




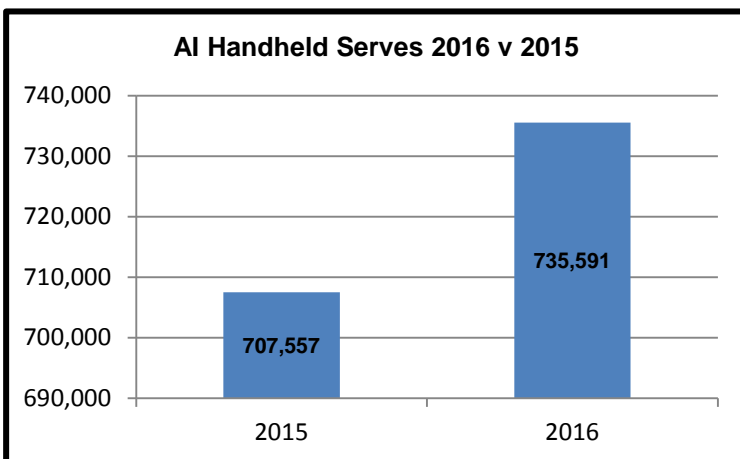
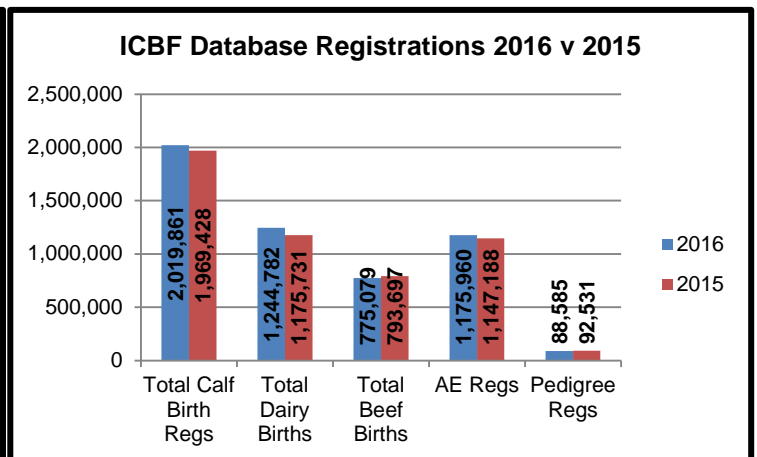
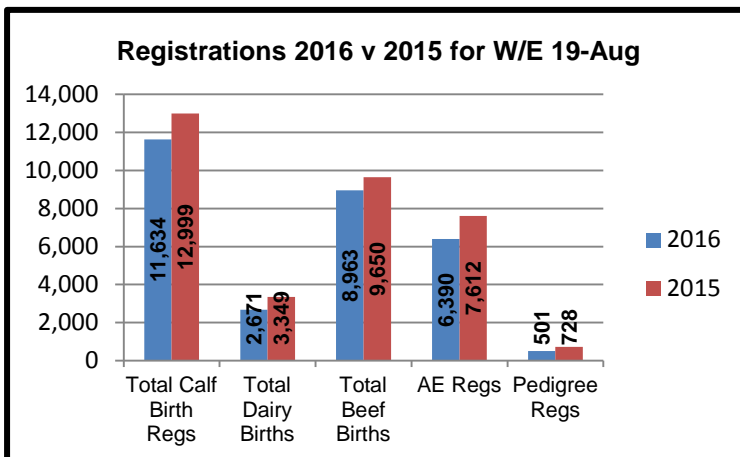
ICBF Weekly Update 19th August 2016




1 Important Dates

-  **Audit & Finance Meeting** – Thursday 8th September at 08:30am in Highfield House.
-  **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 8th September at 10:00am in Highfield House.
-  **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 8th September at 14:00pm in Highfield House.


Due to necessary maintenance the ICBF website will be unavailable for approximately two hours from 5pm on Wednesday the 24th August. We will endeavour to minimise the disruption.


