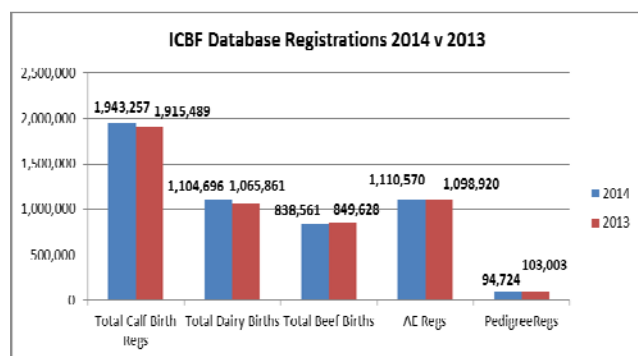
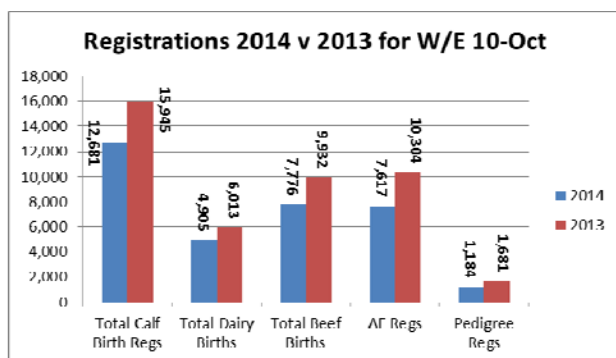


ICBF Weekly Update 10th October 2014

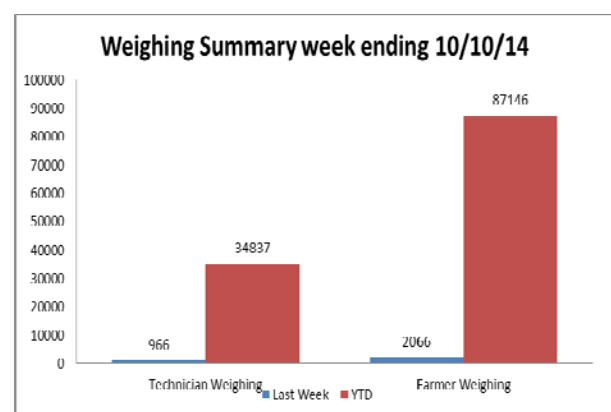
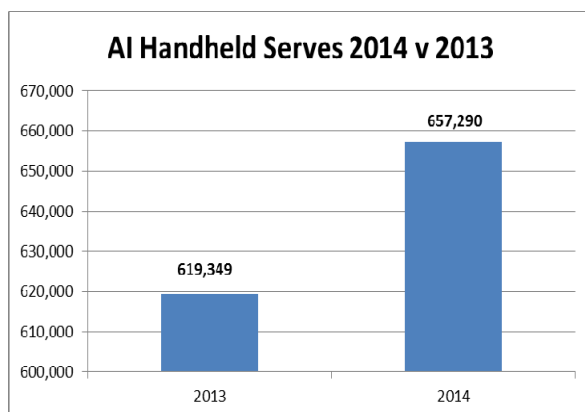
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Dairy & Beef Industry Meetings** – Tuesday 14th October 2014, 10:00 to 16:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 16th October 2014, 10:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 16th October 2014, 14:00 to 16:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** – Thursday 4th December 2014, 10:30 to 13:00, 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 2,072,000 results received since January 1st, of which 19,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012 4.73 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
- ✚ This week there were 966 weights received through the technician service and 2066 weights recorded by farmers. The graph shows the week and year to date totals.



3 Herd Plus®

- ✚ 800 EBI reports have been posted to Dairy HerdPlus postal herds. EBI reports can be used to assess the genetic merit of a herd as well as to compare a herd to national averages.
- ✚ End of Season Fertility Reports will be generated shortly, please ensure you have all serves & pregnancy scanning info recorded.

For help recording call HerdPlus on 1850 600 900 or email query@icbf.com.

4 Genetic Evaluations

Beef Genomic Scheme

- DNA Sampling kits were issued to more herds this week. The genotypes coming to come back from the lab and quality remains very high. The initial phase of research is well underway in collaboration with Donagh Berry and his team at Teagasc and an update will be presented at the industry meeting on Tuesday

Genetic Evaluations

- The cut-off date for data for genetic evaluation has passed, and extracts are currently underway.
- Main areas of on-going work will be presented at the industry meeting on Wednesday with a key focus on calving evaluations.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 10/10/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 10/10/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 10/10/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 10/10/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 10/10/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,863	1,152	30%	331,109	105,203	32%
Progressive	2,516	1,096	44%	241,000	105,348	44%
Tipperary	115	44	38%	9,982	3,860	39%
Total	6,494	2,292	35%	582,091	214,411	37%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 10/10/13	YTD 2011 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 10/10/14	2014 vs 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	310,487	331,109	6.2%
Progressive	232,384	241,000	3.6%
Tipperary	10,052	9,982	-0.7%
Total	552,923	582,091	5.0%

6 Sheep Ireland

STAP Deadline

The deadline for submission of information for the 2014 STAP year passed last Friday 3rd October. A huge amount of material was submitted to the Sheep Ireland office before this deadline in respect of Task 1 and 2. All this information is now updated on the Sheep Ireland database. There are a small number of queries with the information submitted by some flocks but these are almost worked through as of today (Friday 10th Oct).

