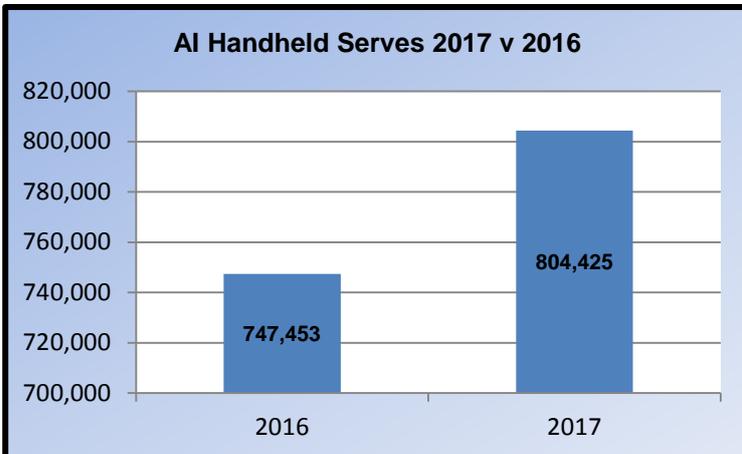
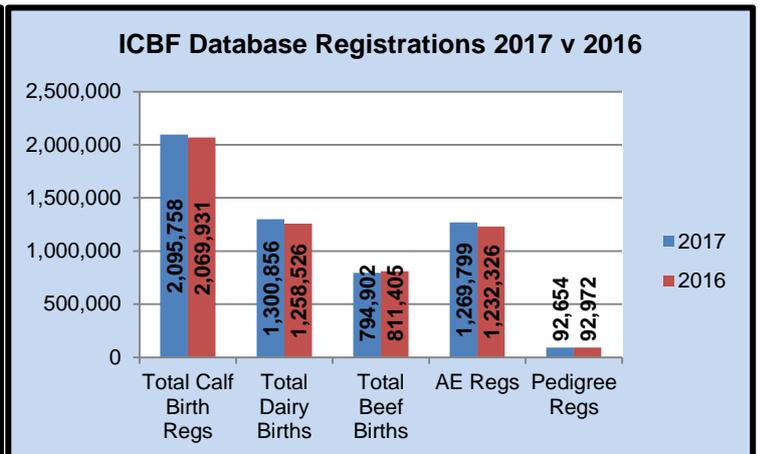
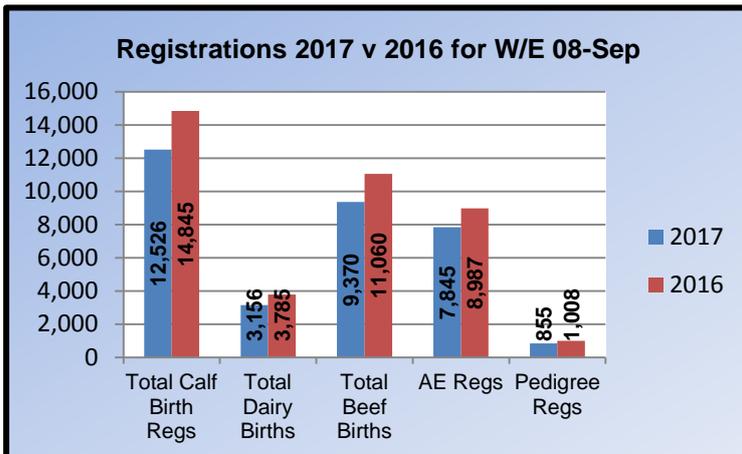


ICBF Weekly Update 8th September 2017

1 Important Dates

- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 19th October at 10:30am in Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 14th September at 2:00pm, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Thursday 16th November at 10:30am, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

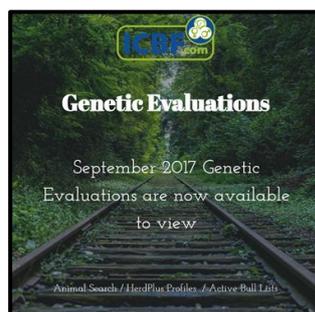
2 Database



- 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 2,159,832 results received since January 1st, of which 12,827 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 11,690,063 results have now been received.
- The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2017 compared with 2016.

3 Herd Plus®

- September 2017 Evaluation Figures Now Available. Click [here](#) for more details.



- The latest Dairy AI bull proofs are now available to view in excel format in the 'genetic evaluations section' of our website. Click [here](#) for more details.



✚ 2017 Beef Calving Reports Now Available Online. Click [here](#) for more details.



✚ BDGP Carbon Navigator; BDGP participants must submit data annually to allow for an update of the carbon navigator. Click [here](#) for more details.



4 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 08/09/17						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 08/09/17	No. EDIY Herds YTD 08/09/17	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 08/09/17	No. EDIY Cows YTD 08/09/17	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,854	1,268	33%	390,617	140,487	36%
Progressive	2,320	977	42%	265,860	113,459	43%
Tipperary	111	50	45%	11,544	5,179	45%
Total	6,285	2,295	37%	668,021	259,125	39%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16 - 08/09/16	YTD 2017 Cows Recorded 01/01/17 - 08/09/17	2017 vs 2016 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	354,198	390,617	10.3%
Progressive	248,773	265,860	6.9%
Tipperary	11,138	11,544	3.6%
Total	614,109	668,021	8.8%

5 Sheep Ireland

Sheep Ireland Guide and Breeder Directory

✚ The latest Sheep Ireland guide has been produced and in early August was circulated to over 11,000 Irish sheep farmers by post. All LambPlus participants should have received this guide also. The guide itself is aimed at commercial sheep farmers and provides some very simple messages on how best to use the Euro-Star evaluations. Step 1 is still to assess the physical characteristics of the ram and how best to do this is detailed in the guide. After this the guide goes into some detail about how best to apply genetic indexes to your flock to maximise the benefits. Should anyone wish to have a copy posted to them, please contact the Sheep Ireland office on **023 8820451**.



