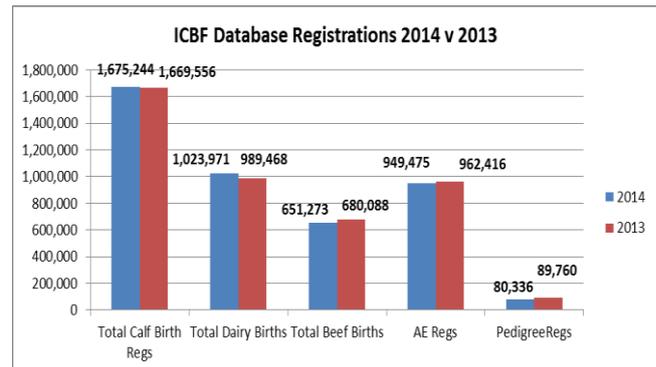
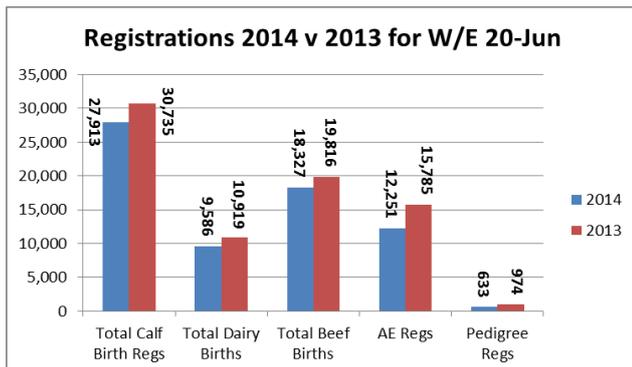


## ICBF Weekly Update 20<sup>th</sup> June 2014

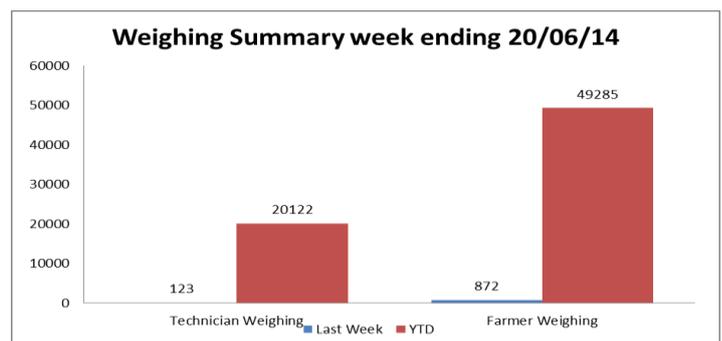
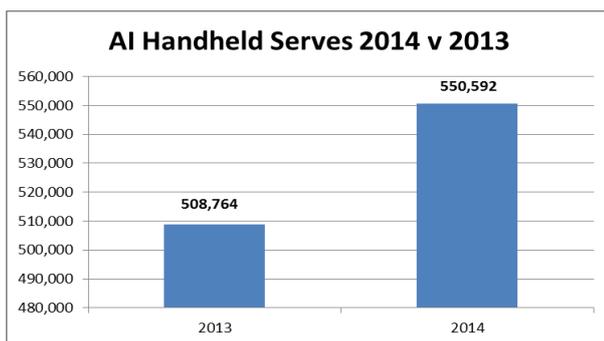
### 1 Important Dates

- + **Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** –Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014, 10:00 to 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise
- + **ICBF Board Meeting** – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014, 10:30am to 13:30pm, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014, 14:00 to 16:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

### 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 1,769,000 results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 33,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012 4.43 million results have now been received.
- + The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
- + This week there were 123 weights received through the technician service and 872 weights recorded by farmers. The graph shows the week and year to date totals.



### 3 Genetic Evaluations

- + Extracts for the next routine evaluations are underway. Evaluations will commence once the extracts are completed.

### 4 Beef Genomics Scheme

- + 113,000 ear tags have now been sent to farms. Another 4000 will delivered towards the end of next week. Just over 100,000 (88%) samples have been returned to Weatherbys to date. Of these approx. 15000

samples have been genotyped to date. The measure of quality of the genotypes (call rate) is 99% on average with only 0.4% of samples below the 90% call rate threshold. This is significantly better than what would be achieved in using hair sampling (3% samples below 90%). The current focus is on genotyping stock bulls as these animals are the most informative for the purposes of the initial research.

