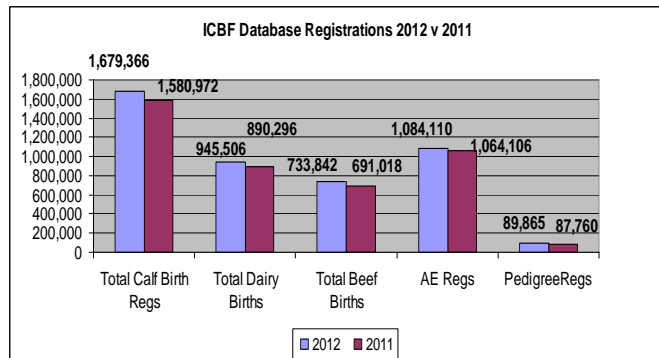
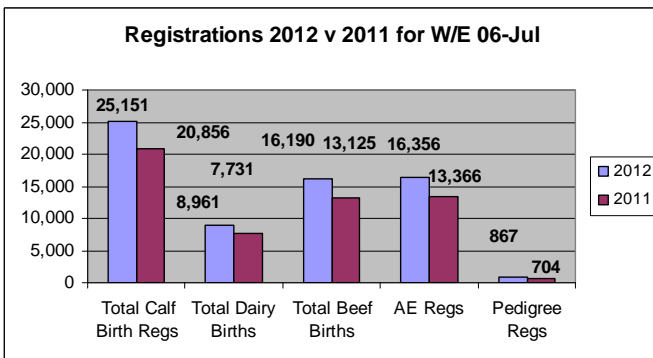


ICBF Weekly Update 6th July 2012

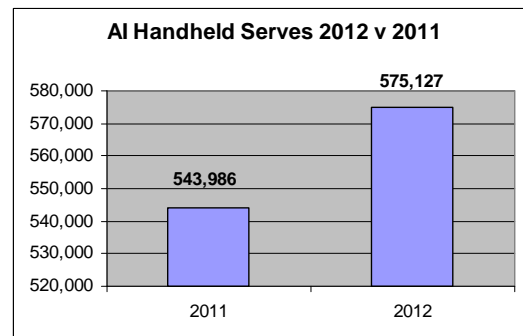
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Breeding Consultation Meeting** - Wednesday 25th July, 10:00 to 17:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** - Thursday 6th September, 10:30 to 14:00, ICBF, Highfield House, Bandon.
- ✚ **Interim Sheep Board** – Thursday 20th September, 11:00 – 14:00, ICBF, Highfield House, Bandon.

2 Database



- ✚ The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- ✚ In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2011 born calves with meal introduced is 630,197 with the number of animals weaned at 565,196.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. Around 572,000 tissue tags for BVD testing have been purchased at this stage. Around 409,000 samples have been returned at this stage, with a 0.60% BVD Virus Positive rate.
- ✚ Work on the changes in how the Beef Eurostars are presented on ICBF outputs (Bull search, reports, web outputs, catalogues, etc.) has continued.
- ✚ Work is continuing on the back-end ICBF web infrastructure with a view to making it more standardised and robust.
- ✚ The developments around the new weight recording system are being tweaked as the rollout of the service begins.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2012 compared with 2011.



3 GENEIRELAND[®]

Beef

- ✚ Bulls for the Autumn panel are currently being identified.
- ✚ A catalogue will be available at the end of August.
- ✚ For queries please ring 045 521573.

4 GROW®

- A major referencing session for the Linear Scorers was held on Wednesday of this week.
- 29 cattle were scored in the morning and rescored in the afternoon.
- Analysis of the data is currently underway.

5 Sheep Ireland

- Last Saturday Sheep Ireland was present at Sheep 2012 in Athenry. Despite the inclement weather there was a huge crowd in attendance. There were contributions in some form or another from all industry stakeholders, including information seminars, practical management workshops, commercial exhibitors, shearing and wool demonstrations, cooking demonstrations and pedigree breed society national championships.
- From Sheep Ireland's point of view this was a fantastic opportunity to educate sheep stakeholders as to benefits of our breed improvement programme. In association with Noirin McHugh (Teagasc) we presented the sheep Ireland breeding programme and some results to date. We also took part in the breeding workshop which demonstrated to those present the best practice to adhere to when selecting a ram for breeding. These workshops ran on an hourly basis and attracted great audiences throughout the day.
- Overall it was very evident that more and more commercial farmers are becoming aware of the potential of the Euro-Stars. We spoke with people who were aware of the programme but wanted to learn more but equally important we spoke with people that were completely new to the concept. One thing is for certain that demand for recorded rams continues to grow and Sheep 2012 has contributed to this trend immensely.

6 Genetic Evaluations

- Monthly beef mini evaluation results will be available next week.
- Work is ongoing on a project to identify the key areas of labor requirements within dairy herds with a view to identify bulls whose daughters require less labor. We hope to survey a broad range of dairy farmers in coming weeks as the next part of this research project.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 06/07/12						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 06/07/12	No. EDIY Herds YTD 06/07/12	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 06/07/12	No. EDIY Cows YTD 06/07/12	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,729	1,085	29%	297,800	92,571	31%
Progressive	2,426	975	40%	212,326	86,304	41%
Tipperary	119	42	35%	9,782	3,193	33%
Total	6,274	2,102	34%	519,908	182,068	35%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2011 Cows Recorded 01/01/11 - 06/07/11	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 06/07/12	2012 vs. 2011 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	292,121	297,800	1.9%
Progressive	203,784	212,326	4.0%
Tipperary	12,628	9,782	-29.1%
Total	508,533	519,908	2.2%

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 26/06/12 to 06/07/12

Provincial	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
Munster	930	74,929	81	23.5	3.80	3.37	1.69	199
Leinster	336	28,212	84	23.7	3.73	3.37	1.68	234
Connacht	56	4,005	72	25.1	3.78	3.33	1.78	201
Ulster	64	3,653	57	26.4	3.67	3.33	1.85	191

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