



**Update for period 30th September – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2006**

**1 Important Dates**

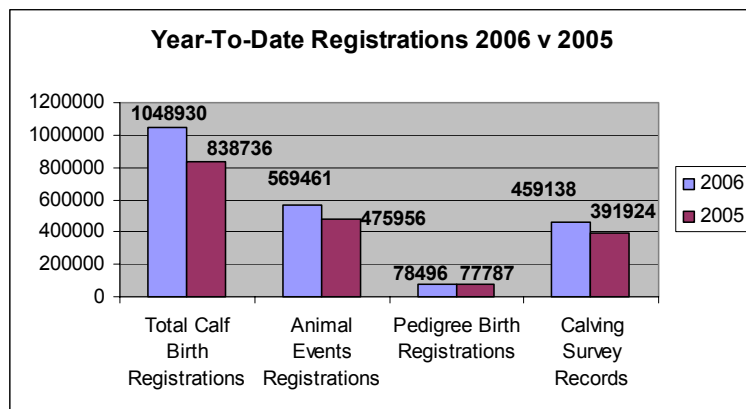
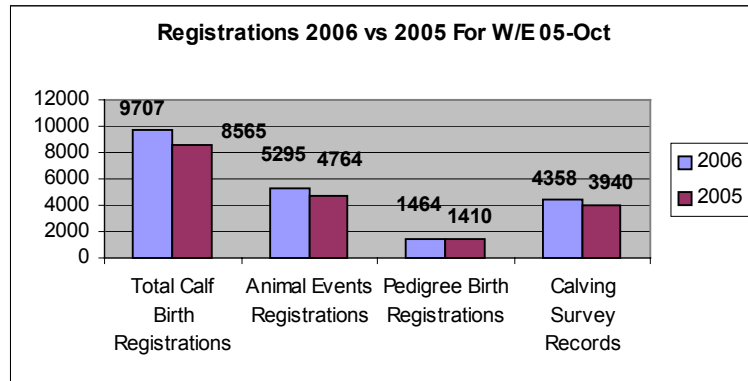
- **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October** – Dairy Genetic Evaluation Consultation meeting – Moorepark.
- **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October** Beef Breeding Consultation meeting
- **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November** Board meeting, Comfort Inn, Portlaoise

**2 Database Update**

- 25 new herds added to the database last week.
- The number of inseminations recorded on handhelds this year now stands at 155,304.
- 38 Dairygold technicians have now recorded live inseminations. There are only a few of the technicians currently working remaining to be trained.
- Progressive Genetics are also making good progress in cleaning up the data before

going live with the North East technicians. It is expected that the training of these technicians will begin in early October, with all technicians up and running by through November and December.

- Two minor updates are being made to the Milk Recording Animal detail report. Firstly, the classification score of an animal where it has been linear scored is being included. Secondly, dry-off sheets are being included with the report, rather than having a separate mailing. After communication with the milk recording organisations, these will be implemented next week.
- The linear scoring of dairy progeny test heifers has continued this week, 2089 progeny test heifers have now been scored.
- The commercial beef scoring project also continued this week, with 1605 animals now scored.



**3 High EBI Animals Go to Switzerland**

A Swiss research organisation is planning to evaluate the potential of high EBI animals under Swiss conditions. Over the summer they visited a number of farms and purchased some 85 pregnant heifers with an average EBI of €70. Disease testing and the related documentation is currently being finalised. The price paid for these animals averaged some €1,700.



#### 4 Dairy Genetic Evaluations

- Extracts for the next routine evaluation are now complete. The evaluations for production, fertility, survival and linear type traits will be done over the next couple of weeks in advance of sending them to Interbull on 31<sup>st</sup> October.
- The results from the Interbull fertility test run are expected next week.
- Work continues on various aspects of the dairy evaluations, which will be discussed at next week's dairy industry meeting.

