



UPDATE – for period 8th – 14th September 2007

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **September 25th to 27th.** Ploughing Championships, Tullamore.
- ✚ **October 20th.** National Dairy Show, Millstreet.

2 EBI €100 Open Day – Farm of Pat Cronin

The open day was attended by some 850 farmers. Highlights included:

- ✚ This farm milking 50 cows is generating as much profit as the average 100 cow dairy farm.
- ✚ The land is high (800 feet), the soil shallow and variable, the terrain is hilly and the rocks have broken the surface in many places. Yet Pat has achieved daily production per cow comparable to Moorepark without heavy use of expensive concentrates.
- ✚ The hot topic was “... *where are the high EBI bulls?*” We are currently planning a G€N€ IR€LAND forum to focus on this topic and to ensure they are available in the future.
- ✚ A special thanks to Pat, his family and neighbors, for hosting such an informative and interesting day. The TEAGASC, Farmers Journal, and ICBF team are also to be congratulated for ensuring clear messages of practical value to dairy farmers. Sponsorship by ACCBank is much appreciated.



Part of the large crowd at the EBI €100 Open Day on Pat Cronin’s farm near Macroom, Co. Cork.



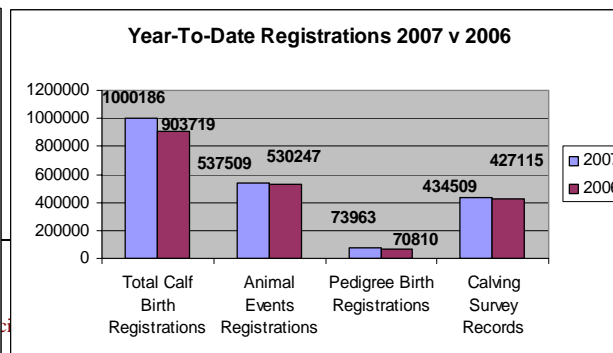
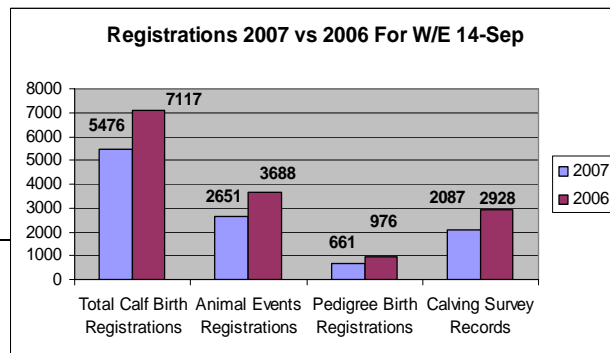
Part of Pat’s herd of 49 milking cows, with a Herd EBI of €80.

3 ICBF Board Meeting

Decisions taken at the Board meeting on Thursday included:

- ✚ Adoption of the recommendations from the Tully Advisory Committee.
- ✚ Agreement on the G€N€ IR€LAND 2008 progeny test program, to seek confirmation of NDP support and to plan the funding basis for future years.

4 Database Update



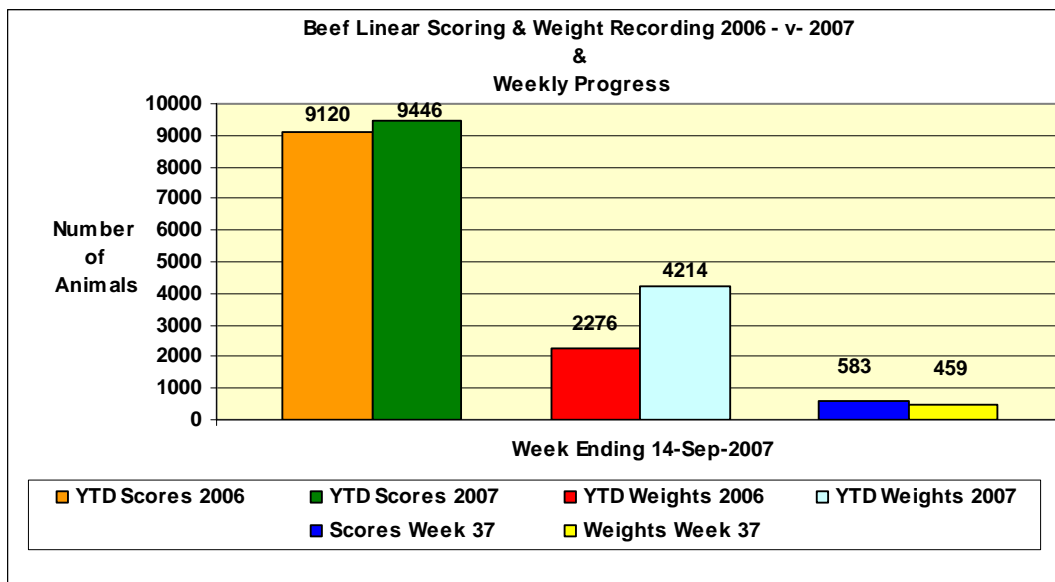


- ✚ 346,298 inseminations have been received so far in 2007 on the AI handhelds, compared with 151,067 in 2006 for the same period.
- ✚ The new farmer interface to 'HerdPlus' is continuing to take shape and is expected to be completed next week in advance of its launch at Ploughing.
- ✚ The use of handhelds to record lameness by Farm Relief Service operators began this week with the launch of three handhelds in the Midleton area.
- ✚ Progress continues on the redesign of the Animal Events file processing which will be completed over the coming months.
- ✚ Work is continuing on the Sire Advice module for the new season.
- ✚ A significant amount of work has been on-going in loading the new sets of beef evaluations, which are expected to be completed next week.

