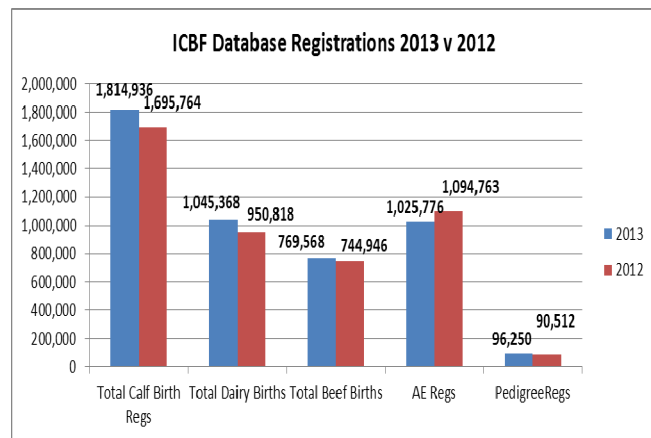
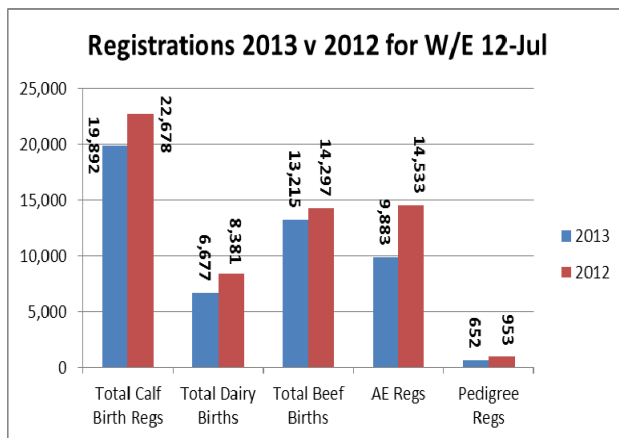


ICBF Weekly Update 12th July 2013

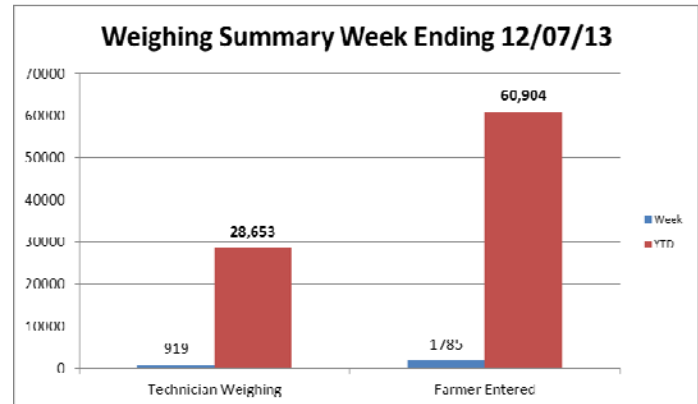
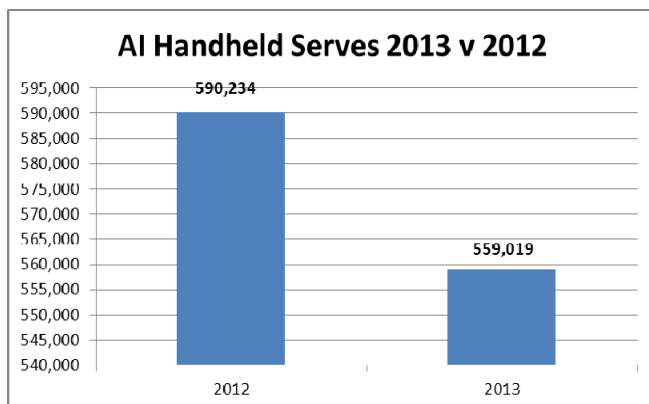
1 Important Dates

- ICBF Industry Consultation Meeting** – Thursday 1st August, 10:00 to 16:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise. *(Please note change of date)*
- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 12th September, 10:30 to 14:00, Highfield House, Bandon.
- Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 12th September, 14:00 to 16:30, Highfield House, Bandon.

