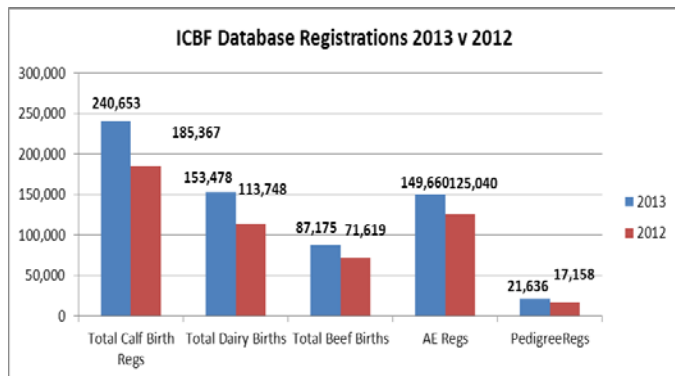
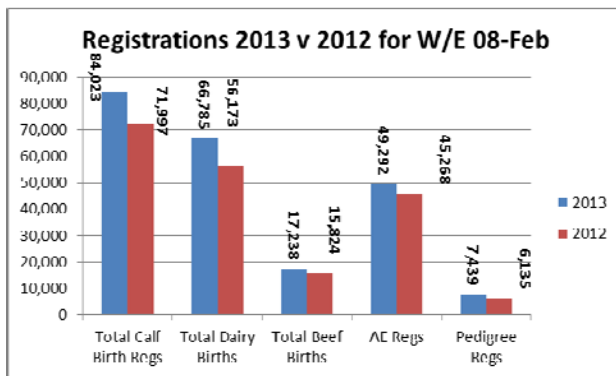


ICBF Weekly Update 8th February 2013

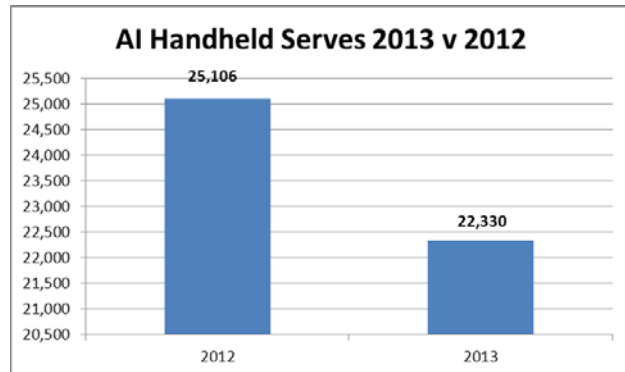
1 Important Dates

- ICBF Audit & Finance Sub Committee meeting** – Thursday 14th March, 10:00 to 14:00, Horse & Jockey.
- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 28th March, 10:30 to 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 28th March, at 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.

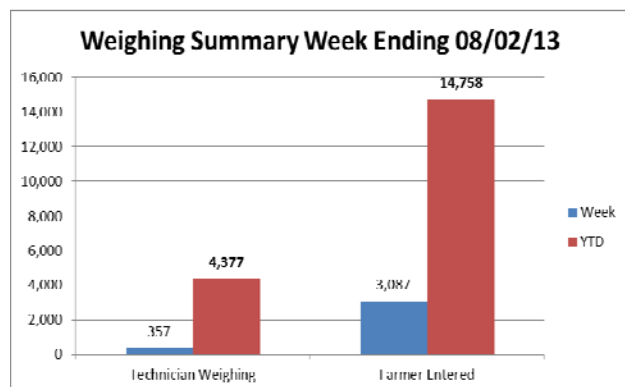
2 Database



- 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 578,206 with the number of animals weaned at 497,610.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 200,000 results received since January 1st, of which 82,000 have come in the last 7 days.
- The graph above shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.

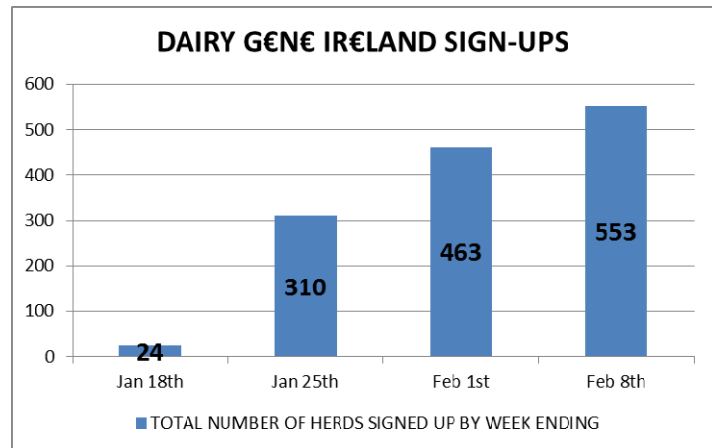


- This week there were 357 weights received through the technician service and 3,087 weights recorded by farmers. The graph shows the week and year to date totals.



3 GENÉIRELAND® - Dairy

- ✚ Herds continue to be signed up by post and phone.
- ✚ 553 herds to date are taking a total of 19,509 straws.
- ✚ Semen deliveries to Munster AI have commenced. Allocations will start as soon as 5 bulls are available.
- ✚ The average EBI of the Holstein-Friesian panel is €275.
- ✚ To order call 1850 600 900.



4 HerdPlus®



- ✚ Meeting took place this week with private BTAP facilitators in the Horse & Jockey.
- ✚ A presentation was given on data recording, new beef indexes and BTAP task recording on ICBF website.
- ✚ Final Co-Op Performance reports are currently being printed and packed.
- ✚ Dairy Cow reports are being printed and will be posted next week.
- ✚ Top 100 EBI herds list will be available early next week.
- ✚ GENÉIRELAND Bull Breeder letters have been posted to the Simmental breeders this week.

5 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ STAP queries continue to flow in quick and fast which is great. It emphasises the important role that STAP will play in educating farmers about Sheep Ireland and the Euro-Star evaluations. We met with a group of private advisors during the week to explain the Sheep Ireland elements of the programme. We will be hoping to visit as many of the sheep groups as possible over the lifetime of STAP. Our hope will be that once the STAP programme concludes commercial farmers will be sold on the merits of using high Euro-Starred breeding rams.
- ✚ Breeder participation numbers continue to grow and with this, so does the workload. In response to this we have recruited another person in the Sheep Ireland office. Kevin McDermott from Donegal has just completed a Masters Degree in UCD where he assessed the effect of ewe nutrition in the last six weeks of pregnancy on subsequent performance up to and including lamb slaughter. Kevin will be based here in Bandon and will be involved in all aspects of the continued development of the Sheep Ireland breed improvement programme.

6 Genetic Evaluations - InterBeef

- ✚ Beef calving ease and calf mortality data has been submitted to InterBeef to be included in the calving trait research project along with data from 7 other countries. The research will be carried out by the team from Czech Republic in 2 beef breeds Charolais & Limousine.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 08/02/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 08/02/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 08/02/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 08/02/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 08/02/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	394	9	2%	20,870	687	3%
Progressive	775	123	16%	38,964	7,661	20%
Tipperary	4	1	25%	170	33	19%
Total	1,173	133	11%	60,004	8,381	14%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 08/02/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 08/02/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	22,297	20,870	-6.8%
Progressive	46,856	38,964	-20.3%
Tipperary	282	170	-65.9%
Total	69,435	60,004	-15.7%

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