



UPDATE – for period 6th - 12th January 2007

1 Important Dates

- ❑ **15th – 31st January**, Regional EBI / HerdPlus meetings (See details below)
- ❑ **Thursday 25th January**. 10:30 to 13:00. Board Meeting. Comfort Inn, Portlaoise.
- ❑ **Thursday 1st February**. 10:30 to 13:00. Board Meeting. Comfort Inn, Portlaoise.
- ❑ **Saturday 3rd March**. Tully beef bull sale. Show 11.00 am Sale 12.00 pm.

2 Milk Recording

Weekly Processing

Milk Recording Organisation	2007 Herds Recorded Week 05/01/07 - 12/01/07
Progressive	323
SWS	70
Dairygold	35
Kerry	47
Connacht	13
Arrabawn	3
Tipperary	1
Total	492

3 HerdPlus

Regional EBI / HerdPlus meetings being held from Jan 15th to Jan 31st - country wide (see schedule below). At the meetings farmers will receive updates from ICBF on the following:

- **EBI – new developments and all Dairy Breeds now included.**
- **HerdPlus – EBI Reports, Fertility Reports, On Line Recording, On Line Herd Profiles, Personalised Notebooks, Teagasc Discussion Group Summaries.**
- **Sire Advice – new for 2007, new breeding management tool to select best bulls incorporating inbreeding checks.**
- **G€N€ Ireland – young bull incentives and high EBI bull mothers.**

Note: Pocket Notebooks are being issued to all HerdPlus members commencing 12th January 2007.

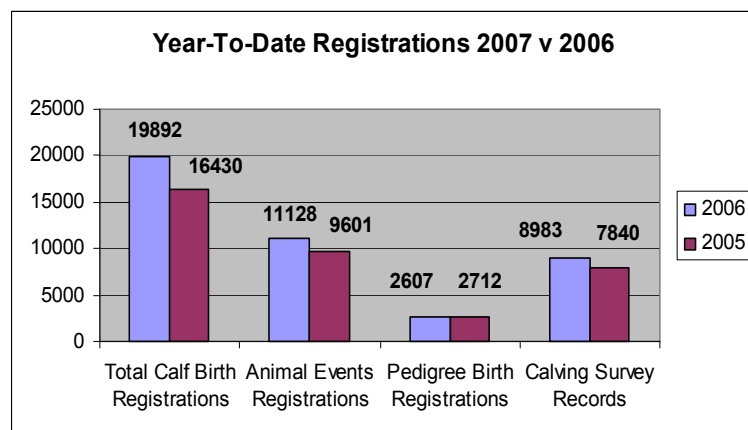
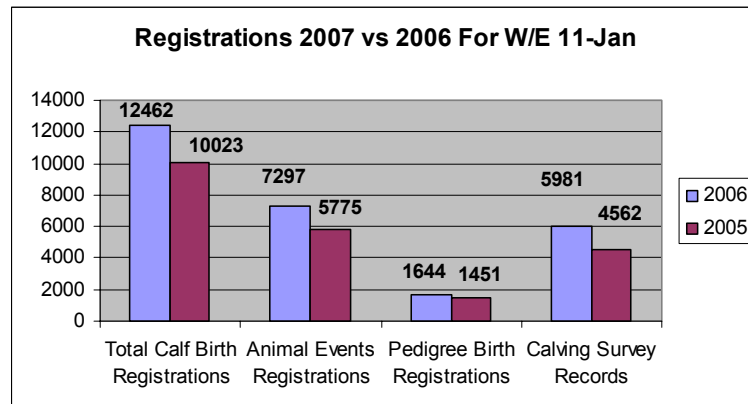
ICBF Meeting Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Monday, Jan 15 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Clonakilty	Quality Hotel
Tuesday, Jan 16 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Fermoy	Moorepark
Wednesday, Jan 17 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Tralee	Brandon Hotel
Monday, Jan 22 nd	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Horse & Jockey	Horse & Jockey
Tuesday, Jan 23 rd	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Enniscorthy	Riverside Hotel
Wednesday, Jan 24 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Kells	Headford Arms
Tuesday, Jan 30 th	2.30pm – 4.00pm	Letterkenny	Radisson Hotel
Wednesday, Jan 31 st	11am – 1.00pm	Knock	Belmont Hotel



4 Database Update

- 178,366 inseminations have now been recorded on the AI handhelds.
- Dry-off sheets are still coming in at a good rate and are currently being keyed. The third batch of the Milk Recording Annual Reports will be issued next week.
- The final fertility reports continue to be issued based on insemination data and pregnancy diagnosis information in the database. These continue to be run on a weekly basis incorporating the latest data available on the database.
- Production of the personalised Animal Events notebook for farmers is continuing and notebooks will be issued to farmers new week.
- The linear scorers received handheld updates this week for scoring during the spring season.
- Good progress is being made on the Sire Advice development. The first release will be available before the end of January.
- The new Teagasc Discussion Group application is in progress, and it is expected this will be released within two weeks.