5 GENÉIRLAND

- ✚ As of the beginning of this week, 76 % of straws dispatched to GENÉIRLAND herds in the Spring, now have an associated insemination on the Database. This is broken down to 75 % for DIY herds and 77% for Technician herds.
- ✚ Last opportunity for farmers to get inseminations recorded on the database.
- ✚ Payments (by cheque) to commence middle of next week.

6 Beef Linear Scoring & Weight Recording



7 Tully

- ✚ The bio security assessment of Tully including the two isolations units will take place on Monday 24th September and is being performed by UCD Veterinary College.
- ✚ Power washing and disinfection of the two pre-entry isolation units is continuing.
- ✚ Lists for the section of bulls for entry into Tully will be available to Breed Societies from Wednesday 19th September.



8 Milk Recording Processing – this week and year to date

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 14/09/07	No. EDIY Herds YTD 14/09/07	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 14/09/07	No. EDIY Cows YTD 14/09/07	% Cows EDIY
Progressive	2,126	648	30%	163,613	49,261	30%
Dairygold	1,587	553	35%	110,265	40,090	36%
Kerry	1,032	70	7%	71,239	5,635	8%
SWS	932	109	12%	60,097	7,035	12%
Tipperary	170	71	42%	12,222	5,212	43%
Arrabawn	167	126	75%	11,818	9,017	76%
Connacht	153	67	44%	9,920	4,194	42%
Donegal	43	43	100%	3,872	3,874	100%
Total	6,210	1,687	27%	443,046	124,318	28%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison				
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2005 Cows Recorded 01/01/05 - 14/09/05	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 14/09/06	YTD 2007 Cows Recorded 01/01/07 - 14/09/07	2007 vs 2006 Year on Year Difference (%)
Progressive	146,805	154,053	163,613	5.8%
Dairygold	96,626	102,710	110,265	6.9%
Kerry	66,712	69,640	71,239	2.2%
SWS	53,999	58,616	60,097	2.5%
Tipperary	9,287	11,752	12,222	3.8%
Arrabawn	7,118	10,961	11,818	7.3%
Connacht	7,267	8,991	9,920	9.4%
Donegal	3,542	5,147	3,872	-32.9%
Total	391,356	421,870	443,046	4.8%

9 Genetic Evaluations

Developments in Dairy Evaluations

- Work continues on areas identified for further work at the last industry meeting. This work is expected to continue for the next number of weeks and results will be presented as soon as they are available.

Developments in Beef Evaluations

- Processing of the latest beef evaluations continues. Preliminary results will be made available to the industry early next week. A detailed description on the changes for this evaluation was presented in last weeks update.

International beef

- Part of the analyses on the carcass dissections results from Pettitts has finished this week: heritability for each of the 16 different meat cuts has been calculated.
- The scope of fixed effects studied was sex, age at slaughter, season of slaughter, breed of the sire, heterosis and recombination and the interaction sex x slaughter age and sire breed x heterosis.
- The heritabilities range from 0.10 to 0.60. Further tests will be made to improve these models.



10 HerdPlus

Work is continuing in preparation for the HerdPlus Beef Service which is being released at the Ploughing. This week we completed two new Beef web Profiles (examples below);

1. Euro-Star Profile
2. Slaughter Profile

[Download File](#)

Total Number of animals:54

FB Jumbo	Animal Details				Suckler Beef Value(€) Within Breed Across Breed	Data Rel(%)	Beef Value(€)			Replacement Value(€)		Other Key Traits	
	Animal Number	Dob	Sex	Breed			Calving Within Across	Weanling Exp. Within Across	Carcass Within Across	Milk & Fert Within Across	Calf Qual. Within Across	Calving Diff(%) Within Across	Docility Within Across
41	IE 0041F	09-JUN-87	F	LM (100%)	104 ***** ****	9	-4 **** ****	59 *** ***	78 **** ***	26 **** ****	180 ***** ****	4.83 **** ****	
103	IE 880103	26-MAR-00	F	LM (100%)	78 *** ***	21	-7 *** ***	55 *** ***	66 *** ***	3 ** ***	144 *** ***	6.90 ** ***	
124	IE 40124	22-FEB-01	F	LM (100%)	90 **** ****	30	-8 *** ***	44 * **	78 **** ***	9 ** ***	183 ***** ***	5.80 *** ***	
125	IE 50125	07-APR-01	F	LM (100%)	104 ***** ****	24	-7 ** ***	86 ***** *****	77 **** ***	30 **** ****	184 ***** ****	6.23 ** ***	

Slaughter Profile

[Download File](#)

Total Number of animals:67

FB Jumbo	Animal Number	Sex	Date of Birth	Death Date	Breed	DEAD Weight (Kgs)	Animal Type	Grade	Factory
722	IE 1730722	F	18-NOV-03	19-JUN-07	HO	332	COW	O3	Charleville Foods
871	IE 740871	F	18-OCT-05	18-JUN-07	HO	354	HEIFER	R4	Kepak Clonee
808	IE 740808	F	07-NOV-04	04-MAY-07	HO	324	HEIFER	P3	Charleville Foods
205	IE 10205E	F	24-OCT-97	02-MAY-07	HO	420	COW	O4L	AIBP Cahir
3590	IE 730359	F	15-SEP-99	02-MAY-07	HO	312	COW	O4	Charleville Foods

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