

## 1. Important Dates

- ✚ **Ploughing** – next week 21<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Sheep Ireland will be present in the Sheep Tunnel (Row – R Stand Number – 533. ICBF does not have a stand at Ploughing.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 10:30 to 14:00 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 14:00 to 16:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Tully Bull High Health Status Sale** Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October, ICBF Tully Central Performance Test Centre.
- ✚ **2011 draft schedule attached.** Please let us know if there are clashes with your plans.

## 2. ICBF Board

At its meeting on Thursday the ICBF Board:

- ✚ Appointed James Lynch to replace Liam Foley on the Audit & Finance Sub-Committee.
- ✚ Endorsed the actions and decisions arising from the breeding consultation meetings held on July 21<sup>st</sup> 2010.
- ✚ Discussed the review of GROW<sup>®</sup>. Terms of reference are currently being discussed with stakeholders and the issues under consideration include:
  1. Accuracy, completeness and relevance of weight and linear score data,
  2. range of traits,
  3. service costs and service income,
  4. customer needs,
  5. best practise for ensuring accurate data for genetic evaluations, and
  6. best practise for breeders supplying stock bull & AI bulls.
- ✚ Considered a progress report on IGenoP and agreed that priority should be given to ensuring the international competitiveness of the Irish breeding and farming industry.
- ✚ Welcomed progress on the development of genomic services in collaboration with IHFA and Weatherbys.

## 3. Sheep Ireland Board

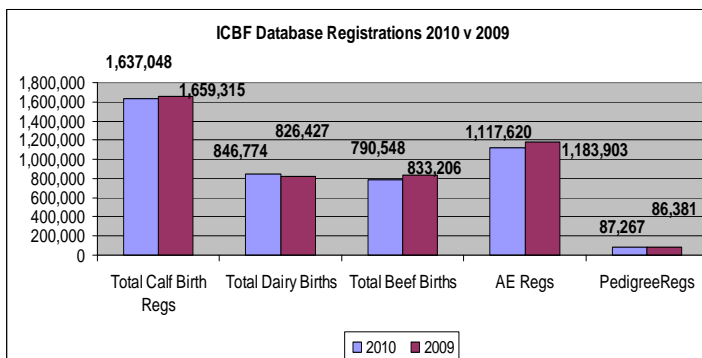
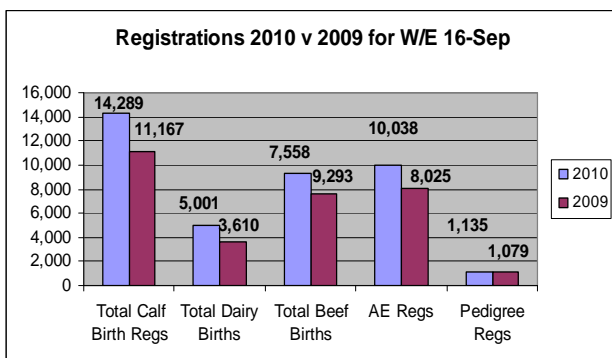
At its meeting on Thursday the Interim Sheep Board:

- ✚ Received the [Project Managers report](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/project_managers_report_to_interim_sheep_board_160910.pdf) ([http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/project\\_managers\\_report\\_to\\_interim\\_sheep\\_board\\_160910.pdf](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/project_managers_report_to_interim_sheep_board_160910.pdf)).
- ✚ Received a [report from David Cottle](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/Cottle_Belclare_160910.pdf) ([http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/Cottle\\_Belclare\\_160910.pdf](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/Cottle_Belclare_160910.pdf)) a scientist visiting ICBF from University of New England, Armidale, NSW, Australia. David has investigated the potential of a Sheep Ireland service to identify the best matings accounting for inbreeding and genetic merit, using the Belclare breed as a case study.
- ✚ Received a [report from Alan Fahey](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/Alan_Fahey_UCD_Sheep_Research_16092010.pdf) ([http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/Alan\\_Fahey\\_UCD\\_Sheep\\_Research\\_16092010.pdf](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/Alan_Fahey_UCD_Sheep_Research_16092010.pdf)) on sheep research at UCD. The Board expressed its appreciation for the leadership Alan has shown in helping Sheep Ireland establish the Central Progeny Test (CPT).
- ✚ Received a report from Peter Amer on a review on Sheep Ireland's progress to-date and its strategic priorities for the next period. This draft report was discussed and a final report will be considered at the next Board meeting.
- ✚ Discussed future funding.

