



Update for period 6th – 12th May 2006

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Thursday 25th May, 10:30–1:30**, Finance Sub-Committee meeting, Abbeyleix Manor Hotel.
- ✚ **Thursday 22nd June, 10:30-1:00**, Board Meeting, Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise.

2 Tully

Sale Saturday 6th May 2006

The ICBF Tully Performance Test Centre sale was successful, with 75 of the 104 lots sold at an average price of €2,920. There were some outstanding sale prices, a number of bulls heading to Northern Ireland and more importantly, also a number into A.I. service. The top purchase price was for Lot 54 (Pelletstown Adolf) owned by Roger McCarrick, and purchased by James Parkinson for €14,800 to run with his pedigree herd. Dovea A.I. purchased 3 bulls, Lot 9 Simmental, Lot 22 Hereford & Lot 106 Saler (Details below). Dovea A.I. also had a bull on test, Dovea Siron, and will take this bull back to their station.

Lot 9 obtained the top price for the **Simmental** breed, Derrough Samuel owned by Patrick Bones. This FBD Trust Champion Simmental was purchased by Dovea A.I. for €5,000. Notable Simmental sales include Lot 5, Milton Siegfried, owned by Sandra Stone of Co Cork, which sold for €3,000 to Martin Jennings of Co Roscommon. Lot 2, the FBD Trust 2nd placed Simmental bull Riverbank Samson, sold for €2,900 to John Rice from Co Monaghan.

The **Hereford** bull (Lot 22), Banner Dandy, owned by Francis Considine sold for €3,500 to Dovea A.I., this was the top price for the **Hereford** breed. The FBD Trust 3rd prize winner owned by Peter Hagan from Longford, Killoe Stormbird (Lot 25), sold for €3,400 to David Young from Kildare for pedigree breeding.

Two of the three **Belgian Blue** lots were sold. The FBD Trust 2nd prize winner, Ross Willie (Lot 32), owned by Jarlath and John Duggan from Co Laois sold for €5,600 to James Alexander from Co Antrim. The other Belgian Blue, Lot 30, owned by Charles Young sold for €3,250 to Michael Carroll from Co Carlow.

The top priced **Angus** bull was Lot 39, Patrick Conlons' bull Lurghamlough Bouncer, which sold for €3,250 to Denis Jones from Co Cork.

The top priced paid for the **Limousin** breed was for Lot 54, Pelletstown Adolf, owned by Roger McCarrick from Co Meath. The bull sold to James Parkinson from Tipperary for €14,800. The first placed FBD Trust prize winning Limousin, Lot 56, owned by Thomas Bailey from Co Meath sold for €7,400 to William Champ from Co Offaly. William Champ plans to use this bull in his suckler herd. The second placed FBD Trust prize winner in the Limousin breed, Lot 69, owned by Raymond Carolan sold for €3,600. Of note Lot 48, Elite Adair, owned by Bernadette Tynan also sold for €3,600 to George Grothier of Co Carlow.

Notable **Charolais** sales include Lot 97, owned by Patrick Farrelly from Co Louth. This FBD Trust 3rd Prize winning Charolais was purchased for €1,800 by Dan and J. J. Melody from Co Clare. This was the top priced Charolais and will be used in the Melody pedigree herd. The FBD Trust Champion Charolais Knockane Admiral, Lot 86, sold for €6,800 and was owned by James and Ivan Ryall from Co Cork. Ronan McCuskey from Co Louth purchased the bull. The FBD Trust 2nd prize winning Charolais, Leitrim Alan Lot 88, owned by Joseph Kelly from Co Leitrim sold for €4,800 to William Snow from Co Fermanagh. A further sale of note was Lot 93, Prime Andrew, owned by Michael Keating from Co Tipperary, which was purchased for €4,600 by Andrew Arwell from Scotland. In addition Lot 85, Cassina Andy, owned by Martin Clyne from Co Longford sold for €3,700 to James Alexander from Co Antrim.



The top priced **Saler** bull sold was Lot 106. This French bull bred by Earl Delcuzy, was purchased by Dovea A/I for €5,400. Other Saler bull sales of note include the sale of the Michael McKeon owned Lot 107, Moygara Fruitful, to John Maloney from Co Mayo for €5,200.

One of the other French bred Salers, Lot 105, bred by Earl Delcuzy sold for €2,500 to John O'Brien from Co Offaly.

The FBD Trust Champion **Parthinase**, Lot 113, owned by Anthony Scally sold for €3,500 to John Byrne from Co Kildare. The other Parthinase that was sold, was also owned by Anthony Scally made €4,600 and was purchased by Fred Salter from Co Carlow.

