

## 1. Important Dates

- HerdPlus<sup>®</sup> & GENIRELAND<sup>®</sup> User Beef Breeding Event.** – 14:00 to 17:00 Today at ICBF Tully Central Performance Test Centre, Tully Co. Kildare.
- Tully Bull High Health Status Sale** – 17:00 Today, ICBF Tully Central Performance Test Centre.
- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 10:30 to 14:00 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 14:00 to 16:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.

## 2. HerdPlus<sup>®</sup> & GENIRELAND<sup>®</sup> User Beef Breeding Event

Our first event dedicated to the beef herds that are using HerdPlus<sup>®</sup> & GENIRELAND<sup>®</sup> takes place today at Tully. Features of the event include:

- An update of recent developments in HerdPlus<sup>®</sup>. This service now includes sixteen features each of which provides information valuable in achieving profitability for beef farmers. This makes the HerdPlus<sup>®</sup> service very valuable for beef herds.
- The launch of the ICBF Catalogue service. This new service is being supported by ICBF and our Herd Book members. It is an easy to use service for preparing catalogues for the sale of both pedigree and commercial breeding stock.
- A demonstration of the extra profits that are being achieved by beef farmers by using Euro-Star indexes to select bulls for breeding.
- The GENIRELAND<sup>®</sup> beef bull team for Autumn 2010.
- The sale of fifty bulls that have just completed their performance test at Tully.
- A presentation on beef cattle breeding in Ireland to International visitors who are in Ireland to attend the Beef Expo 2010 taking place at Kilkenny Mart on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> Oct.
- This event was timed to support Beef Expo 2010.

Refer to the publications section of [www.icbf.com](http://www.icbf.com) for:

- **Presentations – HerdPlus<sup>®</sup> & GENIRELAND<sup>®</sup> User Beef Breeding Event.** These are the slides used by the ICBF team to provide the latest information to herd owners at the Tully meeting.
- **Beef Breeding Ireland** which gives up-to-date information on beef breeding for all the main beef breeds. This has been prepared especially for our international visitors and for farmers attending Beef Expo 2010.
- **Beef Expo 2010 Animals.** This is a list of all the animals appearing in the Beef Expo 2010 on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> October at Kilkenny Mart.

## 3. IGenoP

Next Thursday (14<sup>th</sup> October) we will be making a public presentation of the design of the IGenoP system for facilitating the sharing of genotypes worldwide. If you know of anybody who would be interested in participating please email me ([bwickham@icbf.com](mailto:bwickham@icbf.com)).

The benefits expected to be delivered of IGenoP include:

1. **Larger training population** – this is of benefit, regardless of the size of training population currently available for a country.
2. **Removal of selection bias** – access to genotypes of all selection candidates enables the national evaluation system to eliminate the risk of genomic selection bias.

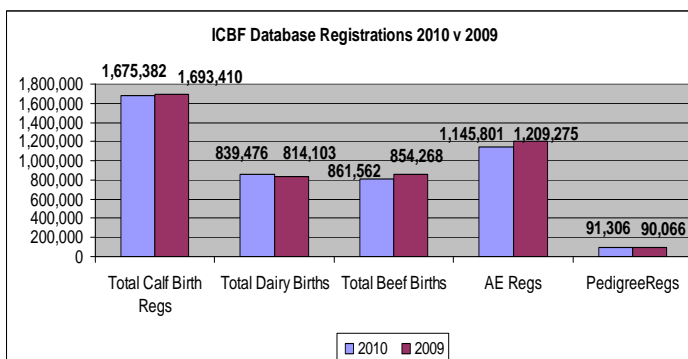
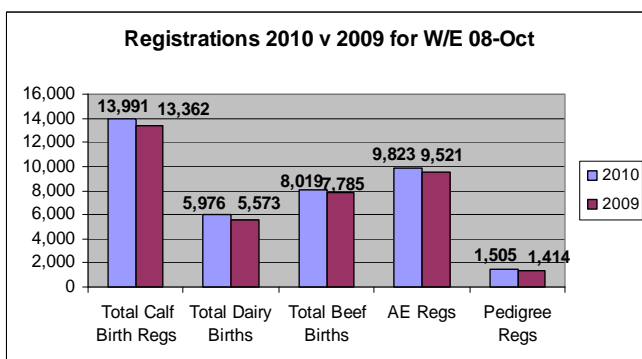
3. **More accurate genomic evaluations for imported animals** compared with GMACE or converted breeding values.
4. **More rapid delivery of genomic breeding value** for imported animals/semen due to having ready access to genotypes for selection candidates.
5. **Saving of costs** associated with researching, creating, building and maintaining a database of genotypes for genomic evaluations.
6. **Improved competitive position** of local breeding organisations.

#### 4. ICAR 2012 ([www.icar2012.ie](http://www.icar2012.ie))

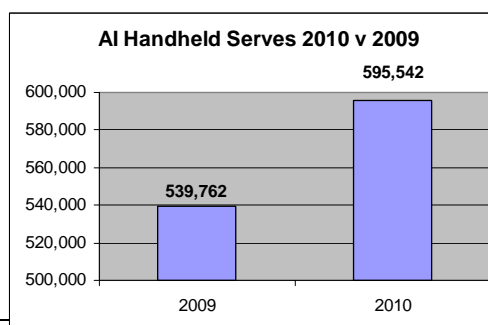
This week the first meeting of the Irish Organising Committee for ICAR 2012 was held. John O'Sullivan is the Chairman of the Committee. The event is scheduled over five days from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2012 in Cork and is expected to be attended by some 400 international delegates. ICAR is focused on animal performance recording and genetic evaluations. Key decisions taken at this first meeting of the organising committee included:

- A commitment to involving the dairy, beef and sheep breeding industries.
- To ensure we put together a program that is attractive to the largest possible international audience.
- To ensure recent developments in cattle and sheep breeding in Ireland are featured.
- To establish a theme which highlights the link between animal recording and the long term profitability of dairy, beef and sheep farming.