Plans for the coming weeks

Our attention now turns to preparations for the 2015 recording season. Already many non-recording pedigree ram breeders have been in contact with us about signing up to LambPlus for the upcoming year, we plan to send letters to all non-recording pedigree breeding flocks in coming days inviting them to get involved in LambPlus. Renewal forms will also be sent to all existing LambPlus recording breeders.

Regional LambPlus Meetings

Similar to previous years we will be running regional meetings around the country to update breeders on plans for the 2015 season and to collect opinions on how breeders feel the programme is progressing. Venues and dates will be selected for these meetings in the coming days and details will be circulated to all breeders in writing and through this update.

Some of the requirements for 2015

While the recording of the official NSIS tag for all sheep on the Sheep Ireland database has vastly improved in 2014, there is still quite a number of older sheep (ewes and rams) in breeders flocks with no tag number details recorded on the database. This needs to be addressed before next season commences, so with this in mind before we renew any LambPlus contracts for 2015, we will need to insist that breeders log into their Sheep Ireland account and enter a NSIS tag for each and every sheep.

The NSIS is the only truly unique identity for sheep in Ireland. While we accept that individual breed pedigree IDs play an important role in each breed society, we can no longer accept these IDs as the only animal ID in our database. These pedigrees will continue to be presented beside the NSIS tag of every animal. Directions for all current breeders to enter these NSIS tag numbers will be included in our next communication letter. Breeders should be reminded that the Sheep Ireland database will only accept complete tag numbers, flock designator + individual animal number + check letter, for example IE0412345 + 01445 + A. Breeders need to be aware of this if collecting tag numbers from ewes in the coming weeks. Further details about sheep tags can be found in our 'Directory of LambPlus breeders', which can be found on Sheep Ireland homepage - www.sheep.ie.

Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 872903121, Email scoughlan@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 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.

National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 01-OCT-2014 To 10-OCT-2014

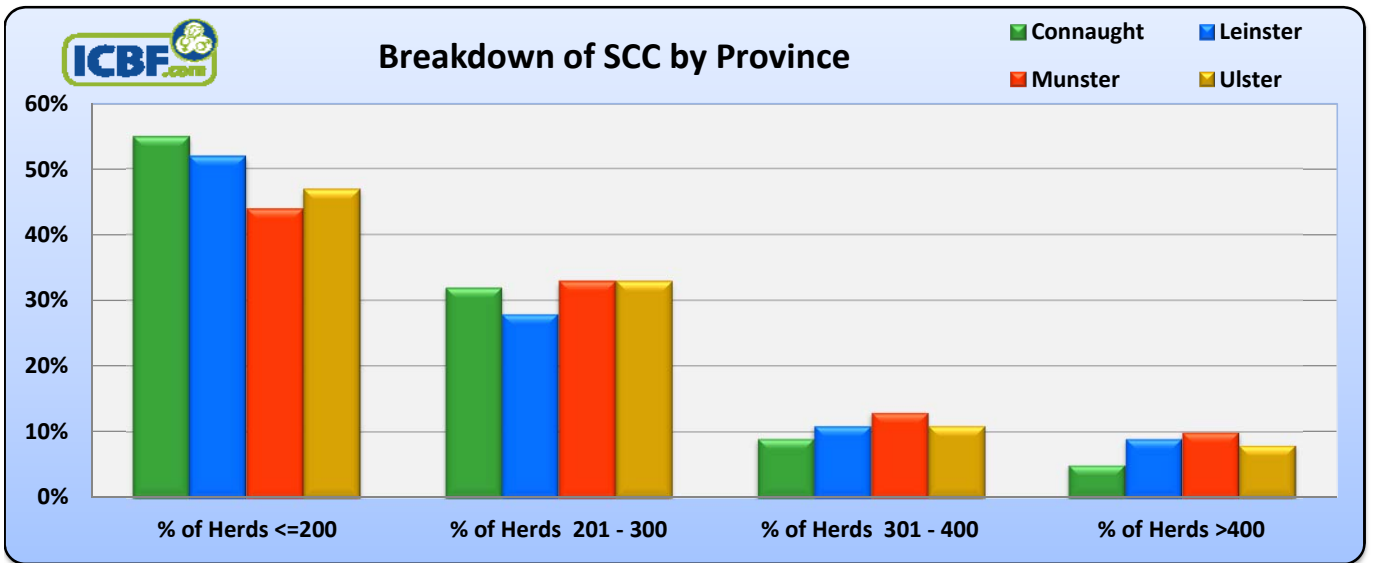
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	22	1,260	57	17.8	4.18	3.79	1.41	189
Leinster	174	14,416	83	18.3	4.29	3.80	1.47	205
Munster	644	46,614	72	16.9	4.35	3.84	1.37	219
Ulster	36	2,383	66	19.5	3.99	3.70	1.49	194
National Statistics	876	64,673	74	17.3	4.32	3.83	1.40	215

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 01-OCT-2014 To 10-OCT-2014

ICBF	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	22	1,260	57	55%	32%	9%	5%	189
Leinster	174	14,416	83	52%	28%	11%	9%	205
Munster	644	46,614	72	44%	33%	13%	10%	219
Ulster	36	2,383	66	47%	33%	11%	8%	194
National Statistics	876	64,673	74	46%	32%	12%	10%	215

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 01-OCT-2014 To 10-OCT-2014								
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	22	1,260	57	140	164	187	213	281
Leinster	174	14,416	83	146	181	197	217	299
Munster	644	46,614	72	152	192	215	247	320
Ulster	36	2,383	66	124	161	208	230	293
National Statistics	876	64,673	74	147	189	210	240	313

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

