

1. Important Dates

ICBF - Thursday 27th May at the Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise:

10:00 – 12:30 Board Meeting
12:30 – 13:30 AGM
13:30 – 14:30 Buffet Lunch

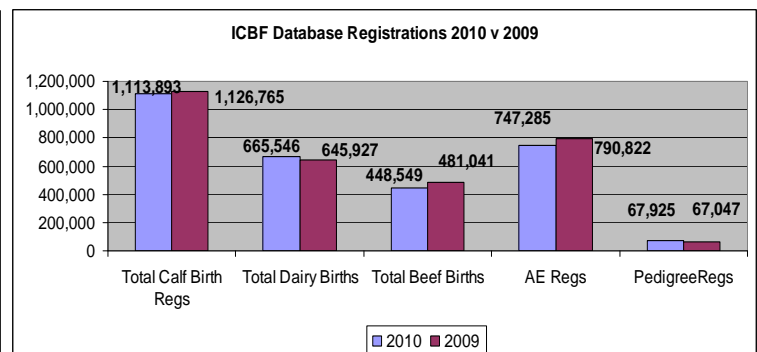
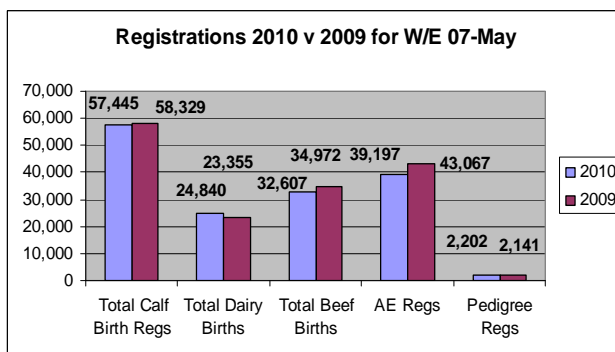
Sheep Ireland – Thursday 27th May at the Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise:

13:00 - 14:00 Buffet Lunch
14:00 - 15:30 Meeting with Flock Books - Election and Sheep Ireland progress report.
15:30 - 15:45 AGM – Open to Directors only
15:45 - 17:00 Interim Sheep Board meeting.

ICAR and Interbull Meetings, Riga Latvia 31st May to 4th June. Further details - www.icar2010.lv.

Sheep 2010, Lyons Estate, UCD – Saturday 26th June. This is a major day for the Irish Sheep industry.

2. Database



The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFF AIM systems.

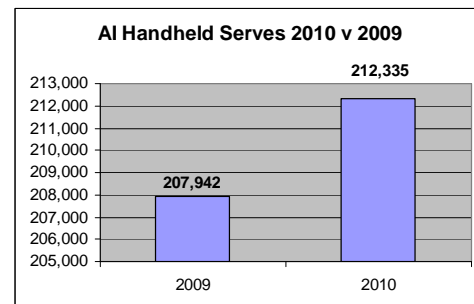
In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2009 born calves with meal introduced is 627,131 with the number of animals weaned at 557,978.

The usage of the new VET infrastructure is picking up. All Vets who were already using the ICBF system have been migrated to the new infrastructure. Any Vets wishing to begin interacting with the AHI/ICBF system can register at <http://www.animalhealthireland.ie/registerpage.php>.

The development of a new classification report for IHFA is on-going.

Updates to the Grow report (beef linear scoring) to include the sending of genetic evaluations are complete. The reports will go out next week.

The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2010 compared with 2009.



