



UPDATE – for period 16th – 20th April 2007

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Beef Open Day Tuesday 1st May** Jim Delaney Farm, Portlaoise, Board Bia Quality Producer.
- ✚ **ICBF Board meeting** on Thursday 3rd May 2007. Comfort Inn Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Annual General Meeting** on Thursday 3rd May at 2.30pm. Comfort Inn Portlaoise.

2 ICBF Board Meeting

The Board met by telephone conference today to confirm acceptance of financial facilities being provided by ICBF's bank.

3 Tully

- ✚ Six written submissions have been received so far.
- ✚ A questionnaire has been sent to bull owners to obtain information on their views about the future of Tully.
- ✚ A meeting will be held next Tuesday to review options for ensuring the supply of high merit beef bulls meeting the health standards required for their use in AI in Ireland
- ✚ A further four bulls were sold this week.
- ✚ Factory buyers looked at the bulls this week and a final decision will be made on 23-4-07.
- ✚ Eight bulls were sold on the 17-4-07 for export to Italy.
- ✚ Payments were posted to bull owners today.

4 International Beef Evaluations

This week Thierry Pabiou from ICBF and Eric Venot from INRA (France) met with Flavio Forabosco and Valentina Palucci in charge of InterBeef at the Interbull center at Upsala in Sweden. The aim of the three days was to hand over the international beef genetic evaluation data management and files exchange to InterBeef. By taking into account the experience that our Interbull colleagues had in the international dairy evaluation, a set of guidelines has been agreed upon regarding the files a country must provide to join InterBeef.

5 Genetic Evaluations

Dairy Genetic evaluations

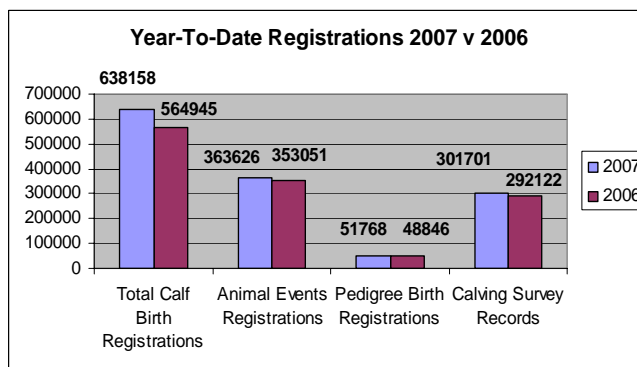
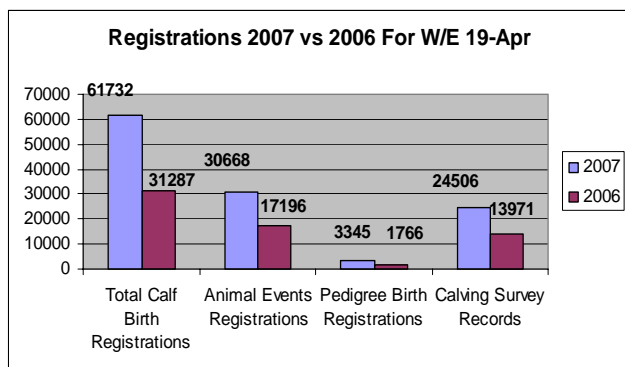
- ✚ Extracts of pedigree files, milk production files and fertility files have been completed for the next evaluation run. Genetic evaluations will commence in the coming week.
- ✚ Transfer of the Dairy CIS evaluation from the Netherlands to Ireland is also in progress.

Beef Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ Extracts of beef performance files for both the next dairy and beef evaluations are underway.
- ✚ ICBF staff were present at Loughrea Mart on Wednesday evening for a Suckler Beef demonstration and information meeting on the Euro-star indexes.

