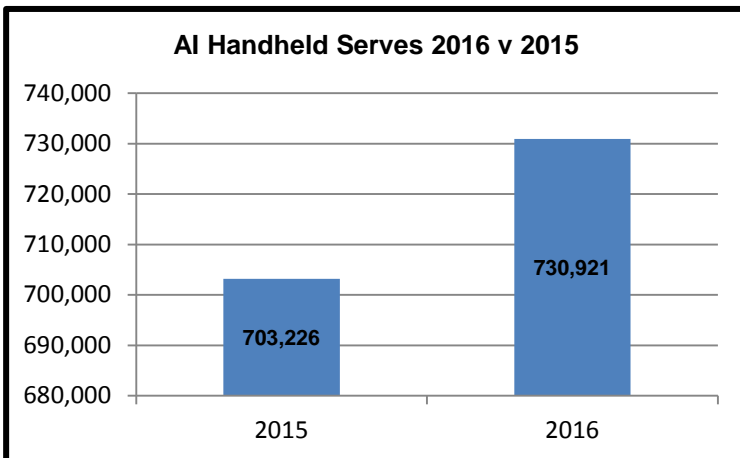
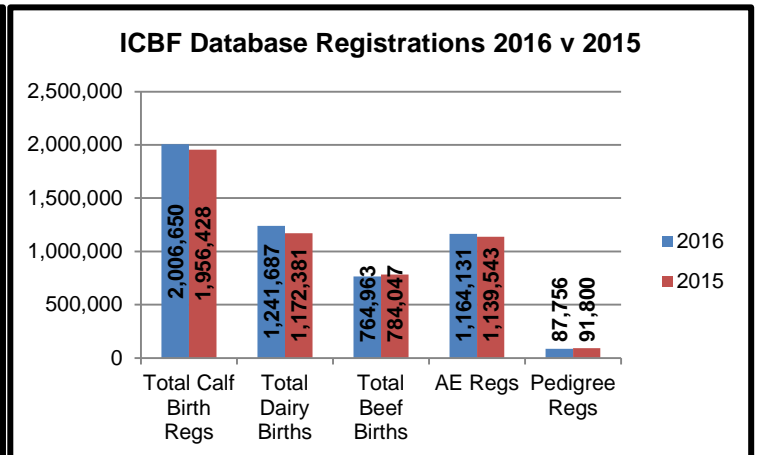
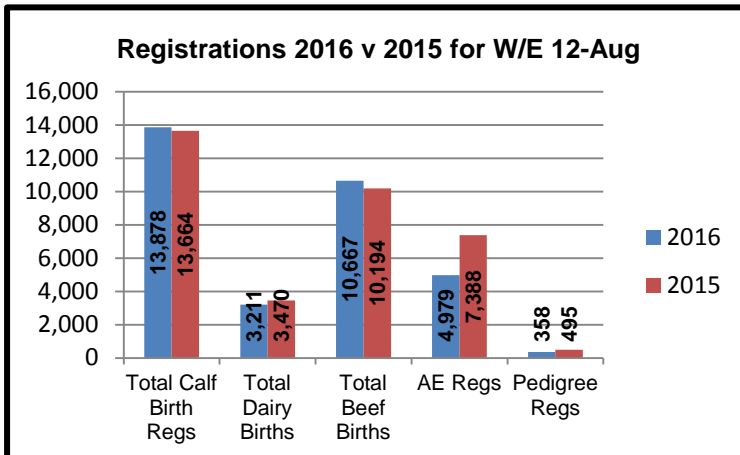


ICBF Weekly Update 12th August 2016

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 8th September at 10:00am in Highfield House.
- ✚ **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 8th September at 2:00pm in Highfield House.
- ✚ **Audit & Finance Meeting** – Thursday 17th November at 10:30am in the 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 2,490,637 results received since January 1st, of which 53,648 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 9,819,077 results have now been received.
- ✚ The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2016 compared with 2015.

3 Herd Plus®

- ✚ In September 2016, the EBI genetic base cow, which is the genetic reference point for all dairy cattle in Ireland, will become younger, as we move from a 1995 to a 2005 born genetic base cow. For more information on this check out this short video on the ICBF YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQ9DkzxLbHQ>
- ✚ The following is the schedule for the release of the next genetic evaluations:
 - 23-Aug-16 Official Publication of AI Sire Excel File(s)
 - 11-Sep-16 Bull Search, Active Bull Lists and Herd Profiles available on ICBF website
- ✚ ICBF are now recruiting for the position of Software Developer. For more information on this position and how you can apply please click on this link <http://www.icbf.com/?p=5859>
- ✚ 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 €2/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 reports and an expected calving list for the 2017 calving season.

4 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 12/08/16						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 12/08/16	No. EDIY Herds YTD 12/08/16	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 12/08/16	No. EDIY Cows YTD 12/08/16	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,638	1,116	31%	352,482	118,120	34%
Progressive	2,291	918	40%	245,572	98,688	40%
Tipperary	115	51	44%	10,841	4,597	42%
Total	6,044	2,085	34%	608,895	221,405	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15- 12/08/15	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 12/08/16	2016 vs 2015 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	361,649	352,482	-2.5%
Progressive	250,199	245,572	-1.8%
Tipperary	11,704	10,841	-7.4%
Total	623,552	608,895	-2.4%

5 Sheep Ireland

LambPlus Multibreed ram sale

- The deadline for entries for this sale is Monday 15th August. Substitutes will be allowed up until Monday 22nd August at which point the final sales catalogue will go to print. No substitutes will be allowed after this date. These dates will be strictly enforced.
- Our final sales catalogue will be based on the genetic evaluation run of 22nd Monday. All entries must meet the sale entry criteria based on this evaluation run. This sale will hopefully continue to attract a large number of commercial sheep farmers as it has for the past number of years. The sale itself takes place in Tullamore mart on Saturday 27th August.

