


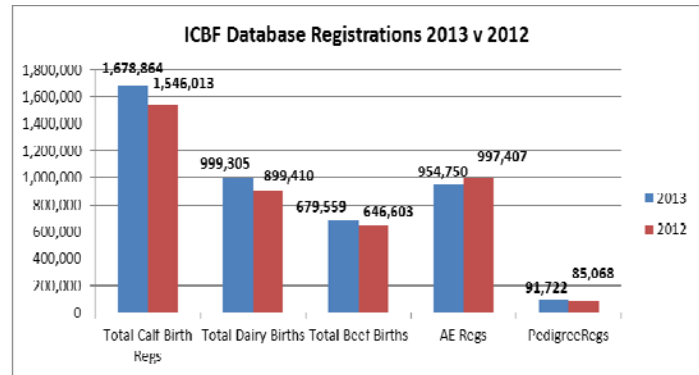
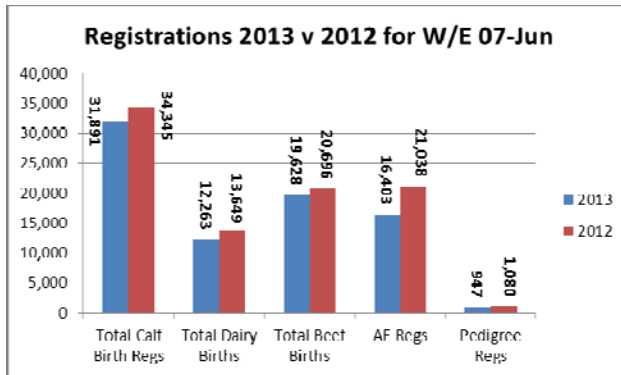







ICBF Weekly Update 7th June 2013

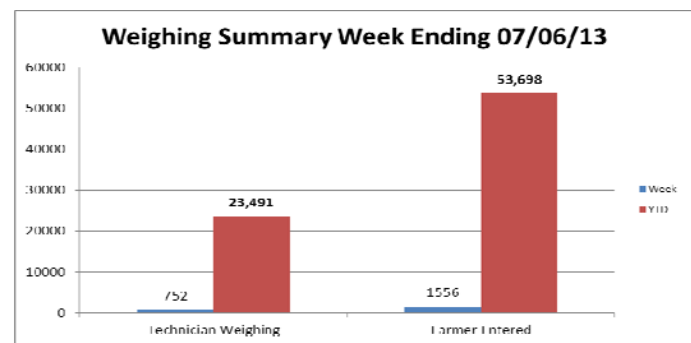
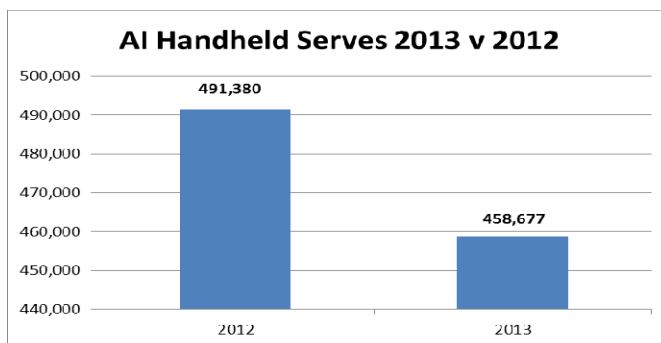
1 Important Dates

-  **Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Thursday 11th July, 10:00 - 10:30, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
-  **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th July, 10:30 to 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
-  **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th July, 14:00 to 16:30, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.



2 Database



-  The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
-  In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2012 born calves with meal introduced is 635,359 with the number of animals weaned at 565,412.
-  BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,683,000 results received since January 1st, of which 34,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 2.18 million results have now been received.
-  The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
-  This week there were 752 weights received through the technician service and 1556 weights recorded by farmers. The graph shows the week and year to date totals.



3 Bull Breeder Visits

-  The initial visits to the herds of beef pedigree breeders that have signed up to the Bull Breeder Program have begun.
-  The purpose of these visits is to meet the Breeder, explain what is involved in the program and to go through the Breeder's Herd Data Quality Index (HDQI).