2 Database



-  The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
-  BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 2,528,578 results received since January 1st, of which 37,941 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 9,857,018 results have now been received.
-  The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2016 compared with 2015.

3 Herd Plus®

 HerdPlus is ICBF's subscription service which provides herd-owners with performance data which can be used to increase on-farm profit. Click here for the latest information on the HerdPlus service <http://www.icbf.com/?p=6008>

 In September 2016, the EBI genetic base cow, which is the genetic reference point for all dairy cattle in Ireland, will become younger, as we move from a 1995 to a 2005 born genetic base cow. For more information on this check out this short video on the ICBF YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQ9DkzxLbHQ>

- ✚ We have a team of Weight Recording Technicians throughout Ireland that are available to weigh your cattle. Cattle are weighed and weights are sent electronically to ICBF which means no keying of weights for the herd-owner. Click here to view our list of weight recorders http://www.icbf.com/?page_id=492
- ✚ ICBF are now recruiting for the position of Software Developer. For more information on this position and how you can apply please click on this link <http://www.icbf.com/?p=5859>
- ✚ Farmers can now genotype all their female calves which will allow them to make a more informed decision around breeding and culling potential replacements. This service could cost herd-owners as little as €22/head. Please contact HerdPlus on 1850 600 900 or 023 8820452 for further details. Alternatively when logged into HerdPlus, herd-owners can make orders online by selecting ‘Services’ – ‘Genomic Services’ – ‘Place Order’
- ✚ Scanned your cows recently? You can now record ‘Pregnancy Diagnosis’ on ICBF.com. This screen is now available on the new platform and it allows users to record ‘Pregnancy Diagnosis’ for each breeding female in the herd.

4 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 19/08/16						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 19/08/16	No. EDIY Herds YTD 19/08/16	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 19/08/16	No. EDIY Cows YTD 19/08/16	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,640	1,117	31%	353,077	118,381	34%
Progressive	2,296	923	40%	246,590	99,330	40%
Tipperary	115	51	44%	10,843	4,597	42%
Total	6,051	2,091	35%	610,510	222,308	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15- 19/08/15	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 19/08/16	2016 vs 2015 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	362,307	353,077	-2.5%
Progressive	250,682	246,590	-1.6%
Tipperary	11,704	10,843	-7.4%
Total	624,693	610,510	-2.3%

5 Sheep Ireland

Belclare RamPlus

On Monday (15th August) a number of Belclare breeders came together from around Ireland to AI some of their ewes with semen from high index and high accuracy% rams. Fresh semen was used on the day to AI the ewes. Hopefully conception rates will be good and this programme can be grown next year. This season was run on a pilot basis and many lessons have been learned along the way. This will serve to greatly improve the programme for next year allowing us to encourage more breeders to avail of this great opportunity to use some of the highest index rams from within the breed.

Texel RamPlus

- At the Texel Premier sale last Saturday (13th August) three of the rams being made available to Texel breeders for frozen semen AI this season were on display. These rams are now currently in the AI station where semen is being collected and frozen for use across Irish Texel flocks. Similar to the Belclare RamPlus project, access to this Texel semen affords Irish breeders a fantastic opportunity to gain access to high index, high accuracy% Texel genetics. Letters have been circulated to all Texel breeders in relation to the project and this semen will be available through a number of different AI service providers. Any breeder that is interested in using this semen should contact Sheep Ireland as soon as possible.

