

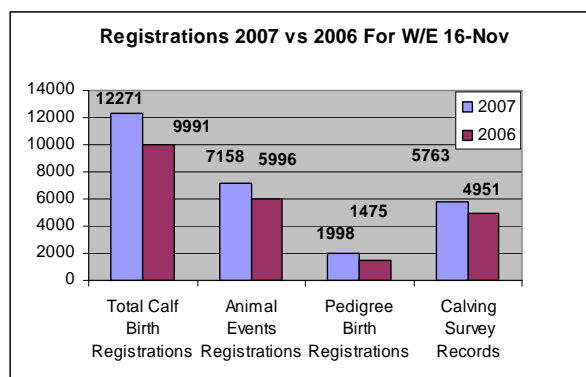
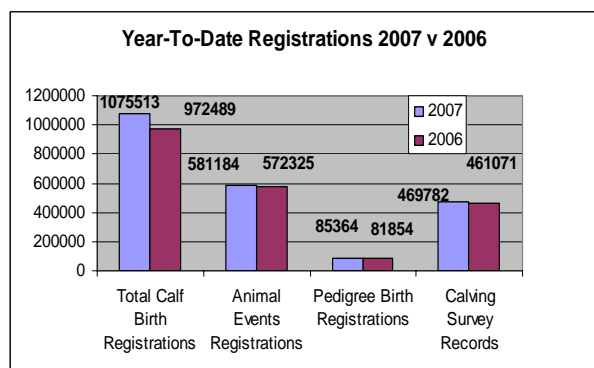


UPDATE – for period 10th – 16th November 2007

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Friday November 23rd**. Dairy Genetic Evaluation Consultation Meeting. Moorepark
- ✚ **Wednesday November 28th**. G-€N-€I-R-€L-€N-D farmer meeting. **Silversprings Hotel Cork**. *Note change of venue
- ✚ **Thursday November 29th**. ICBF Board Meeting. Portlaoise.

2 Database Update



- 359,125 inseminations have been received so far in 2007, compared with 159,312 in 2006 for the same period.
- Updates to the Dairy and Beef Calving reports have been finalised this week.
- Preparations are continuing in order to be ready for the commencement of the Suckler Cow Welfare Scheme. Developments and changes to a number of screens and forms are underway.
- Work is continuing on the Sire Advice module for the new season.
- The implementation of the new hardware solution and database upgrade is on-going. The upgrade of the development machine will take place over the coming days.
- Preparatory work for the go-live of remaining Munster AI technicians is underway, with ICBF working in conjunction with the Munster AI staff.

3 G-€N-€I-R-€L-€N-D®

DAIRY AUTUMN 2007

- ✚ The Autumn programme is starting to wind down. There are now 120 herds signed up, taking a total of 4,475 doses.
- ✚ Approximately 12 more herd are required to reach our target.
- ✚ A majority of the remaining herds had their straws packed this week. A total of 4,049 doses have been dispatched to date.

G-€N-€I-R-€L-€N-D® DAIRY FARMER MEETING

- ✚ Some 3,000 invites will be sent to HerdPlus and G-€N-€I-R-€L-€N-D participates over the coming days.
- ✚ Please note the change in venue - it is now taking place at the Silver Spring Moran Hotel, Cork.



4 Tully

- ✚ Completion of the security fencing around the livestock loading un loading area will be completed before the 19-11-07.
- ✚ A meeting will be held before the 22-11-07 to assess the IBR results and decide on the criteria for entry to pre entry isolation.
- ✚ Bulls for the November intake to Tully will enter pre entry isolation from the 23-11-07.

5 Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ Evaluations are currently been run for the next Interbull evaluation.
- ✚ Work on developments for the EBI is on-going. Specific areas include calving performance, across breed, and linear evaluations. Results will be presented at industry meeting next week.
- ✚ Staff made a presentation on EBI at a meeting of the pure Friesian club AGM.