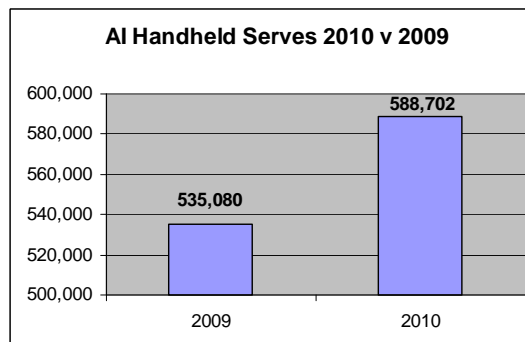
#### 4. Sheep Ireland

- ✚ Weighing and condition scoring of MALP ewes is about to begin.
- ✚ Intake of rams into isolation unit for the 2010 CPT breeding season begins next week.
- ✚ LambPlus breeders who have mating completed on farm should submit the data to avoid errors and reduce the recording workload at a later stage.
- ✚ The Belclare Breed Society is 100% involved in Sheep Ireland with all breeders recording in the scheme. The Society is holding sales on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September in Kilkenny Mart and Athenry Mart. On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September a sale is being held in Ballinrobe Mart. All sheep in the catalogues will have Euro-Stars.
- ✚ Sheep Ireland's has a stand in the Sheep Tunnel at the Ploughing Championships. The stand is located at Row – R Stand Number – 533.
- ✚ This week Graham Potterton [reported on the potential for sheep information services](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/SIS_report_summary_170910.pdf) ([http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/SIS\\_report\\_summary\\_170910.pdf](http://www.sheep.ie/publications/files/SIS_report_summary_170910.pdf)). Graham has been focusing on the lamb producer groups and exploring the potential for Sheep Ireland to provide information services of value to these farmers. His report identifies three potential services: ram locator, on-farm recording and lamb slaughter information.

#### 5. Database



- ✚ The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFF AIM systems.
- ✚ In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2010 born calves with meal introduced is 270,587 with the number of animals weaned at 37,477.
- ✚ Work is continuing on the design of the new catalogue service for both beef and dairy animals.
- ✚ Vets wishing to begin interacting with the AHI/ICBF system can register at <http://www.animalhealthireland.ie/registerpage.php>.
- ✚ The Dairy Replacements discussion group report has been completed and will be live next week.
- ✚ A development update to the Beef Slaughter report will begin next week.
- ✚ The design of a new infrastructure to manage genotypes at ICBF is continuing.
- ✚ The migration of the Teagasc advisor application to a new infrastructure should be completed next week. This will standardise how Teagasc, Vets, private consultants, etc access the ICBF database.
- ✚ Work on a new infrastructure for communicating with marts is on-going, with a view to getting the data flows on a more efficient and effective basis.



✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2010 compared with 2009.

## 6. Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ Intermediate beef genetic evaluation for animals linear scored since the 1st August 2010 has started.
- ✚ Results are expected to be available in the next 2 weeks.

## 7. Carcass Cuts

- ✚ The study for the estimation of genetic parameters for carcass cut weights is completed.
- ✚ New conversions of carcass images into cut weights are currently running to for the most recent mechanical grading images (up to May 2010).
- ✚ These conversions will be added to the existing one to be used for the study of correlations between carcass cut weights and currently recorded traits (linear, prices...).