Summary table of FBD Trust prize winners

Lot	FBD Trust Prize	Bull Identification			EBI Sub Indexes				Sale Price (€)
		Animal tag no	Name	Bd	BPSI (€)	WCSI (€)	BCSI (€)	DCSI (€)	
9	1st	IE272020210063	DERROUGH DERROUY SAMUAL	SI	131	133	-20	-44	5000
2	2nd	IE271801610070	RIVERBANK SAMSON	SI	99	113	-17	-35	2900
18	3rd	IE281037770181	ROOSKEY SERVER	SI	94	122	-17	-37	2300
86	1st	IE151770030162	KNOCKANE ADMIRAL (ET)	CH	123	141	-15	-27	6800
88	2nd	IE231120370314	LEITRIM ALAN	CH	142	161	-18	-34	4800
97	3rd	IE261112430078	DROMISKIN APOLLO	CH	131	164	-23	-46	11800
56	1st	IE281515220137	BAILEYS AIDAN	LM	72	99	-16	-43	7400
64	2nd	IE121133370153	CARWIN ADOLF	LM	59	86	-13	-35	ns
73	3rd	IE121528980190	CARRICKMORE AUSTIN	LM	58	80	-15	-37	3200
113	1st	IE361213680274	AILESBURY FARM ALBERT	PT	22	52	0	0	3500
32	2nd	IE221240890598	ROSS WILLIE (ET)	BB	63	130	-13	-18	5600
25	3rd	IE251343480126	KILLOE STORMBIRD	HE	14	20	-11	-24	3400

Summary table of sale results

Breed	No. Lots	No. Lots sold	Clearance	Average price (€)
AA	7	5	0.71	2100
AU	1	1	1.00	1500
BA	1	0	0.00	
BB	3	2	0.67	4425
CH	20	13	0.65	3800
HE	7	4	0.57	2700
LM	32	25	0.78	2956
PT	2	2	1.00	4050
SA	9	8	0.89	2788
SH	2	1	0.50	1650
SI	20	14	0.70	2275
OVERALL	104	75	0.72	2918

Tully Review Meeting Tuesday 9th May 2006

The outcomes from the meeting included:

- ✚ ICBF and the Breed Assns will jointly develop a proposal for ensuring the validity of birth dates for pedigree bulls.
- ✚ Sale order of breeds will not be changed in future without consultation with stakeholders.



- ✚ Breed Assns are to agree, in consultation with ICBF, and document their breeding scheme plans in relation to foreign bulls, the new indices and the outcome of the research reported by Theo Meuwissen.
- ✚ Next sale tentatively set for Saturday 19th November.
- ✚ Meet again on 19th July following next beef genetic evaluation consultation meeting.

Tully

- ✚ Health testing for the May intake will take place from Wednesday 17-05-06 onwards.
- ✚ A group of students from UCD will visit Tully on Monday 15-05-06.

3 Beef Genetic Evaluations Consultation Meeting Tuesday 9th May 2006.

The meeting in the Abbeyleix Manor Hotel to discussed developments in breeding indexes and breeding programs for the Irish beef industry. Some 60 people attended the meeting from across the beef industry (AI, herdbooks, farmers, DAF, meat processors & marts).

The outcome of the meeting included:

- ✚ The Irish beef industry has the potential to increase profits from beef cattle breeding by €20 million/year (cumulative). Achieving this will require a major increase in progeny testing, from the current 10 bulls/year to some 100 bulls/year. It is critical that ICBF and the beef industry now work closely together to establish a framework through which these improvements can be generated on behalf of beef farmers.
- ✚ The economic value on carcass conformation should be increased to reflect the stronger associations recently established between carcass conformation grade and the % of higher value cuts.
- ✚ The definition of calf quality should be re-examined in light of recent access to ICOS marts data.
- ✚ ICBF should publish further test proofs for;
 - beef performance traits (following work on new genetic parameters)
 - CI & SURV (across multiple lactations) &
 - linear type traits (including new data & new genetic parameters).
- ✚ ICBF should initiate work to establish genetic indexes for maternal weaning weight & age at first calving. Having information on these two traits would then allow the generation of new maternal sub-indexes (and the total beef index).
- ✚ ICBF should undertake a review of linear scoring to ensure best use of linear score data. This review to be undertaken in conjunction with the beef herdbooks. As part of this review, ICBF should consider the linear scoring of maternal beef traits.
- ✚ In light of developments in international evaluations, Irish beef herdbooks should make contact with relevant herdbooks in UK to encourage their participation in international evaluations.

4 Genetic Evaluations – Beef & Dairy

- ✚ Interbull files for milk production and linear type traits have been received and are currently being prepared for loading to the ICBF cattle breeding database.
- ✚ These files will be combined with domestic & foreign files for milk production, fertility, calving, beef and linear type, to allow EBI's to be calculated for all dairy stock & young stock.
- ✚ We expect this process to take one week, with proofs ready for publication week starting 22nd May.