3. Genetic Evaluations

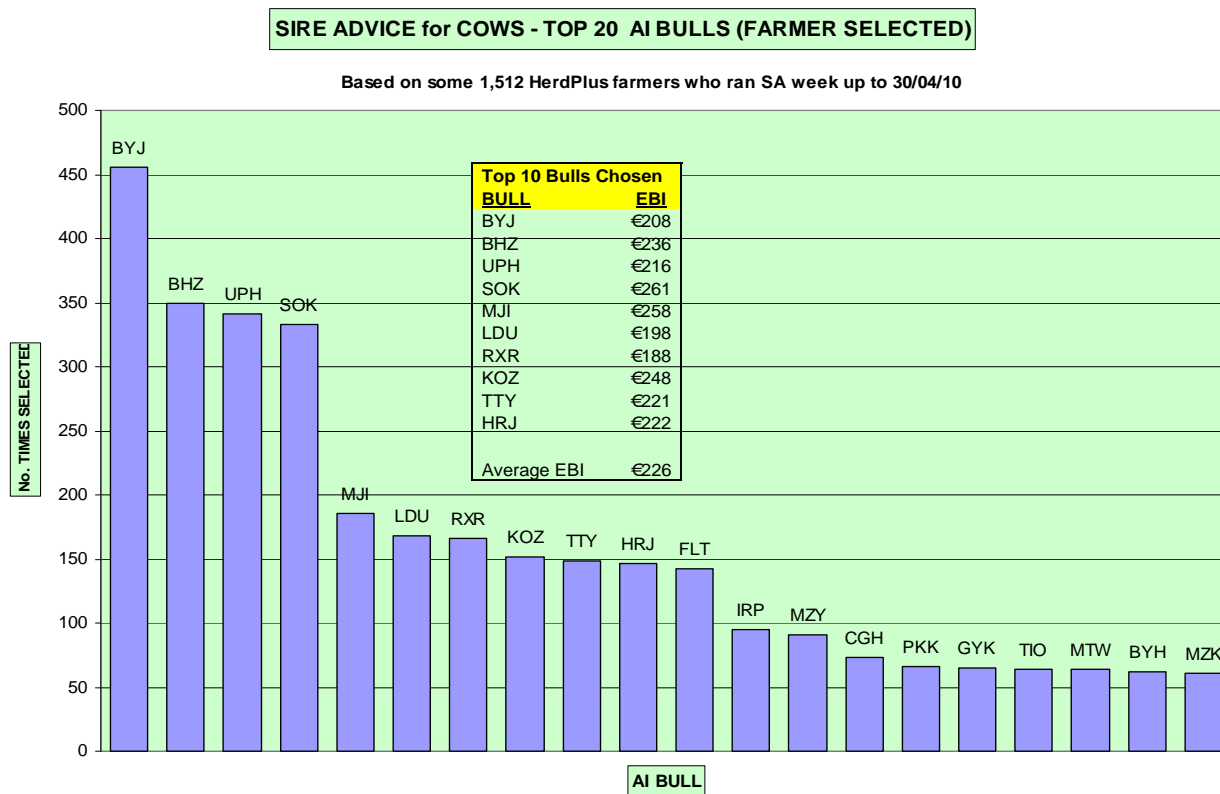
New evaluations for animals linear scored from 16/03/10 to 15/04/10 were loaded to the database this week. Grow reports and evaluation reports will go out next week for these animals.

- A meeting with members of the Limousin Council took place on Thursday night in Tullamore on various issues around linear scoring ahead of their regional club meetings. Feedback on the various issues will be sent back next week to the ILCS.
- Work on maternal weaning weight evaluations is ongoing.

4. HerdPlus

Dairy Sire Advice Analysis

- Some 1,512 HerdPlus clients ran the Sire Advice program up to end of April 2010. See graph below which gives a breakdown of the most frequently selected bulls by these farmers. (Top 20 bulls).



Beef Packs

This week we sent each a breeding pack to some 3,000 HerdPlus Beef clients. The pack contains 3 reports, namely;

Euro-Star Report - every beef animal with a sire gets a suckler beef value (€value) and a star rating (All females and pedigree males).

Genetic Evaluations are run 3 times per year after which each animals rating is updated. Use this report to see the genetic strengths and weaknesses in the herd.

Suckler Cow Report - Performance history for each cow in the herd, one page per cow, showing all her calving history and how the calves killed out with weights and grades if applicable – important for breeding/culling decisions.

Slaughter Report - **NEW !** - Tracks herd slaughter performance. ICBF gets the carcass grades and weights data from the factories and abattoirs and computes a "Lifetime Euros per day" measurement for each animal – based on price divided by age. The report is broken down into 5 sections (where applicable):

1. Steer
2. Young Bulls
3. Heifers
4. Cows
5. Bulls

See example report attached to this update - This is a new report so all feedback is welcome!