- ✚ The HDQI is an indication as to the level of completeness and timeliness with which different types of data has been recorded by the Breeder on his pedigree animals e.g. insemination data & weight data etc.
- ✚ Breeders who achieve a high HDQI figure will be highlighted by way of a stamp, confirming the quality of data recorded in their herd.
- ✚ Another objective of the programme is to source young beef bulls for AI that have a maternally strong background.
- ✚ One such breeder visited this week was the pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine breeder Michael Healy, Clogherane East, Lauragh, Co. Kerry.
- ✚ The following picture shows Mike with one of his pedigree cows 'Kingdom Niamh' (sired by 'Eugene'). Born on the 16th May 1997. She has produced 14 calves (6 heifers & 8 Bulls), is a very milky & fertile cow with an average calving interval of 380 days. At her last calving she produced 2 heifers (photographed) sired by the French Blond d'Aquitaine bull 'Ringot'.



4 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ This week Sheep Ireland attended the Teagasc Athenry Sheep open-day in Mellows Campus. This was a fantastic event with a very large crowd in attendance. The excellent weather helped to make the event a huge success. Sheep Ireland erected a stand at the event demonstrating our new online ram search. We also had a pen of performance recorded Suffolk & Mayo-Connemara rams on display. These rams have been used on the Teagasc Better farms and attracted a lot of attention throughout the day.
- ✚ As this event was one of the national events for STAP, there was major interest in the Sheep Ireland stand. STAP applicants were anxious to learn more about the Euro-Star evaluations and many of them brought along the identities of rams in their flock to check if they were eligible for Task 1 of STAP. Farmers were also interested to find out how they can locate Euro-Star rams and were very impressed with our new online ram search facility.
- ✚ Our television display showing the basics of performance recording and lamb tagging in association with a demonstration of the online ram search was a great attraction. We also had laptops at hand to facilitate individual queries from farmers throughout the day. All in all this was a hugely successful event with the most up to date technologies in sheep production promoted and explained to all present. Feedback from farmers throughout the day was hugely positive underpinning the benefit already being delivered by the Sheep Technology Adoption Programme.

- ✚ See short video on our website on how to search for a STAP eligible ram in your area and to check the evaluations of your existing rams.

5 HerdPlus®

- ✚ Suckler Cow Reports and pocket notebooks were posted last week.
- ✚ These pocket notebooks are intended to aid farmers in recording vital on farm data.
- ✚ The 2013 HerdPlus journal is almost finished and will be posted to farmers in the near future.
- ✚ The journal will be accompanied by the new Drystock Report and the Bull Tracker Report.
- ✚ Suckler herds are currently being signed up for the beef sexed semen trial.
- ✚ For more information check the link on www.icbf.com.
- ✚ Visits to herds participating in the G-EN-€IR-€LAND Maternal Bull Breeder Programme have commenced.
- ✚ Dairy farmers should now record inseminations and generate their fertility report.
- ✚ The pregnancy diagnosis screen has been updated to allow farmers to enter number of days in calf and also to enter bull details.

Date of Pregnancy Check	Preg Checked	No. Days Pregnant
<input type="text" value="06-Jun-2013"/>	<input type="text" value="In Calf"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="54"/>
<input type="text" value="06-Jun-2013"/>	<input type="text" value="Twins"/> ▼	<input type="text" value="47"/>
<input type="text" value="06-Jun-2013"/>	<input type="text" value="Empty"/> ▼	<input type="text"/>

- ✚ If no recorded serve exists or the number of days pregnant does not correlate to the serve date, then a screen to record the serve or bull details will appear.

6 Genetic Evaluations

Genetics

ICBF geneticists attended a series of INTERBEEF technical and working groups last week as part of the ICAR conference in Aarhus, Denmark. Topics discussed were the test evaluations for weaning weight for Limousine and Charolais performed by the INTERBULL Centre but also the research work which each of the participating countries are undertaking. ICBF have committed to re-estimate the genetic correlations for the weaning weight evaluations and also to develop a framework to allow the integration of crossbred animals into the INTERBEEF evaluation.

