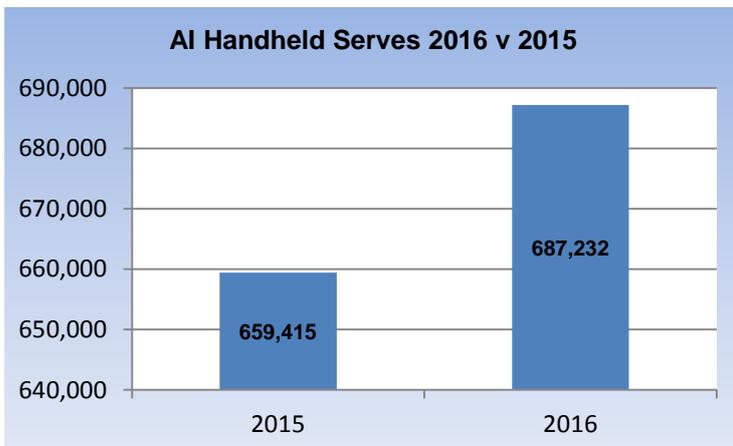
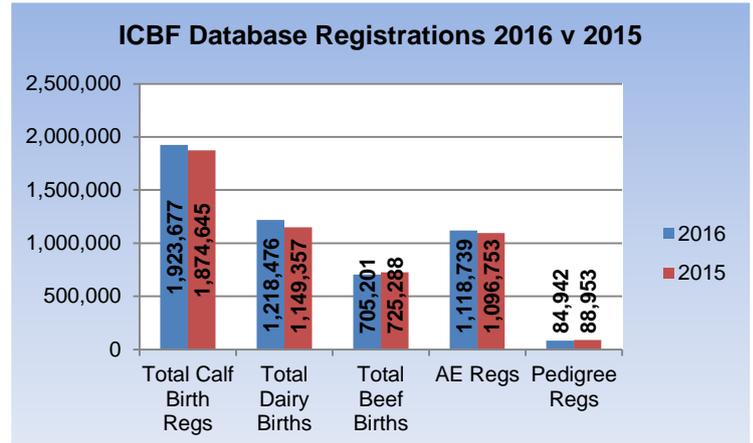
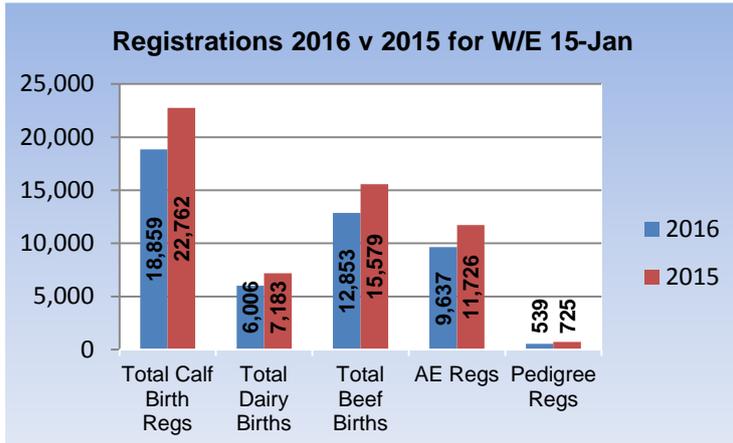


ICBF Weekly Update 8th July 2016

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Audit & Finance Meeting** – Thursday 17th November at 10:30am in the Killeshin, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 8th September at 10:30am in Highfield House.
- ✚ **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 8th September at 2:00pm in Highfield House

2 Database



- ✚ The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 2,279,664 million results received since January 1st, of which 48,427 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 9.26 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2016 compared with 2015.

3 ICBF Board Meeting

Topics covered at the ICBF Board meeting on Thursday this week included:

- ✚ The election of Michael Doran as Chairman and Patrick Kelly as Vice Chairman
- ✚ An update on the Beef Data and Genomics Scheme and the progress on Genomic Evaluations
- ✚ A discussion on whole herd Performance Recording within Beef Herds
- ✚ Communications in relation to the upcoming Base Change on the EBI
- ✚ A progress report in relation to work on the ICBF Strategic Direction.

4 Herd Plus®

- We are delighted to introduce our new 'Animal Search' facility which now allows ICBF users to search for females in HerdPlus/BDGP herds. This facility will have a significant impact on the breeding industry in Ireland. This feature can be used by anyone and can be found on the right hand side of the ICBF home screen.