HerdPlus Web Tools

As well as HerdPlus reports there are many HerdPlus Applications available to our Beef clients on our website www.icbf.com.

Using their personal password* each HerdPlus client has access to the following tools;

Stock/Nitrates Report – you can enter dates and just click run - takes the pain out of generating stock no's.

InBreeding Tool – enter stock bull no., the program does inbreeding check, flags any cows too close to breed.

Slaughter Report - you can enter missing slaughter data & re run on line for whatever period you wish.

Calving Report – Track your mortality, calving interval, etc.

Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme – enter data & check on line if your records are up to date for the scheme

* If any client forgets their password they can text the word PASS to 51101 and we will text them their HerdPlus log-on and password.

5. Tully

On Monday last, 3rd of May, the sale of the 105 bulls, that were performance tested through the Tully GEN€ IR€LAND program was held at Tully Test Centre, Kildare, Co. Kildare. Bulls on sale were accredited with a high health status and had feed intake and performance test information on key profit traits such feed efficiency and growth rate available to purchasers on the day.

A large crowd attended with over 800 catalogues handed out at the event. There were bulls from 9 different breeds on offer with a high clearance rate of 64% achieved on the day. The Charolais Champion bull, Lisgree Elite Et, owned by James Geoghegan, Rosemount, Co. Westmeath was sold prior to the sale to NCBC for €4000 (See picture below). The sale attracted a lot of interest from N. Ireland and over-seas, with 6 bulls purchased by Northern breeders and 5 being exported to the UK.

Some of the average and top prices broken down by breed were as follows:

BELGIAN BLUE

2 Bulls out of 4 sold for an average of €200

1. Top Price went to Brid Duff, Portlaoise for Belgian Blue Champion bull Ballyfin Drifter (Lot 2), sired by Empire D'Ochain and sold for €7,300 to H.J.Patton, Ballyshannon, Co.Donegal.
2. Second top price of €100 went to Patrick Clerkin Ballyjamesduff, Co Cavan, for Aughalion Caption ET (lot 1), sired by Empire D'Ochain.

HEREFORD

1 Bull sold out of 5 for €700

Frank Applebe, Clonakilty, Co.Cork sold Appel 1 Billy (Lot 5), sired by Udel 1 t62 Webb Ellis, to Shane Thornton, Maynooth, Co.Kildare.

SPECKLE PARK

1 bull sold out of 2

Damien Kelly, Moate, Co.Westmeath owner of the Champion Bull Glencardon Wescott (Lot 11), sired by Par Rollin Stone 01r, sold for €2500 to Columb Brazil, Edenderry, Co.Offaly.

SALERS

1 bull sold out of 4

Alfred Melvin, Mulhuddart, Dublin Champion Bull Ashbury Jupiter (Lot 13), sired by Volcan sold for 4,000 to H.Roberts, Portmadog, Wales.

ANGUS

7 bulls sold out of 13 for an average €2025

1. Top price of €3,100 went to Paddy Farrell, Carrick-On-Shannon, for the Champion Bull, Sheemore Prince J295 (Lot 24), sired by Bj'S No Limits, and sold to Des Gee, Abbeyleix, Co.Laois.
2. 2nd top price of €2500 went to John Tait, Westwood Middleton Co Cork (lot 23), for Westellen Mr Bordello sired by Clonbroney Casper.

LIMOUSIN

26 bulls sold out of 36 sold for an average €3275

1. Top Price of 7,200 went to Rosaleen Clarke, Bailieboro, Co.Cavan for the Champion Bull, Shancrock Evan (Lot 49), sired by Sympa and sold to Walter Wight, St Boswells,Roxburghshire, Scotland.
2. Second top price of €6000 went to William Smith, Oldcastle Co Meath for Milbrook Dakota ET sired by Mas Du Clo (lot 32) and sold to Aled Edwards, Carmarthenshire ,Wales.
3. Third top price of €700 went to Pat Judge, Leckee Co Mayo, for Leckee Dutch ET sired by Mas Du Clo (lot 36).
4. Fourth top price of €5100 went to John Fahy Cummer, Go Galway for Glebe Park Enda (lot 62), sired by Ampertaine Brigadier.
5. Fifth top price of €5000 went to Patrick Clerkin, Ballyjamesduff, Co Cavan, for Aughalion Eddie sired by Arita Ben.