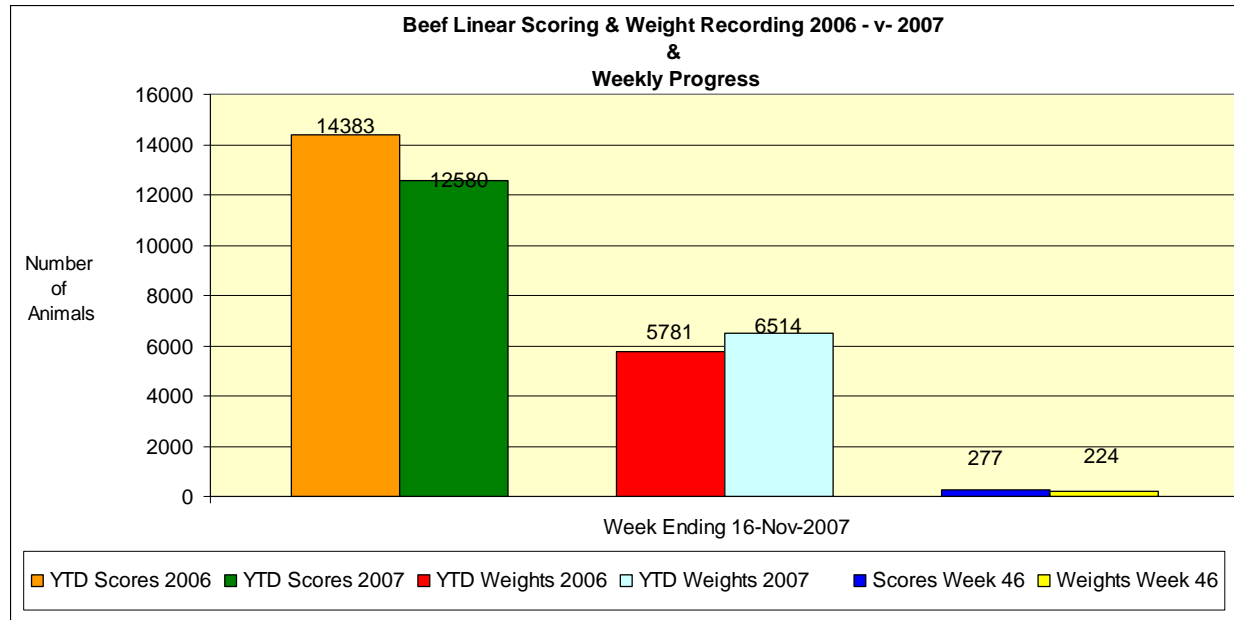
6 Milk Recording Processing – this week and year to date

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 16/11/07						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 16/11/07	No. EDIY Herds YTD 16/11/07	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 16/11/07	No. EDIY Cows YTD 16/11/07	% Cows EDIY
Progressive	2,142	686	32%	169,273	52,594	31%
Dairygold	1,593	555	35%	111,929	40,563	36%
Kerry	1,034	70	7%	72,060	5,688	8%
SWS	932	111	12%	61,115	7,431	12%
Tipperary	170	71	42%	12,308	5,245	43%
Arrabawn	169	128	76%	12,064	9,241	77%
Connacht	154	68	44%	10,144	4,344	43%
Donegal	43	43	100%	3,920	3,920	100%
Total	6,237	1,732	28%	452,813	129,026	28%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison				
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2005 Cows Recorded 01/01/05 - 16/11/05	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 16/11/06	YTD 2007 Cows Recorded 01/01/07 - 16/11/07	2007 vs 2006 Year on Year Difference (%)
Progressive	152,607	159,696	169,273	5.7%
Dairygold	98,436	104,004	111,929	7.1%
Kerry	67,575	70,480	72,060	2.2%
SWS	55,353	59,889	61,115	2.0%
Tipperary	9,392	11,869	12,308	3.6%
Arrabawn	7,172	11,092	12,064	8.1%
Connacht	7,422	9,301	10,144	8.3%
Donegal	4,292	5,274	3,920	-34.5%
Total	402,249	431,605	452,813	4.7%



7 Linear Scoring & Weight Recording



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Name
Address1
Address2
Address3

Dear Herd-owner,

The first GENEIRLAND® user meeting will take place on **Wednesday 28th November, in the Silver Springs Moran Hotel, Cork**. The meeting is a unique opportunity for you to be involved in helping to ensure the successful development of the GENEIRLAND® dairy program. This event will be attended by an excellent mix of farmers, ICBF staff and industry representatives. An outline of the program is below.

GENEIRLAND® Event Program.

10.30 AM	Registration, tea & coffee
Session 1.	Progeny Testing in Ireland. Chairperson – Pat Dillon (Teagasc).
10.45 AM	Setting the scene. GENEIRLAND®; past, present & future – Brian Wickham (ICBF)
11.15 AM	Farmers view – Kevin Twomey, Ballyhooley, Co. Cork.
11.30 AM	Review of programs to date – Andrew Cromie (ICBF).
11.50 AM	Discussion
Session 2.	Bulls to Progeny Test. Chairperson – Jack Kennedy (Irish Farmers Journal).
12.15 PM	Farmers view – John Kingston, Ballygarvan, Co. Cork.
12.30 PM	Improving the bull selection process – Francis Kearney (ICBF).
12.50 PM	AI forum & Discussion - (NCBC, Dovea AI, LIC/Eurogene & AI Services, ABS-Genus).
1.30 PM	Lunch & farmer survey.
Session 3.	Where next for progeny testing? Chairperson – Brian Wickham (ICBF).
2.30 PM	Experiences from recent trip to NZ – Denis O'Donnovan, Rosscarberry, Co.Cork.
3.00 PM	Survey feedback & general discussion.
3.45 PM	FBD Awards.
3.50 PM	Summing up – John O'Sullivan, Lisduff, Co. Cork

Please book your place by texting CONF to 51101.

We look forward to seeing you at this important new event in the cattle breeding calendar. GENEIRLAND® will produce “new top bulls” through your active involvement in breeding them and progeny testing them. We look forward to seeing you on the day and to your involvement in the discussions.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Wickham.
ICBF Chief Executive