Sheep Ireland elite multi-breed ram sale

- A provisional sales catalogue for this sale is now available on the Sheep Ireland website or by clicking [here](#). This is a provisional catalogue as we will be accepting substitute entries up until Monday 22nd August. We will issue the final catalogue on Tuesday 23rd August. No further changes to the catalogue will take place after this point and no further substitutions will be facilitated.
- All sale entries will have to meet the sale entry criteria based on the genetic evaluation of Monday 22nd August.
- Some images below from the Belclare RamPlus AI from the farm of John Renehan, Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny.*



National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 10-AUG-2016 To 19-AUG-2016

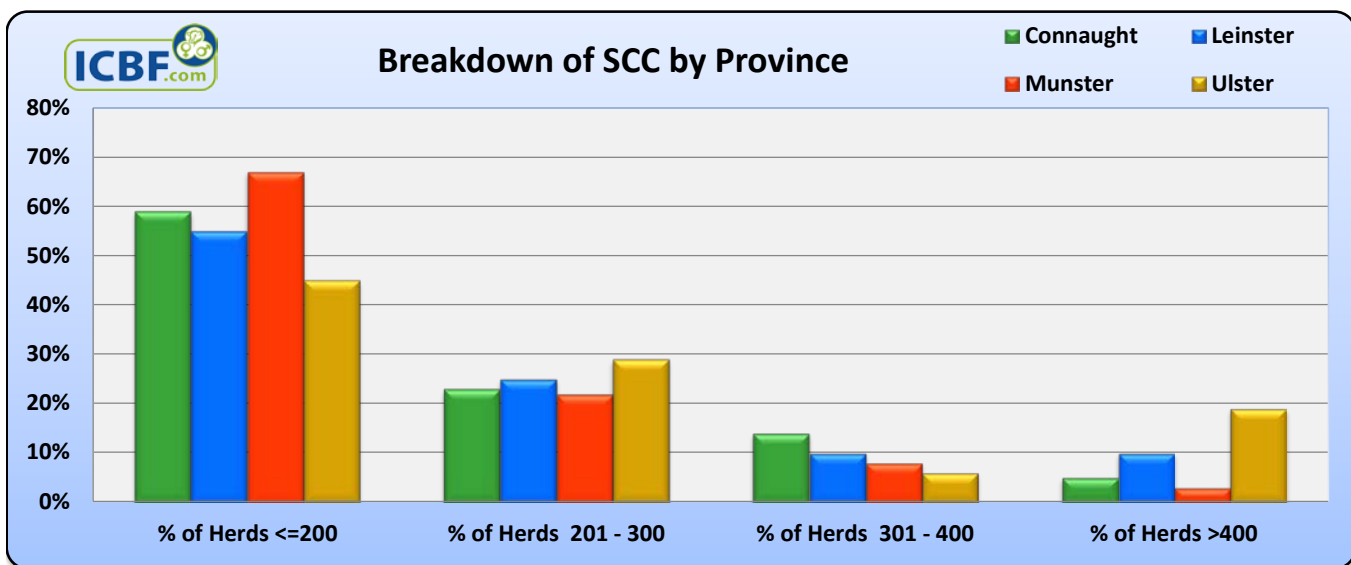
No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	22	1,632	74	21.6	3.82	3.47	169
Leinster	173	16,908	98	20.7	3.96	3.45	190
Munster	617	56,621	92	20.6	4.07	3.57	165
Ulster	31	1,898	61	20.8	3.83	3.35	208
National Statistics	843	77,059	91	20.7	4.03	3.53	171

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 10-AUG-2016 To 19-AUG-2016

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	22	1,632	74	59%	23%	14%	5%	169
Leinster	173	16,908	98	55%	25%	10%	10%	190
Munster	617	56,621	92	67%	22%	8%	3%	165
Ulster	31	1,898	61	45%	29%	6%	19%	208
National Statistics	843	77,059	91	63%	23%	9%	5%	171

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 10-AUG-2016 To 19-AUG-2016								
No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC	
Connaught	22	1,632	74	84	153	164	219	299
Leinster	173	16,908	98	123	170	189	211	300
Munster	617	56,621	92	111	143	162	184	251
Ulster	31	1,898	61	143	179	211	223	398
National Statistics	843	77,059	91	113	148	170	191	264

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