CHAROLAIS

17 Bulls sold out of 22 for an average €3520

1. Top Price of €7,800 went to Ian Maxwell,Convoy,Co.Donegal for Deeview Evan (Lot 82), sired by Texan- Gie and sold to Don Bellew, Cullyhanna, Newry, Co.Down.
3. Second top price of €7300 went to Sean Kingham, Castleblayney, Co Monaghan (lot 80), for Culla Edward, sired by Ashleigh Admiral.
4. Third top price of €6000 went to Maurice Keane, Glenville, Co Cork (lot 73) Glenville Eric, sired by Balthazar.
5. Fourth top price of €4200 went to Edward Walsh, Carrickmacross, Co Monaghan (lot 69), Aghafad Draiocht Oasis 2 (ET), sired by Dromiskin Viceroy.

SIMMENTAL

7 Bulls sold out of 10 for an average €2757

1. Top price of €5,000 for Liam Waldron, Ballyhaunis, Co.Mayo Riverbank Atlantic (Lot 101), sired by Glebefarm Tyson sold to Michael Boyle, Riverstown, Dundalk, Co.Louth.

2. Second top price of €3200 went Michael Gill, Crossmolina, Co Mayo, for Essgee Arizona (lot 97) sired by Marbelhill Liam.

3. Third top price of €2600 went to Noel Woods, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan (lot 102), Brookwood Alla King (lot 102), sired Raceview King.



Pictured at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale are Richard Duff, Ballyfin, Portlaoise with 'Ballyfin Drifter' a Belgian Blue that sold for €7,300. Also included are Hugh John & Michael Patton, Ballyshannon, Co Donegal (buyers). Photo O'Gorman Photography



Pictured at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale are 'Westcott' a Speckle Park that sold for €2,500 with Niall Canning, handler, Damien Kelly, Rosemount, Co Westmeath, owner & Columb Brazil, Edenderry, buyer. Photo O'Gorman Photography



Pictured at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale are John Farrell, Ballinwing, Co Leitrim with 'Sheemore Prince' an Angus that sold for €3,100. Photo O'Gorman Photography



Ciaran & Padraic Golden, Westport, Co Mayo are pictured with 'Clew Bay Edd' a Limousin bull that sold for €3,600 at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Also included is Gerard Kerin, Bellharbour, Co Clare, buyer. Photo O'Gorman Photography



William Smith, Oldcastle, Co Meath is pictured with 'Milbrook Dakota' a Limousin bull that sold for €6,000 at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Photo O'Gorman Photography



Seamus & Daire Clarke, Bailieborough, Co Cavan are pictured with 'Shancrock Evan' a Limousin bull that sold for €7,200 at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Photo O'Gorman Photography



Pat Judge, Foxford, Co Mayo is pictured with 'Leckee Dutch' a Limousin bull that sold for €5,700 at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Also included is Brian Coleman representing the buyer Frank



Maurice Keane, Glenville, Co Cork is pictured with 'Glenville Eric' a Charolais bull that sold for €6,000 at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Photo O'Gorman Photography



Sean & John Kingham, Castleblayney, Co Monaghan are pictured with 'Culla Edward' a Charolais bull that sold for €7,300 at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Photo O'Gorman Photography

Harrington, Kilkelly, Co Mayo. Photo O'Gorman Photography



Ian Maxwell, Lifford, Co Donegal is pictured with 'Deeview Evan' a Charolais bull that sold for €7,800 at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Also included is Martin Lafferty.



Picture of Top priced Saler.
Caption : Bull owned by Alfred Melvin, Mulhuddart, Dublin Champion Bull ASHBURY JUPITOR (Lot 13), sired by Volcan sold for 4,000 to H.Roberts, Portmadog, Wales.