5 Tully

- The catalogue for the October intake of bulls can be viewed on the ICBF web site.
- Linear scoring of the October intake of bulls will take place on the 29 -1-07.
- Weights for the December intake will be sent out to breeders on the 17-1-07.
- A Group of 16 beef and pedigree farmers from England visited Tully on the 9-1-07.

6 Genetic Evaluations (Dairy)

- Evaluations for the next routine round are continuing.

7 Genetic Evaluations (Beef)

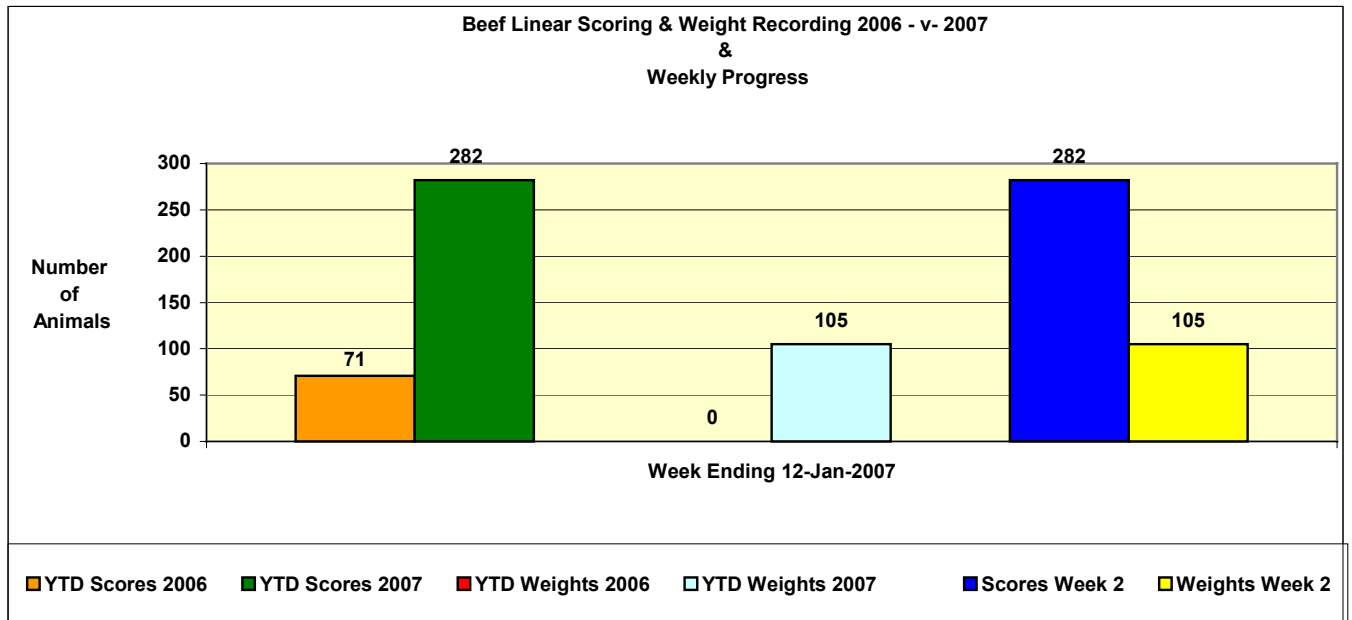
- A new slaughter extract has been received from the Department of Agriculture; a new evaluation will start next week. A study has commenced in partnership with UCD, the University of Alberta (Canada), Teagasc Grange & ICBF involving the Tully feed intake and weight data. The project is aimed at identifying superior animals for residual feed intake. Files were prepared this week by ICBF staff and a genetic evaluation will be conducted by Dr Denny Crews in Alberta.



8 International Beef Genetic Evaluations

- Conversion equations using multiple regressions have been completed for Charolais & Limousine and for the Muscle, Skeletal, Direct Calving traits and Maternal Calving trait (Charolais only). The next set of traits will be the carcass data and feed intake; discussions with French colleagues in progress.

9 Beef Linear Scoring



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