RamPlus

- Progress with the RamPlus pilot for 2016 continues this week. A number of the Texel rams available to breeders for AI this year will be on show at the Texel Premier sale in Blessington this Saturday (13th August). These rams are high index, high accuracy% bloodlines which are available to all breeders using AI this season.
- The benefits of using such semen are many. Breeder benefits include access to high index rams which will breed progeny that will undoubtedly be of interest to commercial sheep farmers in 2017/18. Improving flock linkage will be another major benefit. The group of breeders that make the decision to use these rams will

ensure that their flocks are very well linked to other Texel flocks. Being well linked is critical to maximise the accuracy of genetic evaluations being provided for any flock.

- ✚ Apart from LambPlus Texel breeders, the main beneficiaries will be commercial sheep farmers who will have greater access to well proven, high index CPT sires. Irelands future rate of genetic gain is directly correlated to the use of high index, high accuracy% rams so our target going forward will be for more pedigree ram breeders to use these types of sires. The industry as a whole will benefit hugely.

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 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, 03-AUG-2016 To 12-AUG-2016

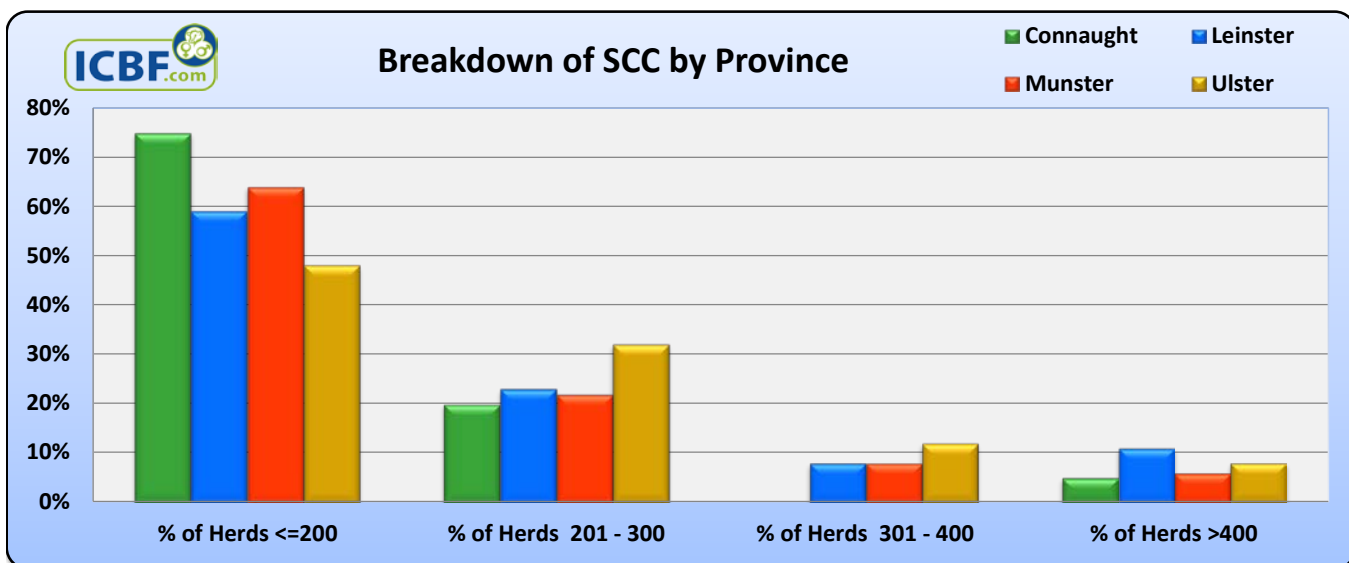
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	20	1,608	80	22.0	3.80	3.48	1.60	159
Leinster	102	10,207	100	21.9	3.95	3.40	1.60	184
Munster	583	51,409	88	20.8	4.05	3.48	1.56	174
Ulster	25	2,131	85	21.4	3.85	3.33	1.53	206
National Statistics	730	65,355	90	21.0	4.02	3.47	1.57	176

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 03-AUG-2016 To 12-AUG-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	20	1,608	80	75%	20%	0%	5%	159
Leinster	102	10,207	100	59%	23%	8%	11%	184
Munster	583	51,409	88	64%	22%	8%	6%	174
Ulster	25	2,131	85	48%	32%	12%	8%	206
National Statistics	730	65,355	90	63%	22%	8%	6%	176

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 03-AUG-2016 To 12-AUG-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	20	1,608	80	132	164	170	178	204
Leinster	102	10,207	100	108	157	185	204	286
Munster	583	51,409	88	116	150	167	191	262
Ulster	25	2,131	85	138	183	211	235	290
National Statistics	730	65,355	90	115	151	171	193	266

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

