

## 1. Important Dates

- + **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 10:30 to 14:00 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 14:00 to 16:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **Dairy GENIreland® & Herd Plus® and EBI Discussion Group competition awards** – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 10:30 to 16:00 – Corrin Mart, Fermoy.

## 2. Breeding Consultation Meetings

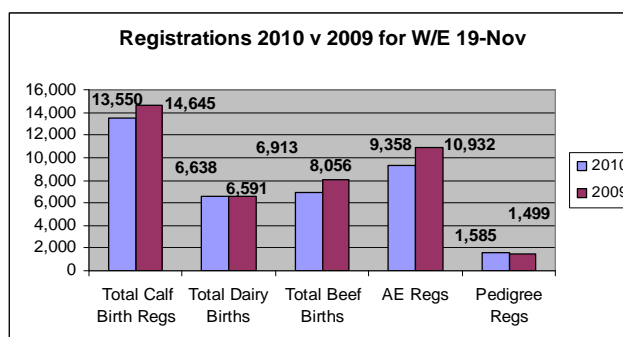
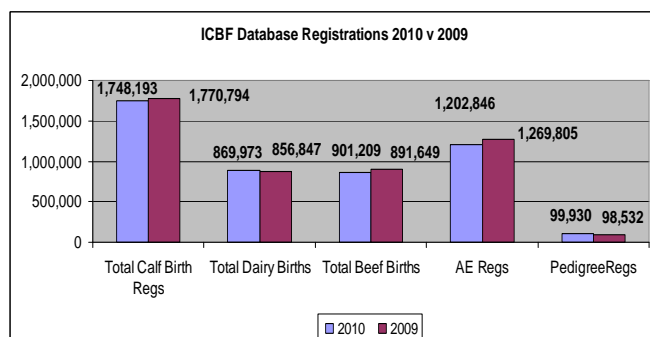
Presentation to the well-attended Breeding Consultation Meeting held on Tuesday can be found in the publications section of [www.icbf.com](http://www.icbf.com). Key actions arising from the meeting (a copy of the minutes will be distributed to all invited to the meeting) included:

- + Development of a genomic evaluation and parentage testing service based on the 3K Illumina chip in conjunction with IHFA and Wetherby's is continuing with a view to the service being available for spring calving 2011.
- + Distribution of results from test runs for the new fertility and calving evaluations which are under development. These will be considered for implementation at a further meeting scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> December 2010.
- + Development of a weight recording service which can operate independently of beef linear scoring have commenced.
- + Further consultations on the GROW<sup>®</sup> review are to take place.
- + Breeding Scheme design cost benefits and research studies are to be presented and considered at a meeting scheduled for 8<sup>th</sup> December.
- + Further research is to be undertaken into indexes for suckler female replacement selection.

## 3. Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting

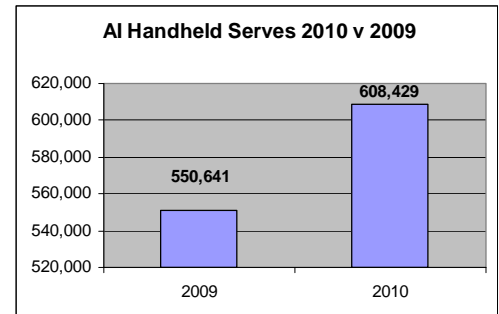
At its meeting in Thursday the Sub-Committee agreed a budget for 2011 which it will recommend to the December meetings of ICBF and Sheep Ireland Boards.

## 4. 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 475,315 with the number of animals weaned at 291,351.

- ✚ The design of a new infrastructure to manage genotypes at ICBF is continuing. The development continues, and this development is expected to be completed before Christmas.
- ✚ A new process for the reporting to breeders of sire errors on calf registrations is being designed. The aim is to streamline the process and make it easier for farmers to complete the process on-line.
- ✚ A webinar explaining the details of the new catalogue system was held with the beef herdbooks today.
- ✚ The generation of the Herdplus packs to support the spring calving season is continuing.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recoded on AI Handhelds in 2010 compared with 2009.



## 5. G-€-I-€-L-€-N-D®

### Dairy

- ✚ Currently there are 130 herds waiting for straws to be dispatched.
- ✚ Dispatch will commence as soon as the straws are available.

### Beef

- ✚ Sign ups are continuing at a steady pace.
- ✚ Straws are being dispatched for all available bulls.
- ✚ The Limousin bull ADX has become the 12th LM bull tested through the program.
- ✚ 271 herds have signed up so far.
- ✚ To order straws phone 1850 600900 or 045 521573.
- ✚ More details on the bulls are available in the G-€-I-€-L-€-N-D section of the website.
- ✚ Approx total straws sent out per bull currently available are in the table below.

BREED	AA	BA	BB	BB	CH	CH	HE	LM	LM	PT	SA	SH
CODE	MLJ	KCE	KYR	STQ	GHX	CXY	GCT	NHL	CZH	CBQ	BHU	LYJ
# STRAWS	205	276	388	668	438	444	51	570	144	99	588	10

## 6. GROW®

- ✚ Yet again the number of pedigree animals weighed and scored in October exceeds the corresponding month in 2009.
- ✚ 1,278 Pedigree and 1,202 Commercial animals were weighed and scored in October.
- ✚ The overall percentage of beef animals weighed and scored in October was 99%.
- ✚ The total animals (pedigree and commercial) weighed and scored from 1st Jan to 31st Oct for the last 4 years are in the table below:

	Scored	Weighed
2007	12380	6370
2008	13843	11535
2009	12279	11616
2010	12856	12468

- Work is continuing on the review of the GROW service
- A number of changes to the areas covered by the scorers will be effective from 1st December. See contact details below for the new scorer in your area.