Using a 'team' of rams

✚ A concept which Sheep Ireland has been trying to promote among Irish sheep farmers is the concept of using a team of rams. This concept is widely used in the dairy industry when high index, low accuracy% bulls/bloodlines are being used. Instead of using a single low accuracy% bull farmers will use a number of

different low accuracy% bulls – thus greatly reducing the overall impact of one or two of these bulls genetic indexes dropping in the future as more data is recorded. This spread of sires is very easy to achieve when using AI, but the same concept can be applied to sheep.

- ✚ The average Irish sheep farmer has 3 rams in the flock at any one time, with larger flocks obviously having larger numbers of breeding rams. This is essentially the ‘team’ effect if farmers consistently use high index breeding rams.
- ✚ On page 7 of the Sheep Ireland guide, farmers can learn how to combat the challenges posed by low accuracy%. Using the ram team concept is one such method.

Sheep Ireland Board Meeting

- ✚ The next Sheep Ireland Board meeting takes place next Thursday (14th September). Should anyone have suggestions or questions to raise, these regular Board meetings are one of the ways to do so. All sectors of the Irish Sheep industry are represented on the Board – for a full list of current representatives just click [here](#) to go to the relevant page on the Sheep Ireland website.

Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Email info@icbf.com. **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 CLG 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, 30-AUG-2017 To 08-SEP-2017

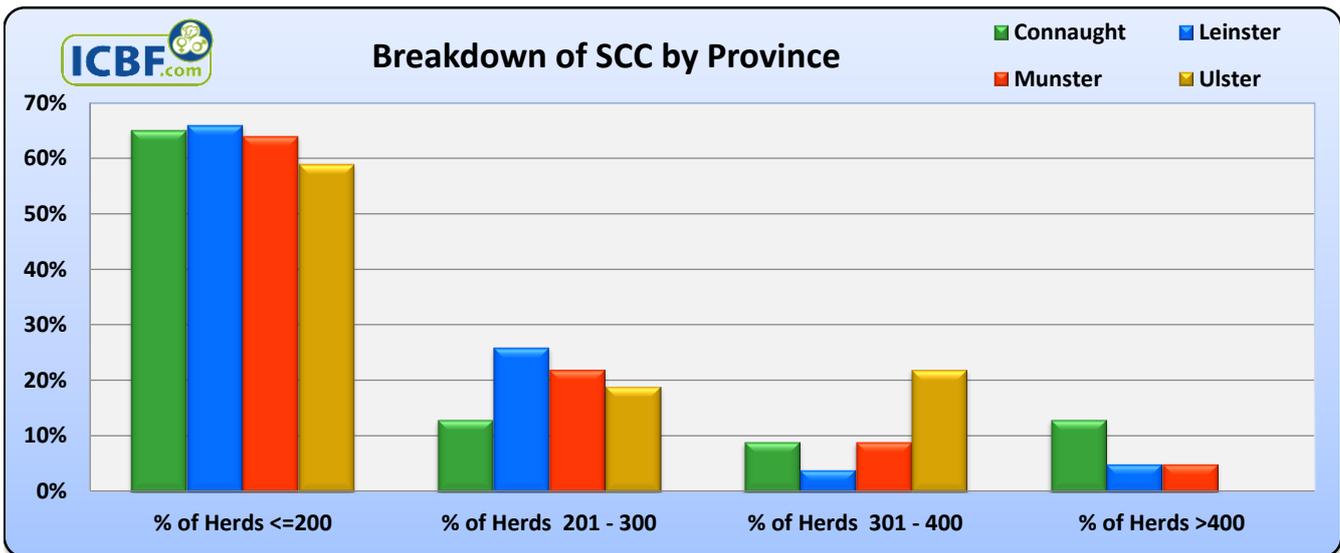
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	23	1,635	71	21.6	4.05	3.61	1.64	157
Leinster	163	17,245	106	20.0	4.17	3.63	1.56	158
Munster	611	59,235	97	20.0	4.20	3.67	1.57	172
Ulster	32	2,456	77	20.7	3.97	3.51	1.54	178
National Statistics	831	80,793	97	20.1	4.18	3.66	1.57	169

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 30-AUG-2017 To 08-SEP-2017

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	23	1,635	71	65%	13%	9%	13%	157
Leinster	163	17,245	106	66%	26%	4%	5%	158
Munster	611	59,235	97	64%	22%	9%	5%	172
Ulster	32	2,456	77	59%	19%	22%	0%	178
National Statistics	831	80,793	97	64%	22%	8%	5%	169

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 30-AUG-2017 To 08-SEP-2017								
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	23	1,635	71	96	120	172	184	313
Leinster	163	17,245	106	98	145	160	185	250
Munster	611	59,235	97	114	147	170	189	256
Ulster	32	2,456	77	123	149	161	208	299
National Statistics	831	80,793	97	110	145	168	188	256

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

