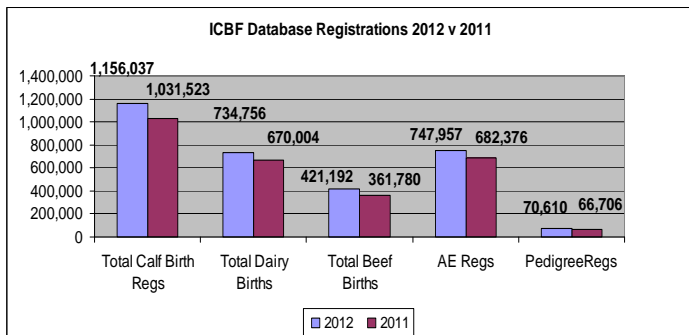
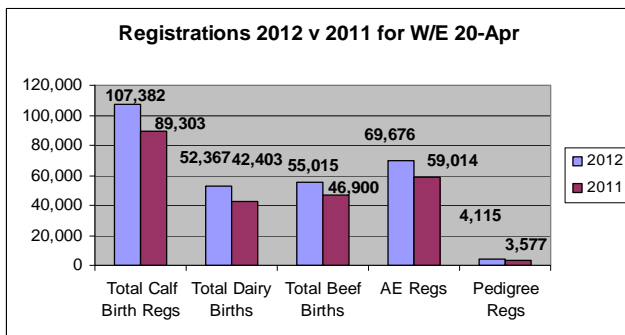


ICBF Weekly Update 20th April 2012

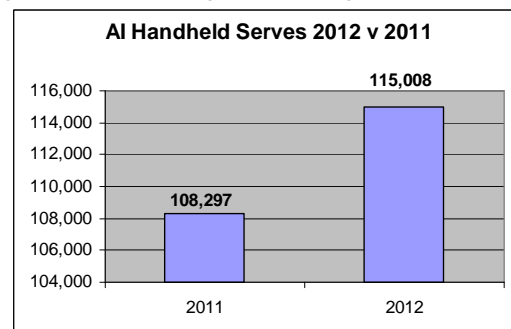
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Breeding Industry Consultation Meeting** – Thursday 26th April, 10:30 to 16:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise. Agenda focused on two items: **Guro-Star Review**, and **GENEIRLAND[®] Beef**.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** - Thursday 3rd May, 10:30 to 12:30, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF AGM** - Thursday 3rd May, 12:30 to 13:30, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICAR 2012 Conference** www.icar2012.ie – Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June, Cork.
- ✚ **Sheep 2012** – Saturday 30th June, Athenry.

2 Database



- ✚ The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- ✚ In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2011 born calves with meal introduced is 607,277 with the number of animals weaned at 534,111.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. Around 550,000 tissue tags for BVD testing have been purchased at this stage. Around 302,000 samples have been returned at this stage, with a 0.60% BVD Virus Positive rate.
- ✚ The final elements of the technical infrastructure are being put together for the weight recording service. The current cell operating out of Tully and the Teagasc/Better Farms weighing cell will have the upgraded technology next week.
- ✚ Further developments for the loading of genotype information to the database is continuing. This process is now nearing completion, and significant progress has been made in the speeding up of loading and extracting genotypes from the database.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2012 compared with 2011.