2 Database



- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2012 born calves with meal introduced is 643,287 with the number of animals weaned at 578,008.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,820,000 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, 2.31 million results have now been received.
- The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- This week there were 919 weights received through the technician service and 1785 weights recorded by farmers.
- The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 HerdPlus®

- ✚ Non-Breeding beef HerdPlus® customers will be receiving their Drystock Performance Report next week.
- ✚ All beef HerdPlus® customers will be receiving this year's edition of the Beef HerdPlus Journal over the coming weeks.
- ✚ The journal was launched during the week on the farm of John O'Connor, Ballykenedy, Ballingarry, Co. Limerick. Included in the picture (across) are John O'Connor (left) and Pat Donnellan ICBF (right) as well a selection of John's pedigree Hereford heifers in the background.
- ✚ A successful BTAP approved open day was held on the farm of Billy Nicholson, Crosshaven, Co. Cork on Tuesday 2nd July.
- ✚ *The following is a selection of pictures from the day.*



John O'Connor (herd owner) and Pat Donnellan (ICBF) launch the 2013 Beef HerdPlus® Journal



Jane O'Flynn (ICBF) helping with the "Guess the Weight Competition"



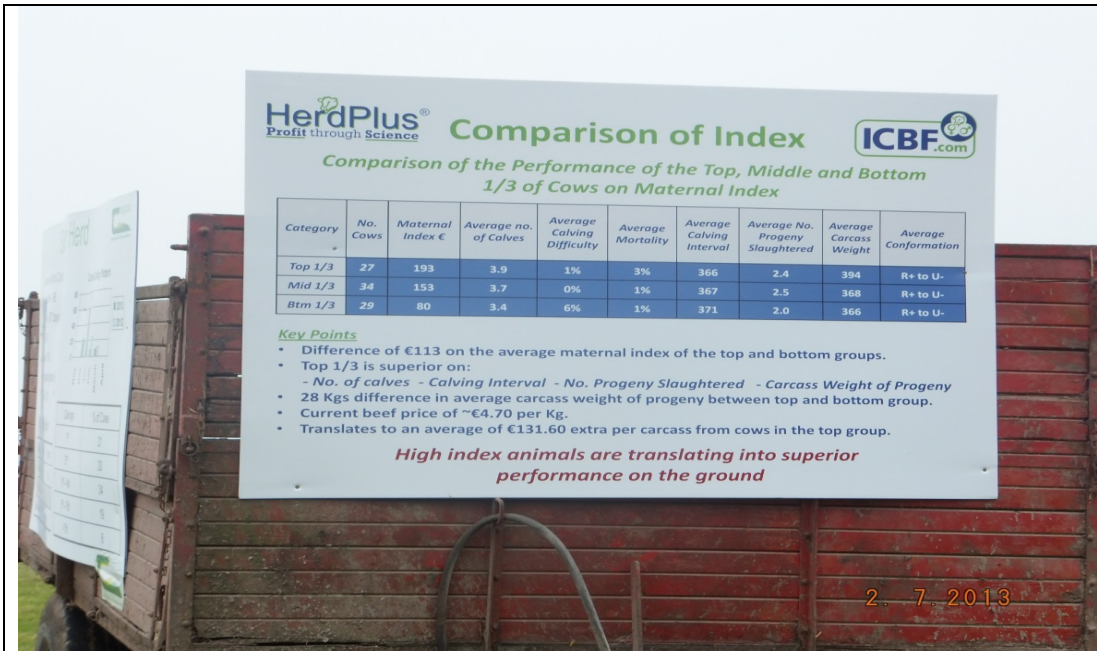
"What weight would you say he is"? Some of the crowd trying to guess the weights of fattening bulls.



Ross Evans (ICBF) talking to the large crowd in attendance through the comparison of index board.



Replacement heifers on Billy Nicholson's farm. Heifers are predominantly a mix of Simmental and Limousin crosses and are calved at 24 months.



Board comparing the performance of the top, middle and bottom third of cows on Maternal Index.

Message at the bottom could not be demonstrated any better.



Chris Daly (ICBF) speaking to the crowd about the merits of weight recording and its importance to on-farm management and genetic evaluations.

4 Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ Extraction of data files for the next routine evaluations are currently almost complete. Evaluations will be done as extracts become available.
- ✚ Irish pedigree data has been updated to the Interbull system in preparation for the upcoming routine run.
- ✚ Research is on-going on the details of implementation of heterogeneous variance correction in new milk test day model. Parameters for the variance model are currently being estimated.
- ✚ Analysis of the sexed semen trial data continues, as pregnancy scanning and serve data flows into the database.

- Research has begun on estimation of genetic parameters for across-country beef evaluation (as part of INTERBEEF).