5 Database Update

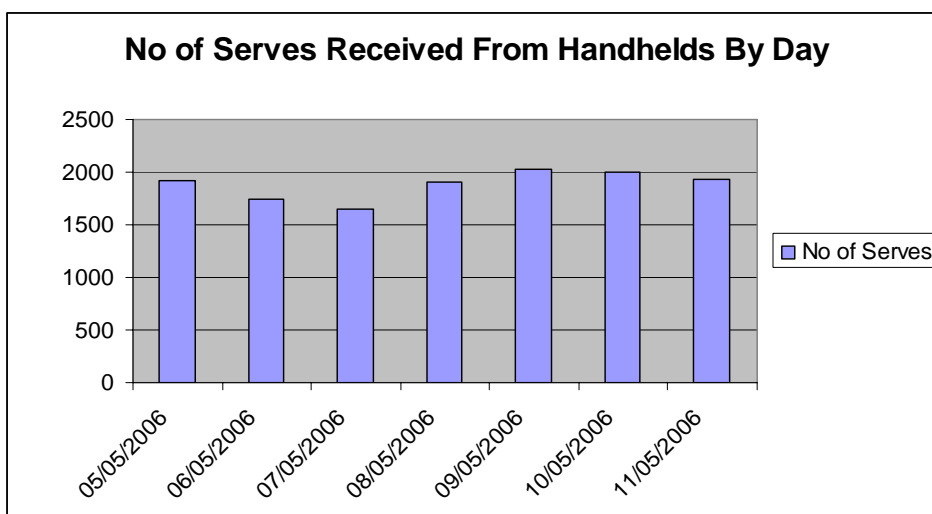
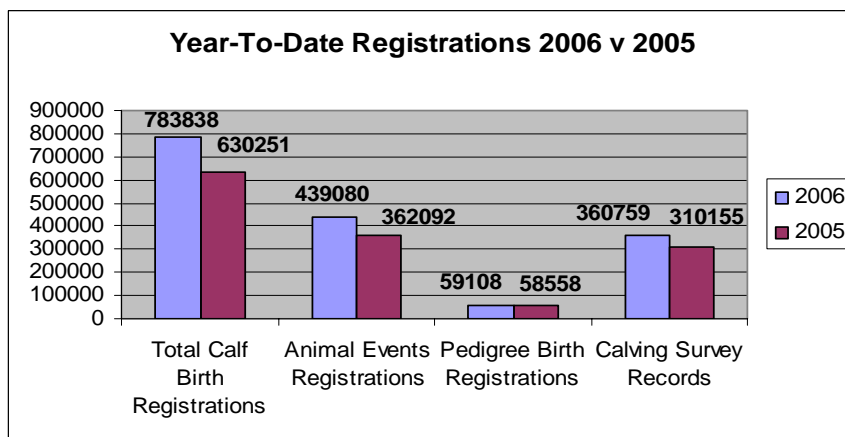
✚ 104 new herds added to the database last week. There are now 27,819 active herds signed up to the ICBF database.

✚ A revamp of the authorisations for the on-line reports section of the ICBF website is nearing completion and will be finalised next week.

✚ Initial reports to support the beef progeny testing programme are in the development stage.

✚ A front-end to streamline the sending and receiving of text messages from/to ICBF is currently being developed. The aim is to continue to expand the use of text messaging as a means of reducing the ICBF postage costs.

✚ The 50,000 inseminations mark has now been broken by those technicians using handhelds. Below is a graph of the number of inseminations received from since last Friday.



✚ Further report development to support the AI handheld application is on-going.

✚ A new set of disks are being installed in the ICBF standby server (the fail-over machine for the main database).

✚ 297 'Week 3' Fertility reports have been issued to date. Feedback forms have been included with the reports.



6 Milk Recording Update

MR Stats week ending 12/05/06

Milk Recording Organisation	2006 Herds Recorded Week 05/05/06 - 12/05/06	2005 Herds Recorded Week 05/05/05 - 12/05/05
Progressive	531	356
Dairygold	289	216
Kerry	191	145
SWS	139	121
Arrabawn	26	23
Tipperary	21	22
Connacht	15	21
Donegal	2	2
Total	1,214	906

Milk Recording Herds and Cows Year To date 2006 versus Year to date 2005

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2005 Herds Recorded 01/01/05 - 12/05/05	YTD 2006 Herds Recorded 01/01/06 - 12/05/06	Year on Year Herds Difference(%)	YTD 2005 Cows Recorded 01/01/05 - 12/05/05	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 12/05/06	Year on Year Cows Difference(%)
Progressive	2,021	1,904	-6%	126,023	124,814	-1%
Dairygold	1,414	1,439	2%	71,790	81,851	14%*
Kerry	1,040	1,041	0%	54,056	57,462	6%
SWS	926	905	-2%	46,483	48,392	4%
Tipperary	140	143	2%	7,112	8,707	22%*
Connacht	107	105	-2%	5,853	5,880	0%
Arrabawn	105	124	18%	4,960	7,016	41%*
Donegal	10	12	20%	464	867	87%*
Total	5,763	5,673	-2%	316,741	334,989	6%

* Increase in cow numbers attributed to EDIY cells

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