Dermot Cahill, Thurles, Nuala Hourihane, Charolais Society & Brian Wickham, Chief Executive, ICBF are pictured at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Photo O'Gorman Photography



JJ Farrell, Longford, Tom Brennan, Freshford, John Holloway, Horseleap & Michael Molloy, Belmont are pictured at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Photo O'Gorman Photography



Luke Ashmore, Lattin, Co Tipperary is pictured at the ICBF, Tully & Gene Ireland elite high health status beef bull sale. Photo O'Gorman Photography

Next intake:

Bloods taken on-farm for the next intake are coming in at a steady rate and are being sent to Backweston laboratories for analysis. It is hoped to have the final on-farm testing completed by Wednesday of next week. This will allow time for samples to be analysed before bulls enter isolation at Tully on Saturday, 22nd of May. The facilities at Tully and off-farm isolation unit are being power-washed and disinfected at present in preparation for the up-coming intake.

6. Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 27/04/10 to 07/05/10

	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
CARLOW	9	653	73	28.9	3.62	3.29	2.00	277
CAVAN	17	847	50	30.5	3.70	3.24	2.12	357

CLARE	44	2,206	50	28.8	3.47	3.30	1.95	257
CORK STH	245	15,738	64	27.0	3.67	3.36	1.90	271
CORK NTH	272	18,999	70	27.3	3.60	3.40	1.91	258
DONEGAL	15	1,023	68	18.3	3.79	3.40	1.32	227
DUBLIN	3	163	54	24.8	3.95	3.32	1.80	253
GALWAY	25	1,814	73	26.8	3.67	3.32	1.87	301
KERRY	158	9,431	60	29.6	3.49	3.30	2.01	297
KILDARE	18	1,475	82	28.2	3.54	3.30	1.93	328
KILKENNY	30	2,150	72	26.1	3.50	3.31	1.78	258
LAOIS	26	2,223	86	24.8	3.61	3.32	1.72	327
LEITRIM	4	192	48	17.8	4.26	3.24	1.34	384
LIMERICK	144	9,886	69	27.4	3.47	3.35	1.87	282
LONGFORD	6	318	53	25.2	4.44	3.41	1.98	428
LOUTH	16	1,265	79	28.7	3.44	3.28	1.93	317
MAYO	23	1,113	48	28.1	3.39	3.40	1.91	378
MEATH	33	3,071	93	25.1	4.00	3.38	1.85	334
MONAGHAN	16	770	48	29.1	3.79	3.20	2.03	240
OFFALY	18	1,032	57	26.4	3.57	3.29	1.81	282
ROSCOMMON	2	154	77	34.9	4.55	3.27	2.73	230
SLIGO	5	209	42	25.5	3.28	3.27	1.67	305
TIPPERARY NTH	39	3,700	95	25.9	3.83	3.41	1.88	301
TIPPERARY STH	83	6,409	77	24.8	3.71	3.35	1.75	272
WATERFORD	54	4,413	82	26.9	3.71	3.41	1.92	246
WESTMEATH	13	866	67	27.4	3.93	3.22	1.96	300
WEXFORD	27	1,701	63	26.1	3.45	3.34	1.77	235
WICKLOW E	11	714	65	25.8	3.19	3.38	1.70	239
WICKLOW W	9	799	89	26.9	3.49	3.22	1.80	329
	<i>No. Herds Recorded</i>	<i>No. Cows Recorded</i>	<i>Average Herd Size</i>	<i>Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow</i>	<i>Average Fat %</i>	<i>Average Protein %</i>	<i>Average F + P kg</i>	<i>Average SCC</i>
National	1,365	93,334	67	26.7	3.69	3.32	1.87	294

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 27/04/10 to 07/05/10

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	1039	70,782	68	27.2	3.62	3.36	1.90	273
Leinster	219	16,430	75	26.5	3.68	3.31	1.85	301
Connacht	59	3,482	59	26.6	3.83	3.30	1.90	320
Ulster	48	2,640	55	26.0	3.76	3.28	1.83	275

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 07/05/10

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 07/05/10	No. EDIY Herds YTD 07/05/10	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 07/05/10	No. EDIY Cows YTD 07/05/10	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,238	827	26%	209,288	58,619	28%
Progressive	1,671	506	30%	125,615	37,724	30%