## 8. Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 07/09/10 to 17/09/10

	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
CARLOW	10	643	64	20.7	4.03	3.57	1.57	312
CAVAN	25	1,309	52	20.1	3.86	3.48	1.48	285
CLARE	23	1,188	52	20.2	4.05	3.57	1.54	297
CORK STH	296	19,604	66	19.7	4.05	3.54	1.50	293
CORK NTH	262	19,865	76	20.3	4.11	3.70	1.59	279
DONEGAL	10	845	85	17.6	4.25	3.55	1.37	346
DUBLIN	6	425	71	19.0	4.09	3.53	1.45	329
GALWAY	32	2,061	64	22.3	4.03	3.57	1.69	320
KERRY	129	8,572	66	21.6	3.88	3.53	1.60	346
KILDARE	16	1,252	78	24.1	3.84	3.56	1.78	422
KILKENNY	52	4,724	91	17.2	4.13	3.63	1.33	307
LAOIS	38	2,743	72	19.0	4.00	3.52	1.43	257
LEITRIM	1	51	51	22.0	3.38	3.26	1.46	356
LIMERICK	143	10,420	73	19.7	3.95	3.58	1.48	291
LONGFORD	4	278	70	17.0	4.30	3.80	1.38	438
LOUTH	19	1,677	88	22.1	3.91	3.53	1.64	343
MAYO	17	1,024	60	24.1	3.33	3.59	1.67	331
MEATH	53	5,081	96	19.3	3.88	3.57	1.44	335
MONAGHAN	27	1,396	52	21.8	3.75	3.47	1.57	296
OFFALY	18	1,404	78	21.3	3.95	3.69	1.63	282
ROSCOMMON	3	152	51	16.5	4.45	3.59	1.33	576
SLIGO	8	367	46	21.3	3.71	3.77	1.59	238
TIPPERARY NTH	59	4,255	72	18.6	4.25	3.68	1.47	290
TIPPERARY STH	65	5,516	85	18.3	4.19	3.69	1.44	275
WATERFORD	59	5,538	94	19.4	4.26	3.70	1.54	271
WESTMEATH	22	1,524	69	19.5	3.52	3.26	1.32	299
WEXFORD	68	5,066	75	18.2	4.07	3.61	1.40	351
WICKLOW E	22	1,489	68	18.1	3.52	3.45	1.26	288
WICKLOW W	8	741	93	20.8	4.17	3.52	1.60	433
	<b>No. Herds</b>	<b>No. Cows Recorded</b>	<b>Average Herd</b>	<b>Average 24hr</b>	<b>Average Fat %</b>	<b>Average Protein</b>	<b>Average F + P kg</b>	<b>Average SCC</b>

	Recorded		Size	Milk kg/Cow		%		
National	1,495	109,210	71	20.0	3.96	3.57	1.51	327

**National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 07/09/10 to 17/09/10**

Provincial	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
Munster	1036	74,958	72	19.7	4.09	3.62	1.52	293
Leinster	336	27,047	80	19.7	3.94	3.56	1.48	338
Connacht	61	3,655	60	21.2	3.78	3.56	1.56	364
Ulster	62	3,550	57	19.8	3.95	3.50	1.48	309

**National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 17/09/10**

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 17/09/10	No. EDIY Herds YTD 17/09/10	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 17/09/10	No. EDIY Cows YTD 17/09/10	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,557	999	28%	275,170	85,196	31%
Progressive	1,999	762	38%	175,008	66,438	38%
Tipperary	133	57	43%	11,914	5,762	48%
Connacht	150	59	39%	9,901	3,720	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,839</b>	<b>1,877</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>471,993</b>	<b>161,116</b>	<b>34%</b>

**Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison**

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2009 Cows Recorded 01/01/09 - 17/09/09	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/10 - 17/09/10	2010 vs. 2009 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	255,626	275,170	7.1%
Progressive	175,428	175,008	-0.2%
Tipperary	11,086	11,914	6.9%
Connacht	9,531	9,901	3.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>451,671</b>	<b>471,993</b>	<b>4.3%</b>

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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](http://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](http://www.sheep.ie).

## 1. ICBF Meetings – Dates and Locations

Date	Time	Location	Meeting
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2010	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2010	10:30 – 14:00	Horse & Jockey	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to review draft budget for 2011.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2010	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Horse & Jockey	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to consider 2010 Audit.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	AGM of ICBF
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	9:30 – 10:30	Portlaoise	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to consider NDP Application for 2012.
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Highfield House, Bandon	Board
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Horse & Jockey	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to consider Budget for 2012.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Portlaoise	Board

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## 2. Sheep Ireland Meetings – Dates and Locations

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Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2010	10:30 – 13:00	Horse & Jockey	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to consider budget for 2011.
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2010	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	Interim Sheep Board
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	Interim Sheep Board
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Horse & Jockey	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to consider 2010 Audit.
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	Interim Sheep Board
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	Interim Sheep Board
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	AGM Sheep Database Limited
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	9:30 – 10:30	Portlaoise	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to consider NDP Application for 2012.
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	Interim Sheep Board
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> September 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Highfield House, Bandon	Interim Sheep Board
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	Interim Sheep Board
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2011	10:30 – 14:00	Horse & Jockey	Audit & Finance Sub-Committee to consider Budget for 2012.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2011	14:00 – 17:00	Portlaoise	Interim Sheep Board

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