ICBF SCORERS								
Scorer	Counties							Mobile
John Beirne	Longford	Roscommon	Leitrim	Offaly	Westmeath	Sligo	Mayo	086-2742233
Basil Bothwell	Donegal	Cavan	Monaghan	Dublin	Louth	Meath		086-6050095
Lesley Sandes	Limerick	Tipperary	Clare	Galway	Kildare	Wicklow		087-6381199
Ger O'Brien	Laois	Wexford	Kilkenny	Waterford	Carlow			087-2379466
Clive Jennings	Cork	Kerry						086-2411399

## 7. Tully

- Of the 170 bulls that passed the on-farm inspections, bloods have been received on 119 bulls to date. Blood samples will be accepted up until Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> of November.
- All blood samples received have been sent to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food lab, located in Backweston, Celbridge, Co Kildare. These samples are being analysed at present.
- Results for the majority of bulls will be available next week. Breeders will then be notified whether or not their bull(s) have met the health testing criteria.

## 8. Genetic Evaluations

- Work is continuing on reliability calculations for the new dairy fertility proofs. Files of AI sire will be circulated to the industry partners once the reliabilities are finished.
- Work has commenced on estimating genetic parameters between carcass cut data estimated from digital imaging software with the existing traits in the beef performance evaluation.
- Francis Kearney gave a lecture to UCD veterinary and Agricultural science students on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> on ICBF beef and dairy breeding programs.
- Genetic evaluations will commence shortly for the last large evaluation of the year to be published in December.

## 9. Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 19/11/10						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 19/11/10	No. EDIY Herds YTD 19/11/10	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 19/11/10	No. EDIY Cows YTD 19/11/10	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,562	1,000	28%	279,097	85,861	31%
Progressive	2,084	816	39%	186,550	71,987	39%
Tipperary	133	57	43%	11,959	5,772	48%
Connacht	152	59	39%	10,126	3,793	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,931</b>	<b>1,932</b>	<b>33%</b>	<b>487,732</b>	<b>167,413</b>	<b>34%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2009 Cows Recorded 01/01/09 - 19/11/09	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/10 - 19/11/10	2010 vs 2009 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	257,357	279,097	7.8%
Progressive	180,135	186,550	3.4%
Tipperary	11,154	11,959	6.7%
Connacht	9,809	10,126	3.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>458,455</b>	<b>487,732</b>	<b>6.0%</b>

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 09/11/10 to 19/11/10

	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	9	708	79	19.4	4.52	3.73	1.60	415
CAVAN	22	1,002	46	15.9	4.11	3.69	1.24	320
CLARE	20	1,004	50	14.9	4.51	3.90	1.25	394
CORK STH	254	15,582	61	16.6	4.47	3.83	1.38	331
CORK NTH	271	19,417	72	15.8	4.50	3.90	1.33	293
DONEGAL	9	963	107	15.3	4.46	3.80	1.26	259
DUBLIN	3	146	49	23.6	3.83	3.42	1.71	460
GALWAY	19	1,092	57	18.7	4.23	3.60	1.46	526
KERRY	118	7,266	62	17.2	4.32	3.68	1.38	374
KILDARE	22	1,480	67	20.6	4.48	3.74	1.69	499
KILKENNY	46	3,067	67	14.8	4.42	3.83	1.22	339
LAOIS	37	2,412	65	16.3	4.47	3.87	1.36	424
LEITRIM	4	207	52	17.2	4.09	3.57	1.32	361
LIMERICK	108	7,115	66	16.5	4.34	3.79	1.34	317
LONGFORD	2	79	40	17.7	4.26	3.99	1.46	451
LOUTH	14	1,352	97	18.2	4.15	3.65	1.42	381
MAYO	15	684	46	20.6	4.17	3.77	1.64	302
MEATH	47	4,063	86	19.2	4.17	3.62	1.50	424
MONAGHAN	28	1,481	53	16.2	4.41	3.75	1.32	354
OFFALY	12	951	79	17.8	4.45	3.73	1.46	501
ROSCOMMON	1	66	66	2.6	6.04	4.18	0.27	819
SLIGO	7	235	34	18.7	4.03	3.72	1.45	249
TIPPERARY NTH	22	1,983	90	14.2	4.64	3.91	1.21	419
TIPPERARY STH	43	3,768	88	14.1	4.60	3.97	1.21	326
WATERFORD	49	4,023	82	15.1	4.89	4.11	1.36	337
WESTMEATH	7	429	61	16.6	4.23	3.73	1.32	359
WEXFORD	46	3,235	70	19.8	4.29	3.75	1.59	324
WICKLOW E	18	1,237	69	17.9	3.90	3.57	1.34	336
WICKLOW W	6	551	92	18.9	4.00	3.53	1.42	497
	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
National	1,259	85,598	67	16.9	4.38	3.77	1.38	393

**National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 09/11/10 to 19/11/10.**

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
<b>Munster</b>	885	60,158	68	15.6	4.53	3.89	1.31	349
<b>Leinster</b>	269	19,710	73	18.5	4.26	3.70	1.47	416
<b>Connacht</b>	46	2,284	50	15.6	4.51	3.77	1.29	451
<b>Ulster</b>	59	3,446	58	15.8	4.33	3.75	1.28	311

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