ICBF Animal Search



The ICBF 'Animal Search' facility on the ICBF website (www.icbf.com) is where you can find out the most up-to-date Euro-Star/EBI figures

- Can now search **Female animals**
- Only Females in a HerdPlus/BDGP herd can be searched
- Indexes are updated three times per year; **April, August & December.**



Step 1
Enter www.icbf.com into your internet address bar

Step 2
Go to the 'Animal Search' and enter the tag number or AI Code of any animal and click 'search'. That animal's most up-to-date Euro-Star/EBI figures will then be shown.

- ICBF attended Teagasc Beef 2016 last Tuesday 5th July 2016. This was a very informative event which focused on 'Profitable Technologies' on the day. ICBF HerdPlus were on hand taking HerdPlus/BDGP queries in person.



Members from ICBF with Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine Mr. Michael Creed TD.

- Farmers can now genotype all their female calves which will allow them to make a more informed decision around breeding and culling potential replacements. This service could cost herd-owners as little as €22/head. Please contact HerdPlus on **1850 600 900** or **023 8820452** for further details. Alternatively when logged into HerdPlus, herd-owners can make orders online by selecting 'Services' – 'Genomic Services' – 'Place Order'

- With breeding season coming to an end, if your AI technician does not have a handheld or you are doing DIY AI please remember to record AI serves on your HerdPlus account. This will be used to generate fertility.

5 GENE IRELAND® Beef

- Sign Ups are continuing for the Gene Ireland Beef programme.
- 450 herds taking a total of 5745 straws have joined so far.
- The average order is 13 straws per herd.
- An updated flyer on the available bulls can be viewed [here](#)
- To learn more or to order straws please phone 023 8820452.
- Approx. total straws ordered to date for the remaining bulls are detailed below.



Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws Ordered
GZJ	Goulding Eamonn	AA	365
AU2365	Calverstown Koala	AU	75
BA2357	Terelton Isaac	BA	25
CH2154	Polar Joe 2	CH	260
CH2221	Jarret	CH	280
CH2363	Dolland Jefferson	CH	35
HE2359	Arlinstown Special 13 th	HE	60
LM2242	Edakya	LM	465
PT2356	Macgowan Herd Jumbo	PT	75
ZKY	Kyle Herd Ivan	PT	480
PI2157	Kilree Leo	PI	220
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	375
SA2366	Carrentubber Pinocchio	SA	10
SH2181	Coolvin Dominator	SH	105
SH2361	Doon Gladiator	SH	215
SH2360	Doon Giorgio	SH	245
SI2469	Lisnacra Fifty Cent	SI	235
SI2367	Barnattin George 2	SI	60
SI2362	Dermotstown Gigantosaurus	SI	70
ETP	Curahen Evolution P	SI	450

6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 08/07/16						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 08/07/16	No. EDIY Herds YTD 08/07/16	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 08/07/16	No. EDIY Cows YTD 08/07/16	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,628	1,113	31%	348,379	116,549	33%
Progressive	2,269	902	40%	239,714	95,072	40%
Tipperary	114	50	44%	10,682	4,470	42%
Total	6,011	2,065	34%	598,775	216,091	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15- 08/07/15	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 08/07/16	2016 vs 2015 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	356,645	348,379	-2.3%
Progressive	243,052	239,714	-1.4%
Tipperary	11,323	10,682	-5.7%
Total	611,020	598,775	-2.0%

7 Sheep Ireland

Ram Breeder Workshops

- ✚ This week saw the ram breeder workshops kicking off, starting on Monday evening (4th July); we visited the flock of Anne and Aidan Murphy near Gorey, Co. Wexford. This was followed by another workshop on Tuesday (5th July) on the farm of Arthur, Patrick and Susan O’Keeffe outside Mallow in Co. Cork. The objective of these workshops is to educate all ram breeders (LambPlus and non-LambPlus) about the workings of the EuroStar Indexes.
- ✚ The Key Aims:
 - Demonstrate the physical checks breeders/farmers should do on all rams
 - Show that the EuroStars are working – latest validation
 - To discuss why EuroStar Indexes move for animals
 - How animals with similar/same bloodlines can have different EuroStar Indexes
- ✚ By increasing ram breeders understanding of the Indexes and how they work, this will put breeders in a better position to educate commercial sheep farmers. The number of commercial sheep farmers that ram breeders interact with annually is huge and by arming these breeders with more information on how the indexes operate, in turn they will be better able to educate ram buyers.

