

ICBF Weekly Update 13th September 2013

1 Important Dates

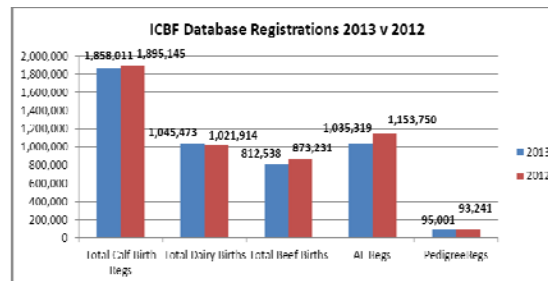
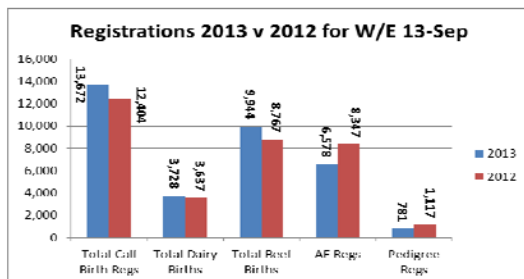
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 19th September, 14:00 to 16:00, Tullamore Court Hotel.
- ✚ **ICBF GENRELAND Beef Open Day** – Saturday 12th October, commencing 11:00, Tully Progeny Test Center, Kildare.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 17th October, 10:30 to 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.

2 ICBF Board Meeting

Some of the key items from yesterday's board meeting included:

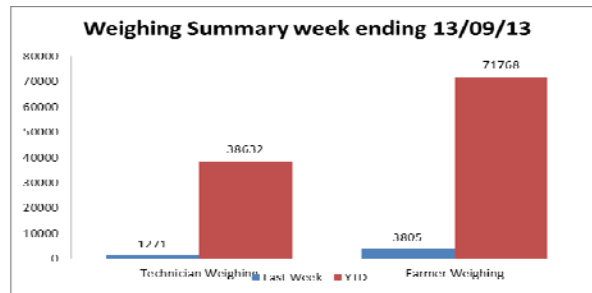
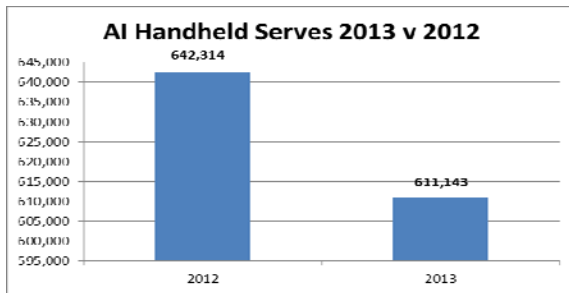
- ✚ A report on the results of the Sexed Semen project. The challenge now is to ensure availability of the technology to the industry. Using AI to generate large numbers of dairy male calves no longer makes any sense for the Irish agri-industry.
- ✚ An update on the positive progress in relation to Gene Ireland Beef, and the move to the 'bull purchasing' phase.
- ✚ A discussion on the upcoming updates to dairy evaluations, including the base change, the test day model implementation, and the update to the economic values. It was also agreed that planned implementation of evaluation changes would be incorporated in the August proof run in the future.
- ✚ A progress report on the Genotyping/Parentage process for the Herdbooks. Work to reduce the turnaround times is on-going.
- ✚ An update on the national BVD scheme, which the ICBF infrastructure supports.
- ✚ The development of the 2014 Strategic Plan has begun and this process will include consultation with stakeholders.

3 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 657,924 with the number of animals weaned at 603,683.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,949,000 results received since January 1st, of which 14,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 2.44 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- ✚ This week there were 1271 weights received through the technician service and 3805 weights recorded by farmers.

The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



4 GENIreland® Beef

- The panel of bulls for the GI Beef Autumn program has been finalised.
- The panel is made up of 9 high index bulls with 6 different breeds represented.
- The catalogues are currently being printed and will be posted to herd owners next week.
- To order straws please phone ICBF on **1850 600 900**.
- These straws are limited so order early to avoid disappointment.
- Further information on the available bulls is detailed in the table below.

Table 1. List of Beef AI Bulls currently on-test

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Owner	Origin	Maternal Index
FPI	Friarstown Ideal Pete	AA	NCBC	Ireland	€230
CKH	Carrickbrack Hutch	CH	Dovea	Ireland	€50
GRF	Gerard	CH	NCBC	France	€101
GPD	Guepard	CH	NCBC	France	€91
GPZ	Grousehallpoll Premier	HE	NCBC	Ireland	€76
OGN	Gino	LM	NCBC	France	€135
FQR	Ballygarvan Stud Fernando	LM	Private	Ireland	€118
ZLA	Lataster Ivan	SA	NCBC	Ireland	€310
QCD	Cloondroon Calling	SI	Dovea	Ireland	€150

5 Sheep Ireland

CPT

- The CPT is commencing soon. We will be Airing 2100 ewes across three flocks. We are targeting rams with high maternal stars along with high production stars, while still increasing linkages within Lambplus.
- Lambplus breeders are very positive in their attitude to the CPT and are readily making rams available. We will be taking in approximately forty rams this year.
- AI commences on the 11th October until the 19th October.