Genomics

Beef parentage results from both the SNPs and the imputation to microsatellites processes are underway. We are currently working closely with Weatherbys to clear the backlog of animals that need to have the sire checked using the imputed microsatellites. We hope to get through all of these over the next 3 to 4 weeks. For any urgent certs please contact Francis Kearney at fkearney@icbf.com.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 07/06/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 07/06/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 07/06/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 07/06/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 07/06/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,589	1,028	29%	287,935	88,523	31%
Progressive	2,341	927	40%	208,378	83,657	40%
Tipperary	105	34	32%	8,838	3,092	35%
Total	6,035	1,989	33%	505,151	175,272	35%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 07/06/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 07/06/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	283,055	287,935	1.7%
Progressive	199,359	208,378	4.3%
Tipperary	9,409	8,838	-6.5%
Total	491,823	505,151	2.6%

Please see milk recording stats attached

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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 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, 29-MAY-2013 To 07-JUN-2013

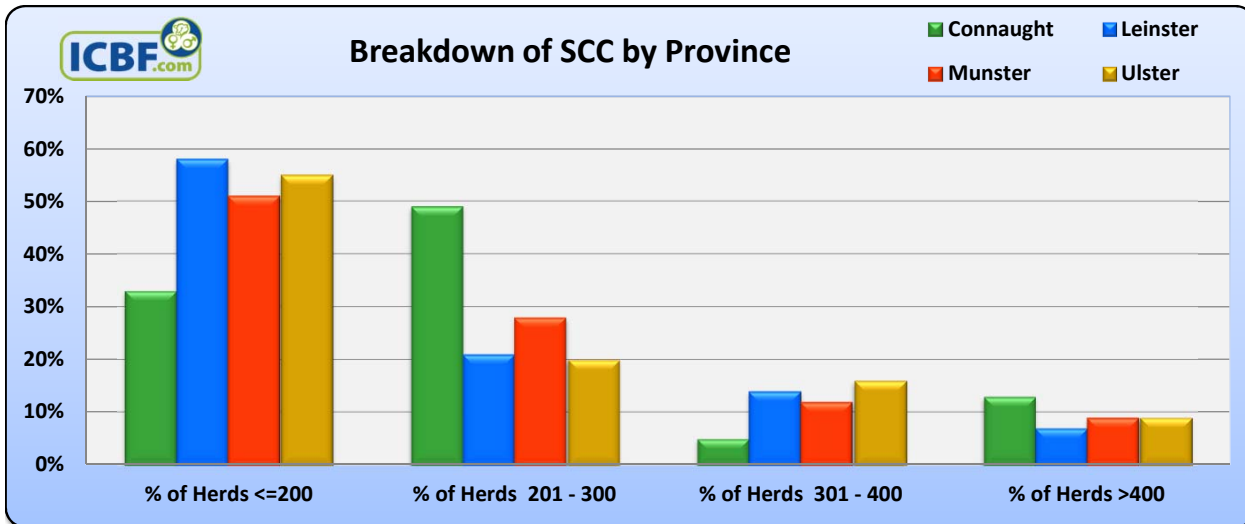
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	39	2,473	63	26.3	3.61	3.37	1.83	222
Leinster	124	10,779	87	25.8	3.59	3.37	1.80	176
Munster	597	47,003	79	26.3	3.65	3.41	1.86	195
Ulster	44	2,747	62	27.5	3.58	3.31	1.89	191
National Statistics	804	63,002	78	26.3	3.64	3.40	1.85	193

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 29-MAY-2013 To 07-JUN-2013

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	39	2,473	63	33%	49%	5%	13%	222
Leinster	124	10,779	87	58%	21%	14%	7%	176
Munster	597	47,003	79	51%	28%	12%	9%	195
Ulster	44	2,747	62	55%	20%	16%	9%	191
National Statistics	804	63,002	78	52%	27%	12%	9%	193

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 29-MAY-2013 To 07-JUN-2013

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	39	2,473	63	147	210	244	247	290
Leinster	124	10,779	87	105	165	189	207	308
Munster	597	47,003	79	121	166	197	227	303
Ulster	44	2,747	62	120	156	182	236	326
National Statistics	804	63,002	78	118	167	197	227	305

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