5 Sheep Ireland

- The Sheep Ireland STAP screens have now been launched and all advisors and facilitators have been issued with their logon details. This web service facilitates the inputting of the required data for STAP Task 2 and the base line survey. It will also allow advisors and facilitators to easily see the status of each STAP participant for TASK 1 (The use of a Euro-Star ram).
- The Sheep Ireland On-Line Ram Search is receiving a lot of positive feedback so far, with improvements to the search on the way based on very good suggestions. The search has currently been over 6000 individual ram searches on the site.
- The STAP Task 1 exemption application form has also been uploaded to the Sheep Ireland home page and can be found under the *Sheep Technology Adoption Programme* tab. Every STAP participant must submit a STAP Ram Verification Query Form with an eligible ram or submit a STAP Task 1 exemption application form and have it approved by Sheep Ireland over the next two years depending on which year they have chosen to complete Task 1. This will mostly affect hill farmers as Task 1 is not compulsory for these participants. For the purposes of STAP, a hill farmer is defined as someone whose flock contains more than 50% hill ewes where a hill ewe is defined as a ewe that is 100% Blackface Mountain, 100% Cheviot, or a cross between these two breeds.

6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 12/07/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 12/07/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 12/07/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 12/07/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 12/07/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,659	1,052	29%	303,417	93,677	31%
Progressive	2,390	960	40%	222,536	91,971	41%
Tipperary	112	39	35%	9,696	3,525	36%
Total	6,161	2,051	33%	535,649	189,173	35%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 12/07/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 12/07/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	299,168	303,417	1.4%
Progressive	214,126	222,536	3.8%
Tipperary	9,826	9,696	-1.3%
Total	523,120	535,649	2.3%

Please see milk recording stats attached

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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-JUL-2013 To 12-JUL-2013

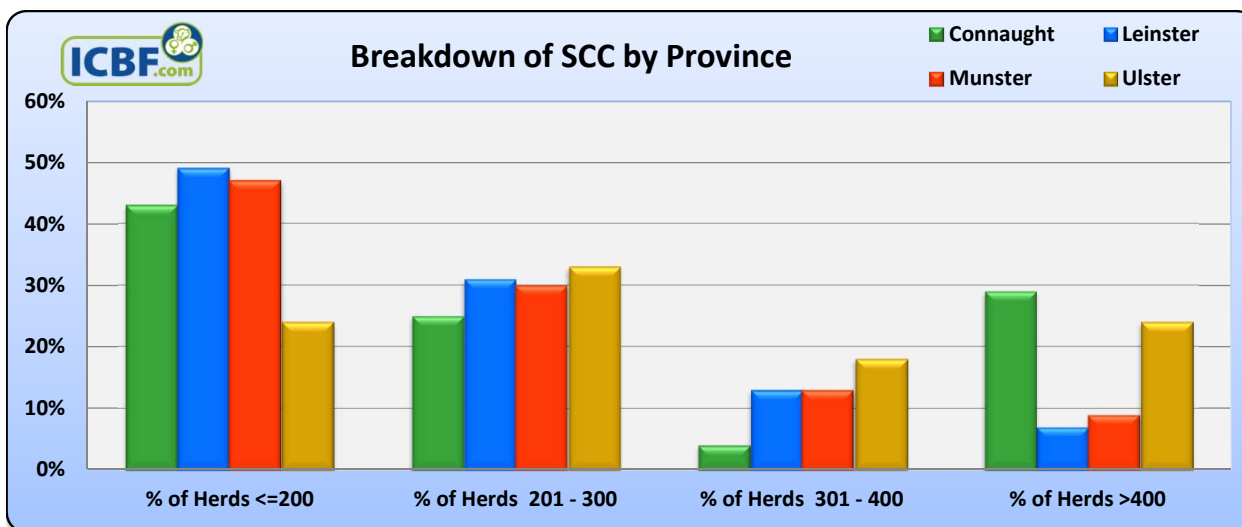
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	28	1,871	67	23.7	3.86	3.34	1.70	259
Leinster	147	13,032	89	23.3	3.74	3.40	1.66	195
Munster	552	43,638	79	23.5	3.76	3.41	1.68	201
Ulster	33	3,465	105	23.6	3.66	3.27	1.63	277
National Statistics	760	62,006	82	23.5	3.75	3.40	1.68	204

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 03-JUL-2013 To 12-JUL-2013

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	28	1,871	67	43%	25%	4%	29%	259
Leinster	147	13,032	89	49%	31%	13%	7%	195
Munster	552	43,638	79	47%	30%	13%	9%	201
Ulster	33	3,465	105	24%	33%	18%	24%	277
National Statistics	760	62,006	82	46%	30%	13%	10%	204

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 03-JUL-2013 To 12-JUL-2013

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	28	1,871	67	161	193	243	273	502
Leinster	147	13,032	89	119	185	214	232	293
Munster	552	43,638	79	126	177	207	231	313
Ulster	33	3,465	105	197	248	269	306	425
National Statistics	760	62,006	82	130	184	213	236	316

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