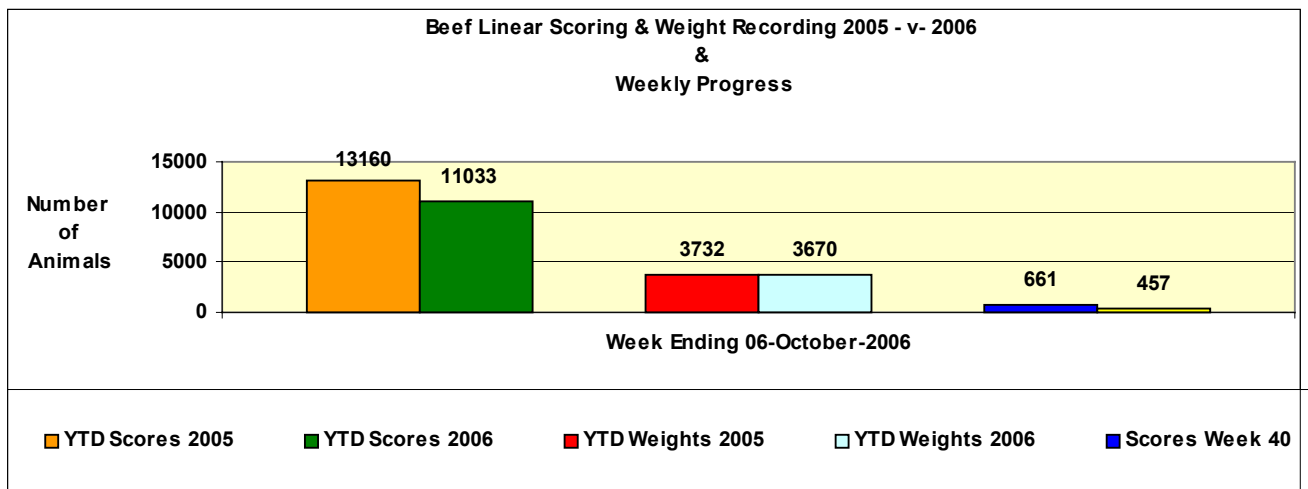
#### 5 Beef Genetic Evaluations

- Work continues on all aspects of the maternal sub-index. These include new evaluations for maternal weaning weight, calving interval, survival and age at first calving. These results will be presented at the next beef industry meeting.

#### 6 International Beef Genetic Evaluations

- More than 200 duplicate id's for all beef breeds have been corrected. This is vital to ensure the accuracy of both national and international genetic evaluations.
- Post processing of results of first International genetic evaluation continues. We hope to have these proofs released prior to the next industry meeting.

#### 7 Beef Linear Scoring



#### 8 HerdPlus

- Testing of new look EBI reports continues ahead of planned issue of Autumn EBI data next week. Only those signed up to HerdPlus will be getting these reports.
- From 9am on Mon 09<sup>th</sup> October, non HerdPlus members will not have access to these breeding reports.
- Direct Debit Sign up Forms continue to come in at a steady rate.
- ICBF will be promoting HerdPlus at the National Dairy show in Millstreet on Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 2006 and preparations are underway.
- In Oct/Nov we will conduct a targeted marketing campaign – for different groups within data base, eg non Milk Recording herds with higher than average EBI, or with high proportion of Sire info. etc



## 9 Tully

- A group of 80 Angus breeders from Scotland, UK and Denmark visited on the 5-10-06.
- A total of 118 bulls for the September intake have entered Tully and will start their performance test from the 16-10-06.
- Applications for the December intake to will be sent out to breeders from the 11-10-06.

## 10 Milk Recording Update

### Milk Recording Herds and Cows Year To date 2006 versus Year to date 2005

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2005 Herds Recorded 01/01/05 - 06/10/05	YTD 2006 Herds Recorded 01/01/06 - 06/10/06	Year on Year Herds Difference(%)	YTD 2005 Cows Recorded 01/01/05 - 06/10/05	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 06/10/06	Year on Year Cows Difference(%)
Progressive	2,080	2,101	1%	148,194	155,417	5%
Dairygold	1,523	1,550	2%	97,133	103,042	6%
Kerry	1,064	1,074	1%	66,961	69,794	4%
SWS	936	958	2%	54,356	58,976	8%
Tipperary	141	168	19%	9,300	11,775	27%
Arrabawn	109	158	45%	7,092	10,964	55%
Connacht	110	138	25%	7,319	8,994	23%
Donegal	35	56	60%	3,601	5,172	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,998</b>	<b>6,203</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>393,956</b>	<b>424,134</b>	<b>8%</b>

### Milk Recording Stats week ending 6/10/06

Milk Recording Organisation	2006 Herds Recorded Week 29/09/06 - 06/10/06
Progressive	368
Dairygold	126
Kerry	175
SWS	160
Tipperary	11
Arrabawn	12
Donegal	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>852</b>