#### 5. Database



- ✚ The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFF AIM systems.
- ✚ In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2010 born calves with meal introduced is 356,610 with the number of animals weaned at 97,587.
- ✚ Work is nearing completion on the new catalogue service to herdbooks and breeders. The beef catalogue service will be launched this weekend.
- ✚ Vets wishing to begin interacting with the AHI/ICBF system can register at <http://www.animalhealthireland.ie/registerpage.php>.
- ✚ A development update to the Beef Slaughter report continued this week.
- ✚ The design of a new infrastructure to manage genotypes at ICBF is continuing.



- + Work on a new infrastructure for communicating with marts is on-going, with a view to getting the data flows on a more efficient and effective basis.
- + A development update to import milking speed data from the EDIY milk recording data handlers is in the process of being finalised.
- + The graph above shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2010 compared with 2009.

## 6. GENEIRELAND®

### Dairy

- + Sign-ups for the 2010 Autumn programme commenced this week with letters being posted to last years participants.
- + Further letters will be sent next week targeting additional Autumn herds.
- + Click [here](http://www.icbf.com/services/geneireland/files/Autumn_2010_Dairy_Test_bull_Panel.pdf) (http://www.icbf.com/services/geneireland/files/Autumn\_2010\_Dairy\_Test\_bull\_Panel.pdf) to view the catalogue of the bulls.

## 7. Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 08/10/10						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 08/10/10	No. EDIY Herds YTD 08/10/10	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 08/10/10	No. EDIY Cows YTD 08/10/10	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,557	1,000	28%	275,952	85,431	31%
Progressive	2,001	764	38%	176,594	66,953	38%
Tipperary	133	57	43%	11,930	5,765	48%
Connacht	150	59	39%	9,980	3,779	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,841</b>	<b>1,880</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>474,456</b>	<b>161,928</b>	<b>34%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2009 Cows Recorded 01/01/09 - 08/10/09	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/10 - 08/10/10	2010 vs. 2009 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	256,412	275,952	7.1%
Progressive	176,682	176,594	0.0%
Tipperary	11,115	11,930	6.8%
Connacht	9,614	9,980	3.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>453,823</b>	<b>474,456</b>	<b>4.3%</b>

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 28/09/10 to 08/10/10								
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	975	69,135	71	18.3	4.23	3.76	1.46	300
Leinster	275	21,275	77	19.8	4.04	3.67	1.53	343
Connacht	68	3,829	56	18.8	3.92	3.58	1.41	344

Ulster	80	4,682	59	19.0	4.23	3.70	1.51	395
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**National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 28/09/10 to 08/10/10**

	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	7	376	54	18.1	4.40	3.73	1.47	324
CAVAN	39	1,741	45	20.0	4.04	3.70	1.55	370
CLARE	41	2,092	51	17.9	4.03	3.69	1.38	283
CORK STH	238	16,426	69	18.8	4.14	3.67	1.47	287
CORK NTH	269	18,641	69	18.6	4.31	3.85	1.52	294
DONEGAL	15	1,680	112	17.0	4.55	3.80	1.42	340
DUBLIN	3	124	41	25.8	3.11	3.57	1.72	159
GALWAY	28	1,789	64	17.5	4.16	3.58	1.35	326
KERRY	146	9,630	66	19.8	4.02	3.67	1.52	348
KILDARE	11	706	64	23.0	4.05	3.59	1.76	306
KILKENNY	37	2,784	75	15.4	4.25	3.83	1.24	338
LAOIS	24	2,089	87	19.4	4.38	3.71	1.57	327
LEITRIM	8	303	38	19.0	3.89	3.53	1.41	273
LIMERICK	120	8,549	71	18.1	4.15	3.76	1.43	294
LONGFORD	11	519	47	18.4	4.14	3.72	1.45	344
LOUTH	15	1,126	75	19.9	3.83	3.60	1.48	380
MAYO	21	1,244	59	22.9	3.52	3.70	1.65	360
MEATH	60	5,376	90	20.4	4.01	3.57	1.55	372
MONAGHAN	26	1,261	49	20.1	4.10	3.61	1.55	476
OFFALY	10	1,014	101	19.6	4.11	3.76	1.54	337
ROSCOMMON	3	184	61	16.4	4.30	3.45	1.27	381
SLIGO	8	309	39	18.3	3.73	3.65	1.35	381
TIPPERARY NTH	33	3,440	104	18.0	4.44	3.80	1.48	284
TIPPERARY STH	66	4,872	74	17.4	4.28	3.80	1.41	362
WATERFORD	62	5,485	88	18.0	4.44	3.85	1.49	249
WESTMEATH	13	854	66	19.1	4.17	3.76	1.51	388
WEXFORD	59	4,524	77	19.0	4.19	3.75	1.51	344
WICKLOW E	13	1,046	80	18.2	3.88	3.67	1.37	397
WICKLOW W	12	737	61	21.5	3.99	3.45	1.60	441
	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
<b>National</b>	<b>1,398</b>	<b>98,921</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>19.2</b>	<b>4.09</b>	<b>3.68</b>	<b>1.49</b>	<b>337</b>

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