There are three workshops scheduled to take place over the coming days;

- ✚ Friday (8th July) – Eamon Duffy – Ethelstown, Kells, Co. Meath (7pm)
- ✚ Monday (11th July) – James McKane - Whitehill, Killygordon, Co Donegal (7pm)
- ✚ Friday (15th July) – Michael Murphy - Moneen, Cummer, Tuam, Co Galway (7pm)



Sheep Ireland Board Meeting (Thurs 7th)

- ✚ This was the first meeting of the board since a number of new representatives were elected to the board. A number of important topics were discussed including;
 - OVIGEN genotyping results – results on parentage.
 - Update on OVIEGN pilot project – results on parentage will be in all catalogues this summer.
 - LambPlus sale plans – letters for entries will be sent out soon.
 - Flockbook fees for 2017 – New proposal agreed by board will be communicated with all relevant breed society reps in the coming weeks.
 - CPT – Processes to source lamb carcass data are now in place.

National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 29-JUN-2016 To 08-JUL-2016

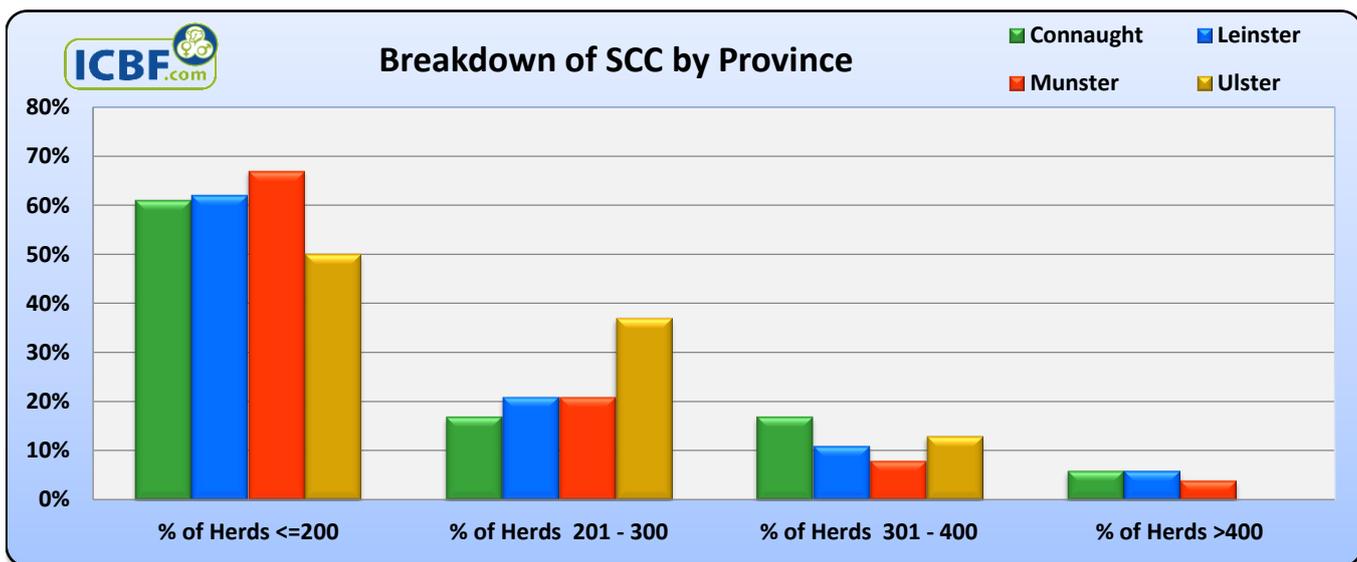
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	18	1,613	90	24.3	3.76	3.35	1.72	161
Leinster	175	18,283	104	23.3	3.93	3.40	1.70	172
Munster	623	57,071	92	23.9	3.89	3.42	1.75	160
Ulster	30	1,971	66	25.5	3.59	3.25	1.73	194
National Statistics	846	78,938	93	23.9	3.88	3.41	1.74	164