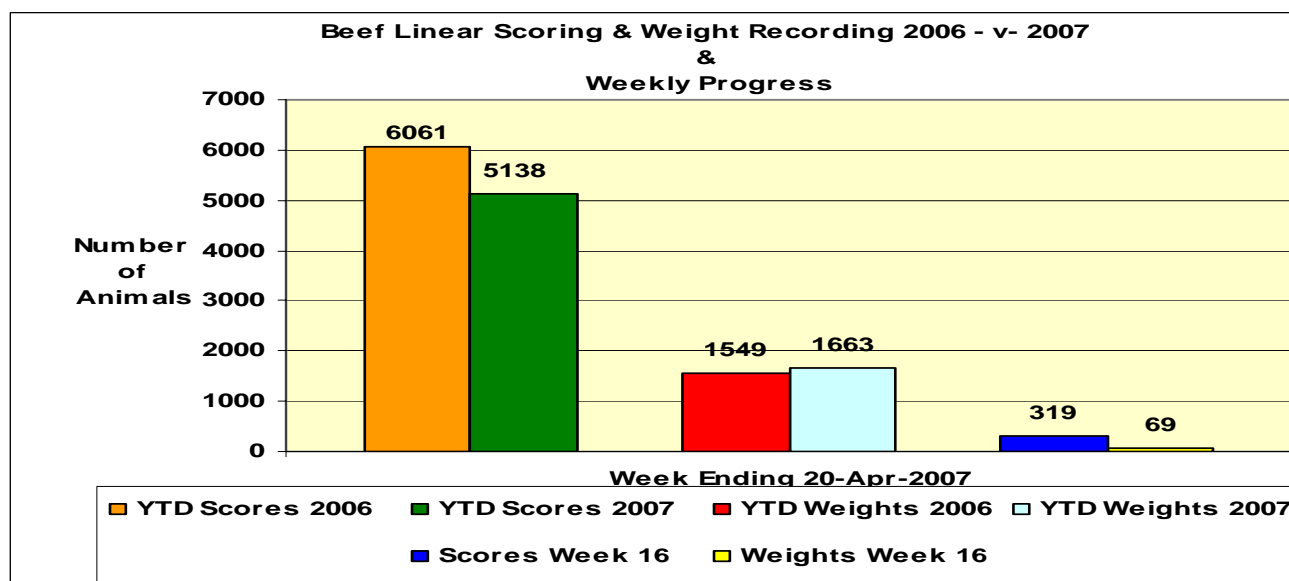


6 Database Update



- ✚ 55,539 inseminations have been received so far in 2007, compared with 16,478 in 2006 for the same period. The volumes of inseminations being recorded on handhelds continue to increase rapidly as the breeding season kicks off in earnest.
- ✚ The use of the Sire Advice program is on-going at the rate of around 100 'Sire Advice runs' per day. Those herds operating on a technician service have had the results of the Sire Advice loaded to the AI handhelds, where the herd owner had indicated that this was to be the case.
- ✚ The new Herdbook front has been released to all herd-books this week. A further iteration of the facility will be issued next week.
- ✚ Details of pedigree animals containing registration errors were issued to all herd-books this week, as agreed at the recent Herdbook meeting.
- ✚ The new season fertility reports are being generated, and are being issued to HerdPlus members. Next weeks update will contain a sample report.
- ✚ Further development on the HerdPlus profiles are being worked on and testing is almost complete. They will be released next week.
- ✚ Some further refinements are being made to the Euro-star catalogue for beef herdbooks this week.

7 Beef Linear Scoring





8 Milk Recording

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 20/04/06	YTD 2007 Cows Recorded 01/01/07 - 20/04/07
Progressive	104,981	106,594
Dairygold	59,070	67,238
Kerry	44,412	46,065
SWS	40,778	42,934
Tipperary	5,578	6,818
Arrabawn	4,613	5,729
Connacht	4,867	5,511
Donegal	486	589
Total	264,785	281,478

Milk Recording Organisation	2007 Herds Recorded Week 13/04/07 - 20/04/07
Progressive	379
Dairygold	340
Kerry	198
SWS	215
Arrabawn	19
Tipperary	60
Connacht	19
Total	1,230

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