MALP

- After the success of Single Sire Mating in our MALP flocks last year, MALP flocks are continuing with SSM for the coming season.

6 Genetic Evaluations

- The next version of the IDB chip is currently being jointly designed by ICBF, Teagasc and Weatherbys. Almost every bovine genetic disease whose causative mutation has been identified will be included on the new chip with over 40 additional disease mutations, including 4 new fertility haplotypes (AH1, BH2, HH5, and RVC). While some genetic disease diagnostics will require additional royalty fees, no other current commercial chip will test for as many genetic diseases as the IDB version 2. It will also contain additional SNP for research purpose and for improved imputation to higher densities for genomic evaluations and parentage verification via SNP or imputed microsatellite genotypes.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 13/09/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 13/09/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 13/09/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 13/09/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 13/09/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,680	1,065	29%	309,454	96,353	31%
Progressive	2,433	993	41%	230,202	96,494	42%
Tipperary	114	41	36%	10,029	3,753	37%
Total	6,227	2,099	34%	549,685	196,600	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 13/09/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 13/09/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	304,212	309,454	1.7%
Progressive	221,754	230,202	3.7%
Tipperary	9,974	10,029	0.5%
Total	535,940	549,685	2.5%

Please see milk recording stats attached.

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.

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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, 04-SEP-2013 To 13-SEP-2013

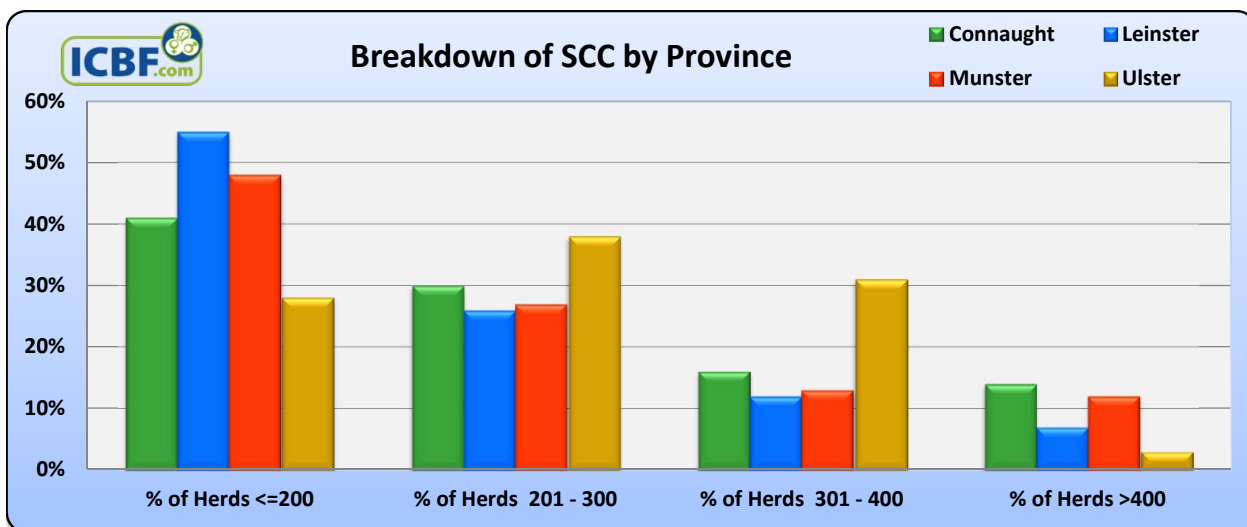
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	44	2,644	60	21.1	3.91	3.52	1.56	221
Leinster	129	10,904	85	19.3	4.02	3.57	1.46	186
Munster	506	40,424	80	19.2	4.05	3.63	1.47	212
Ulster	29	2,005	69	20.0	3.75	3.42	1.43	246
National Statistics	708	55,977	79	19.4	4.03	3.60	1.47	209

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 04-SEP-2013 To 13-SEP-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	44	2,644	60	41%	30%	16%	14%	221
Leinster	129	10,904	85	55%	26%	12%	7%	186
Munster	506	40,424	80	48%	27%	13%	12%	212
Ulster	29	2,005	69	28%	38%	31%	3%	246
National Statistics	708	55,977	79	48%	27%	14%	11%	209

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 04-SEP-2013 To 13-SEP-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	44	2,644	60	130	200	243	262	341
Leinster	129	10,904	85	118	164	184	219	297
Munster	506	40,424	80	137	181	206	233	331
Ulster	29	2,005	69	184	237	265	295	326
National Statistics	708	55,977	79	134	181	207	237	327

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