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 29-JUN-2016 To 08-JUL-2016

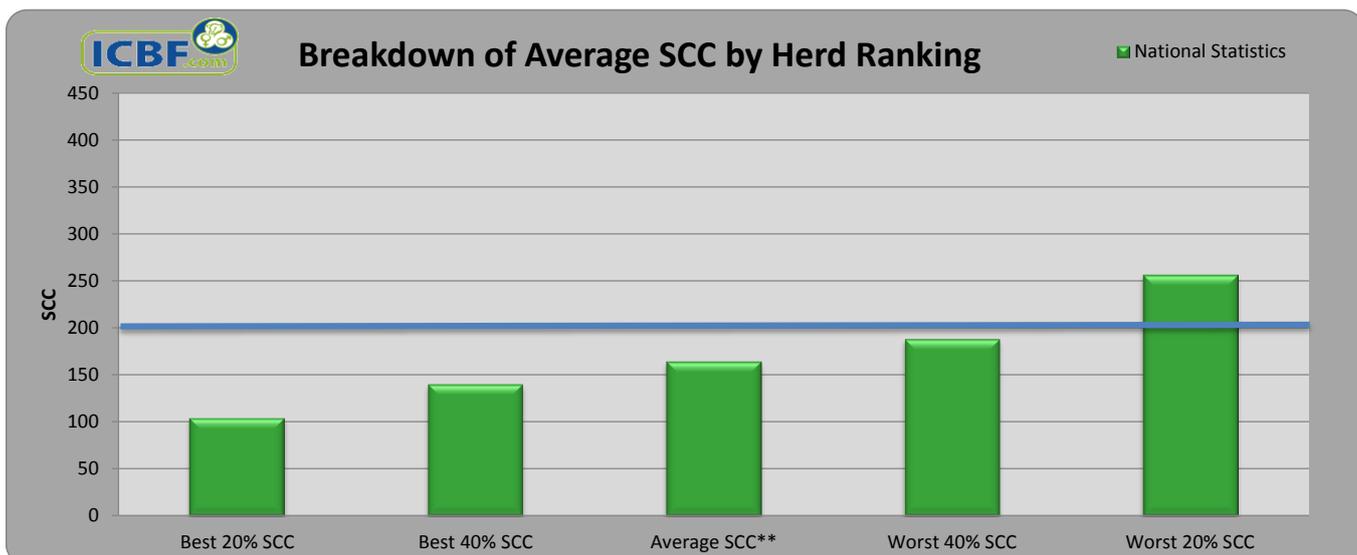
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	% of Herds <=200	% of Herds 201 - 300	% of Herds 301 - 400	% of Herds >400	Average SCC*
Connaught	18	1,613	90	61%	17%	17%	6%	161
Leinster	175	18,283	104	62%	21%	11%	6%	172
Munster	623	57,071	92	67%	21%	8%	4%	160
Ulster	30	1,971	66	50%	37%	13%	0%	194
National Statistics	846	78,938	93	65%	21%	9%	4%	164

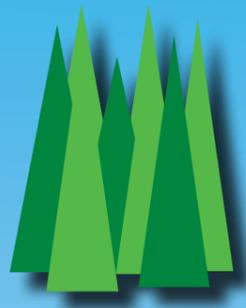
* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 29-JUN-2016 To 08-JUL-2016								
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	18	1,613	90	95	112	134	178	280
Leinster	175	18,283	104	108	149	175	195	285
Munster	623	57,071	92	103	138	159	182	240
Ulster	30	1,971	66	143	184	207	239	277
National Statistics	846	78,938	93	104	140	164	188	256

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)





IRISH GRASSLAND ASSOCIATION

Dairy Summer Tour, sponsored by AIB

Tuesday 19th July 2016



#backedbyAIB

Event Focus: "Milk production on more challenging soils"

Farm 1: Sean O'Riordan, Knockenaugh, Kiskeam, Co. Cork.

- Listen to Sean talk about the development of his 80 ha heavy soil dairy farm
- See how Sean has drained some of the heaviest paddocks on the milking platform and increased grass yield
- Hear Sean's thoughts on changing the breed of his dairy herd to suit more challenging soils

Farm 2: Conor Creedon, Gortnagown, Rathmore, Co. Kerry.

- Hear Conor's story of evolving from a mixed enterprise 20 cow farm in the late '90's to milking 95 cows today on a 26 ha milking platform
- Explore how Conor's herd is delivering over 90% 6-week in-calf rates
- See how Conor has developed an elevated steep hill farm to grow over 16 T DM/ha grass in 2015

- Pre-registration is essential as this event sells out early every year
- Registration at 8:30am The Green Glens Arena Millstreet
(STRICTLY no parking or admission at either farm)
- Cost: €30 for IGA members €60 for non IGA members
(These discounted rates apply if you register online by Friday 8th July)

Admission by pre-registration ONLY. Book today and don't miss out on this exciting event!
Web: www.irishgrassland.com Phone: 087 9626483