## 5 Herd Plus®

- Suckler cow reports have now been sent to all HerdPlus beef customers. This report gives a detailed insight into the performance of each cow in a suckler herd. A new index page has been added to the front of the report which will allow a farmer to quickly scan through his herd. For a more comprehensive look at a cow/cows, a farmer can go to the relevant page indicated on the right hand side. See example of the new index page below below.

Suckler Cow Report Index															
Animal Details						Performance Details					Replacement Index				
Jumbo	Tag	DOB	Main Breed	Sire	Dam	Nbr of Calves	Age 1st Calving	Calv Int. (Days)	Calf - Max Wgt Gain	Number of Carcass Grades	Within Breed	Index	Rel %	Across Breed	Pg
76	IE141461010076	21/04/03	LM (88%)	EPN	90042	9	28mts	382	1.72	4U,3R	*****	€214	50%	*****	1
87	IE141461040087	21/05/04	SI (50%)	MWN	63305	8	35mts	360	1.73	2U	**	€98	44%	***	2
103	IE141461030103	03/12/05	SI (50%)	HKG	90042	6	28mts	425	1.59	4U,1R	*****	€208	44%	*****	3
104	IE141461040104	02/01/06	SI (50%)	90083	90075	8	27mts	357	1.44	1U,2R	*	€56	37%	**	4
106	IE141461060106	22/04/06	LM (50%)	MBU	63305	7	29mts	382	1.56	2U,1R	**	€80	43%	**	5
111	IE141461030111	26/03/07	LM (50%)	HGR	63305	5	29mts	395	1.32	1U	*	€55	37%	**	6
123	IE141461070123	22/03/08	LM (50%)	HGR	40087	4	29mts	422	1.36		***	€126	42%	***	7
124	IE141461080124	23/03/08	LM (50%)	MBU	40104	5	29mts	371	1.46	2U	**	€94	40%	**	8
130	IE141461060130	29/03/08	SA (50%)	RIO	40062	4	29mts	365	1.59		*****	€171	36%	*****	9
137	IE141461040137	25/02/09	SI (75%)	HKG	40079	3	30mts	365	1.79	1U	*****	€161	39%	*****	10
154	IE141461050154	27/02/10	LM (50%)	EPN	40087	3	24mts	342	1.72	2U	***	€119	44%	***	11
157	IE141461080157	25/03/10	LM (50%)	EPN	80090	2	29mts	385	1.45	1U	**	€103	38%	**	12
163	IE141461060163	19/08/10	SI (63%)	SVJ	60130	2	28mts	379	1.22		*****	€137	36%	*****	13
173	IE141461080173	09/03/11	SI (50%)	SEV	20102	1	30mts		1.06		*****	€162	34%	*****	14
174	IE141461090174	11/03/11	CH (50%)	CF61	40079	1	30mts		1.34		*	€50	33%	**	15
177	IE141461030177	15/08/11	LM (69%)	TON	40145	1	29mts				**	€96	35%	**	16
178	IE141461040178	15/08/11	SI (63%)	IS4	60130	1	29mts				*****	€194	34%	*****	17
182	IE141461090182	01/12/11	SI (63%)	SEV	70123	1	26mts				*****	€176	33%	*****	18
185	IE141461030185	26/01/12	LM (50%)	CWI	40104	1	24mts				*****	€138	33%	*****	19

