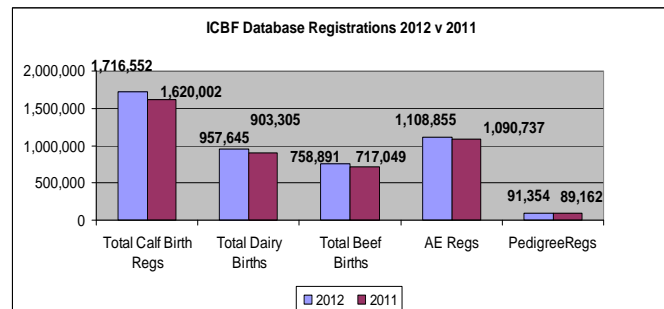
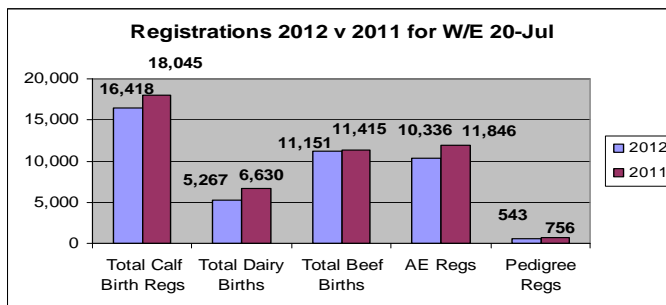


ICBF Weekly Update 20th July 2012

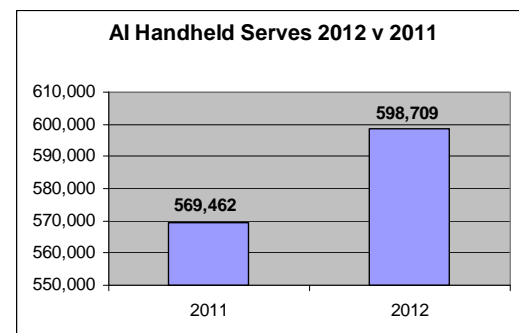
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Breeding Consultation Meeting** - Wednesday 25th July, 10:00 to 17:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Herdbook Technical Meeting** - Wednesday 22nd Aug, 10:30 to 13:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** - Thursday 6th September, 10:30 to 14:00, ICBF, Highfield House, Bandon.
- ✚ **Interim Sheep Board** – Thursday 20th September, 11:00 – 14:00, ICBF, Highfield House, Bandon.

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 633,666 with the number of animals weaned at 569,558.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. Around 575,000 tissue tags for BVD testing have been purchased at this stage. Around 416,000 samples have been returned at this stage, with a 0.61% BVD Virus Positive rate.
- ✚ Final tweaks to the Slaughter report were completed this week and are now being tested.
- ✚ The development around incorporation of the new genomic evaluations for type on the Genomic Evaluation Report is currently being tested.
- ✚ Work continues on the modification of systems to incorporate proposed changes to the Beef Euro Star indexes.
- ✚ Work is continuing on the back-end ICBF web infrastructure with a view to making it more standardised and robust.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2012 compared with 2011.



3 GROW[®]

- ✚ 1312 Pedigree animals were weighed and scored in June (down by 133 from June 2011).
- ✚ 205 Commercial animals were weighed and scored in June (down by 421 from June 2011).

4 Genetic Evaluations

- The extracts for the routine evaluations are currently underway. Evaluations will be done over the next couple of weeks.
- An update on existing research work will be presented at the industry meeting next week.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 20/07/12

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 20/07/12	No. EDIY Herds YTD 20/07/12	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 20/07/12	No. EDIY Cows YTD 20/07/12	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,732	1,086	29%	300,254	93,446	31%
Progressive	2,434	982	40%	215,346	88,468	41%
Tipperary	119	42	35%	9,826	3,212	33%
Total	6,285	2,110	34%	525,426	185,126	35%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2011 Cows Recorded 01/01/11 - 20/07/11	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 20/07/12	2012 vs 2011 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	295,605	300,254	1.5%
Progressive	207,135	215,346	3.8%
Tipperary	12,885	9,826	-31.1%
Total	515,625	525,426	1.9%

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 10/07/12 to 20/07/12.

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	841	66,205	79	22.1	3.89	3.34	1.59	218
Leinster	279	23,005	82	21.6	3.82	3.36	1.55	244
Connacht	90	5,930	66	23.7	3.74	3.27	1.66	233
Ulster	79	5,741	73	22.8	3.75	3.27	1.60	223

6 Sheep Ireland

- Last Friday, July 13th, Sheep Ireland was involved in a day of In-service training for Teagasc sheep advisors.
- We visited the MALP farm of Godfrey Potterton and the CPT farm of Andrew Moloney. Throughout the day there was some good discussion about the current breed improvement programme. Noirin McHugh gave a great

presentation on genetics and the progress being made so far by the Euro Star evaluations. There is currently a 4kg difference in weaning weight being recorded between 1 and 5 star rams and this is a message we need to get out to sheep farmers for the current ram buying season. Teagasc sheep advisors will be critical to educating the wider industry about the benefits of buying rams with evaluations. We would like to thank both Godfrey and Andrew for giving their time and for contributing very strongly to the discussions.

- ✚ The Suffolk premier sale took place on Saturday July 14th. After discussions with the society throughout the year, Euro Star evaluations were displayed within the main sale catalogue. Unfortunately, these evaluations could only be added to the rear of the catalogue due to problems with printing, but it was a promising move none the less. It was evident that people were paying attention to the information, certainly more so than at the same sale in 2011. Awareness is growing; the rate of this growth however needs to be increased. Helping Teagasc sheep advisors gain a deeper understanding of the programme will help considerably.



- ✚ LambPlus recorded rams from the Barrowlands flock of Shaun & Seamus Gahan in advance of the Premier sale last Saturday.

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