Tipperary	101	36	36%	7,440	3,163	43%
Connacht	117	37	32%	6,696	2,157	32%
Total	5,127	1,406	27%	349,039	101,663	29%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2009 Cows Recorded 01/01/09 - 07/05/09	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/10 - 07/05/10	2010 vs 2009 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	195,277	209,288	6.7%
Progressive	133,215	125,615	-6.1%
Tipperary	7,889	7,440	-6.0%
Connacht	5,431	6,696	18.9%
Total	341,812	349,039	2.1%

Brian Wickham (PhD) Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 86 826 9911, Email bwickham@icbf.com.

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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.

**Post Slaughter Performance Report
HEIFERS
(01-Jan-2009 to 31-Dec-2009)**

LoCall 1850 600 900

Herd Owner:
Herd Designator: IE1988807
Print Date: 12th Apr 2010
Page: 1 of (6)

Section 3 :HEIFERS

1 (a). Summary - based on all beef females, progeny of suckler beef cows slaughtered in the period

Total Heifers Slaughtered with complete factory records in the database	25
Average Age at Slaughter	26.5mths
Range in age at Slaughter	21 - 47mths
Start Slaughter Date	25/03/2009
End Slaughter Date	13/05/2009

1 (b). Top 5 Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)

1. Factory Price (EUR) The average factory price received for these slaughtered animals in the period	€1,172 (€3.11/Kg)
2. Lifetime Margin per day per animal (EUR) Birth to Factory - Average Selling Price divided by age in days at time of slaughter (expressed as EUR/day)	€1.47/day
3. Carcass Quality (% of carcasses achieving high price grades, - R+ or better)	64%

	E	U+	U=	U-	R+	R=	R-	O+	O=	O-	P
1											
2-											
2=											
2+							1				
3-			1		1	1					
3=					1						
3+		1		1	1	1					
4- (L)				2	1	1					
4=		1	2	1	2		2				
4+ (H)					1	3					
5											

Section 3 HEIFERS: Summary by Herd of Birth of Animal (Showing top 5 only)

Breeder	Breeder Address	On farm performance			Factory performance		Financial performance		
		Number of Animals	Days on farm	Average age at slaughter (months)	Carcass Weight (kg)	Carcass Grading	Factory Price (€)	Price per kg (cents)	Lifetime Euros per day (€)
Own	R[~ } a P a @ a P [~ • ^ E O a á [} É Co Donegal	9	757	25	374	U=4=	€1,166	€3.13	€1.59
lv[! T ~ !] @	Mo} ^ ^ é , } É o á [} É Co Donegal	1	600	30	476	U+3+	€1,442	€3.03	€1.59
Robert T ~ !] @	3 Lifford Co } id Co a [} [, @ ^ É O Donegal	4	344	24	332	R+4+	€1,020	€3.08	€1.40
Kieran B! a @	Whiteha d So } á É Lifford U a & ^ É Co Donegal	9	322	30	400	R+4=	€1,241	€3.10	€1.39
Robert B á á á	Ruskey Ca a ^ É Lifford Co Donegal	1	398	25	320	R=3-	€997	€3.11	€1.35
Totals / Averages		24	503	27	379		€1,174	€3.11	

Section 3 Heifers: Summary by Sire Breed of Animal (Showing top 5 only)

Grouped by Breed of Sire	Genetic Merit of the Animals for Beef Carcass Index (€)	On farm performance			Factory performance		Financial performance		
		Number of Animals	Days on farm	Average age at slaughter (months)	Carcass Weight (kg)	Carcass Grading	Factory Price (€)	Price per kg (cents)	Lifetime Euros per day (€)
Belgian Blue	€77	1	600	30	476	U+3+	€1,442	€3.03	€1.59
Charolais	€111	4	871	29	419	U=4=	€1,297	€3.11	€1.59
Limousin	€16	1	672	22	321	R=4+	€1,000	€3.11	€1.49
Sire Unknown		19	406	26	367	R+4=	€1,140	€3.11	€1.44