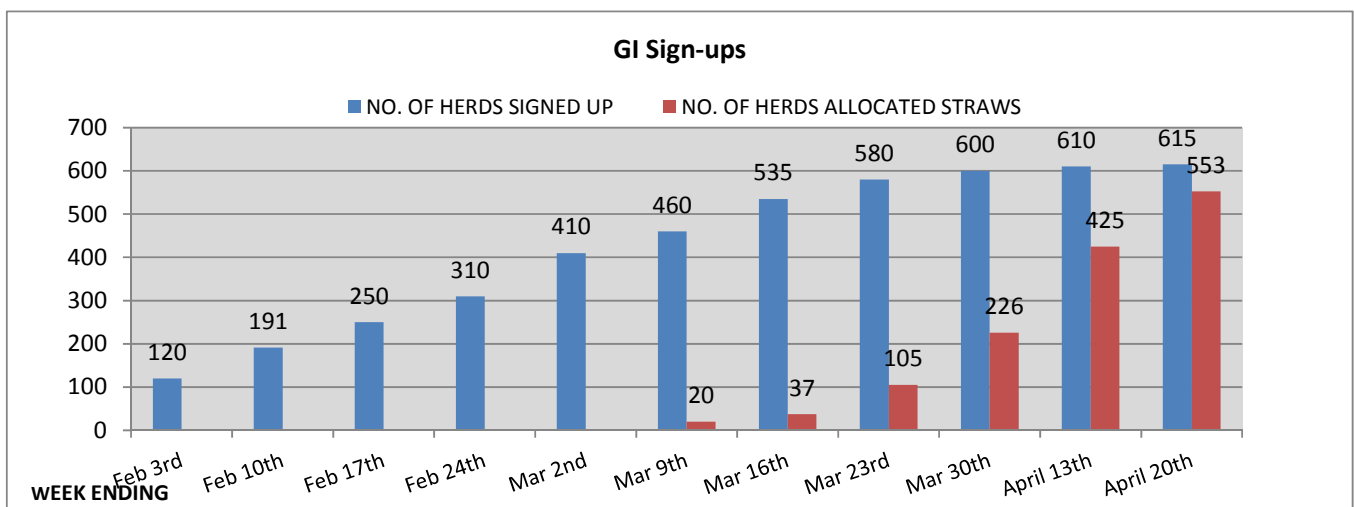
3 Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ New dairy and beef evaluations were released this week. Extra information for some traits is still running and will be updated as soon as possible. There were no changes to the evaluations other than more information was used and correlations between this and the previous evaluation for each of the traits was very high. The next routine evaluation is scheduled for August.

4 GENEIRELAND®

Dairy

- ✚ Allocations are currently on target with straws being packed at least a week ahead of AI start dates.
- ✚ We are awaiting the arrival of a Norwegian Red bull to complete the Mixed Packs.
- ✚ The remainder of the packs will be dispatched as straws become available.
- ✚ Due to a large number of bulls on the test panel this year, straws can still be ordered.
- ✚ Call 1850 600 900 to order.



5 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ This week we travelled to Partry in Co.Mayo to speak with the Mayo/Sligo/Leitrim region Texel breeders. Those present got an update on all developments in our LambPlus program along with an update on the flock book service that we will be offering Texel breeders in 2012.
- ✚ The Texel on-line flock book is now almost ready to go live on the Irish Texel society website. Some final testing is currently taking place to ensure everything is working properly. This will undoubtedly be a great asset to the society going forward and will act as a real showcase for the breed.
- ✚ Information is now flowing onto the sheep Ireland database from LambPlus breeders, our MALP flocks and our CPT flocks. The forty day weights on these MALP & CPT flocks are now being recorded by the Sheep Ireland team. These weights feed into the database instantaneously through the handhelds that we use.
- ✚ We should remind breeders that have not yet submitted their information to do so, as soon as possible. The sooner we have the majority of information on our database, the sooner breeders can really start to use the Euro-Star information to make breeding decisions and plans for the coming ram sale season.

6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 20/04/12						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 20/04/12	No. EDIY Herds YTD 20/04/12	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 20/04/12	No. EDIY Cows YTD 30/03/12	% Cows EDIY
Munster	2,979	688	23%	191,853	49,094	26%
Progressive	1,916	622	32%	141,150	44,856	32%
Tipperary	71	17	24%	5,274	1,407	27%
Total	4,966	1,327	27%	338,277	95,357	28%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2011 Cows Recorded 01/01/11 - 20/04/11	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 20/04/12	2012 vs. 2011 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	178,073	191,853	7.2%
Progressive	126,762	141,150	10.2%
Tipperary	4,939	5,274	6.4%
Total	309,774	338,277	8.4%

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