Date	Date	Bull	Date	Bull	Date	Bull	Date	Bull	
IESNYH0067P	67	65	15	45	ELC	WYT	9	18-NOV-06	1		RUU	AAP											
IESNYH0136W	136	91	46	33	ELC	BEY	8				RUU	AAP											
IESNYH0148P	148	93	56	22	ELC	EZB	7	25-SEP-06	1		RUU	AAP											
IESNYH0167K	167	52	22	16	ELC	TBN	8				AAP	RUU											
IESNYH0226V	226	52	65	-16	CAU	EZF	6	28-OCT-06	1		HFL	RUU	AAP										
IESNYH0262R	262	80	8	65	MAU	ARN	8	09-FEB-07	1		RUU	HFL	AAP										
IESNYH0285D	285	38	31	5	ERM	BZO	6	01-NOV-06	2		RUU	HFL											
IESNYH0291J	291	41	43	2	FAL	KMM	6	21-FEB-07	1		AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013740327	327	36	30	4	HPM	ELC	6	29-OCT-06	1		RUU	HFL											
DGL561851	371	40	23	14	BZO	WYT	8				AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013730383	383	32	39	-12	ASI	EZF	5	17-NOV-06	1		HFL	RUU											
IE151013730441	441	43	63	-17	AHD	CAU	5	05-FEB-07	1		AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013740467	467	92	56	36	MFX	EZB	5	01-FEB-07	2		RUU	HFL	AAP										
IE151013710480	480	18	39	-14	FAL	BRF	2				AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013780487	487	101	75	8	QUR	CAU	4	17-OCT-06	1		RUU	HFL	AAP										
IE151013730490	490	43	18	38	CUN	RSG	5	10-FEB-07	2		AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013780504	504	67	9	54	AHD	CAU	5	16-FEB-07	1		RUU	HFL	AAP										
IE151013730508	508	27	2	28	PKS	OMR	3				HFL	RUU											
IE151013760519	519	42	42	-4	FAL	ELC	5	18-FEB-07	1		AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013710530	530	-3	45	-33	PUM	EZG	3	24-SEP-06	1		RUU	HFL											
IE151013730532	532	27	46	-26	JOS	ELC	3	16-OCT-06	1		AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013760535	535	28	51	-9	PUM	EZG	4	20-NOV-06	2		HFL	RUU											
IE151013780537	537	70	66	4	HRZ	ASI	2				RUU	HFL											
IE151013710547	547	48	9	31	AHD	OMR	3				HFL	RUU											
IE151013790562	562	30	50	-23	MFX	GLE	3	29-NOV-06	1		AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013710563	563	32	56	-17	FAL	CAU	4	14-NOV-06	2		AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013750567	567	53	29	27	ESZ	FAL	4	28-JAN-07	1		HFL	AAP											
IE151013760568	568	34	41	2	FAL	CAU	3	20-NOV-06	2	T	AAP	RUU	HFL										
IE151013740582	582	65	73	-14	ELC	JOS	2				RUU	AAP											
IE151013750583	583	14	50	-14	FAL	ASI	3	09-FEB-07	2		AAP	RUU	HFL										