- The breeding season is in full swing on many dairy and beef farms at the moment. For farmers doing DIY AI or whose AI technicians are not on the handheld service please ensure that you submit your serves online either through your HerdPlus login or farm software package. This data is of vital importance to genetic evaluations but also to the reports which we provide to farmers throughout the year. The screen also allows for the recording of stock bull serves.
- For farmers that are submitting serves, fertility reports can be generated throughout the breeding season to monitor fertility. The first 3 weeks of breeding have now passed on many dairy farms so now is a good time to generate a report. A report can be generated through the fertility section in your HerdPlus login. Prior to generating a report, ensure that you have marked for culling any animals which you do not intend to breed and that all serves have been recorded. It is important to do this to ensure that your submission rates are accurate.
- Beef farmers participating in the beef data programme are reminded to record any outstanding data on 2013 born calves before 30<sup>th</sup> June. This data can be recorded on postal forms, on the ICBF website or through your farm software package.
- Beef 2014 took place at Teagasc Grange on Weds last the 18<sup>th</sup> June. It was a huge success with a reported attendance of 8,500 people. Weather conditions were also ideal, possibly too ideal and at a balmy 25<sup>o</sup>C, shorts, sunglasses and ice-creams were the order of the day. ICBF's participation on the day was in the form of a GENE IRELAND themed marquee. 12 breed societies, 2 AI companies and HerdPlus were represented in the marquee. Farmers got to see first-hand all of the latest development in the GENE IRELAND programme and its overall goal which is to "Breed Profitable Suckler Cows". There was a barbecue outside which was serving free samples of steak from a selection of GENE IRELAND sired progeny. This proved a great attraction as the full details of the animal were displayed on a board. The culinary delights did not end

there as there was also a meat eating survey taking place inside the tent. Each participant in this survey received a sample of striploin steak from animals that scored both high and low on meat eating quality. They were then asked to score each of the two samples on juiciness, tenderness and overall flavour. The data from this survey will be analysed in due course. A big thank you to everybody that helped to make the day a huge success. *attached please see more photographs.*



## 6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 20/06/14

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 20/06/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 20/06/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 20/06/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 20/06/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,809	1,129	30%	315,315	99,244	31%
Progressive	2,451	1,035	42%	223,653	94,509	42%
Tipperary	115	44	38%	9,669	3,719	38%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,375</b>	<b>2,208</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>548,637</b>	<b>197,472</b>	<b>36%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 20/06/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 20/06/14	2014 vs 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	296,702	315,315	5.9%
Progressive	215,723	223,653	3.5%
Tipperary	9,435	9,669	2.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>512,425</b>	<b>548,637</b>	<b>6.6%</b>

## 7 GROW<sup>®</sup>

- + 392 Pedigree animals were scored in May.
- + This is up by 196 animals from May 2013.
- + 624 Pedigrees were weighed in May.
- + This is up by 115 animals from May 2013.
- + These totals do not include animals scored as part of the Gene Ireland Maternal Bull Breeding visit.

## 8 Sheep Ireland

### €uro-Star Evaluations

- ✚ The new €uro-Star evaluations are now available online to each individual LambPlus breeder through their personal Sheep Ireland login accounts. These evaluations will be updated weekly as new information enters the database such as weights & scanning information however the majority of the data for 2014 is now on the database. For this reason we try to send out the €uro-Star profiles to the paper recording LambPlus breeders when as much of the information is on the database as possible, while still sending the report early enough so they can select animals for retention or sale. We have been sending these reports by request until this point. If any breeder needs help accessing their €uro-Stars online (even the paper LambPlus recorders) please do not hesitate to get in touch with us on 1850 601 901.

### STAP Events

- ✚ As we start to approach ram sale season again, farmers focus will also be starting to shift to ram selection for the year ahead, and this is reflected in the STAP events that are being organised around the country with Sheep Ireland being requested to attend quite a number. Sheep Ireland will endeavour to attend as many STAP meetings that we can, however the main focus will be on meeting with several groups at once.
- ✚ The first STAP meeting we attended was on the farm of Francis Lyons from Ballinasloe Galway, a pedigree Beltex and Zwartbles breeder. The STAP meeting coincided with the day Francis was having his lambs scanned for muscle and fat depth which was a great demonstration for both the other pedigree Beltex and Zwartbles breeders and the three groups of STAP farmers that were in attendance. This demonstrated the level of detail and accuracy that is collected on a flock that chooses to have their lambs scanned for muscle and fat depth which can only help to invoke more confidence in the €uro-Star indexes.
- ✚ We will also be attending a STAP event in Donegal Mart on Tuesday night which begins at 7:30pm. These are great events for Sheep Ireland to attend as it gives us a great chance to connect with a large number of our target farmers at once and to explain to them the benefits of using the €uro-Star indexes as a tool to enabling them to make the best breeding decision when selecting which rams to use in their flocks for the years ahead.

### CPT

- ✚ The weaning weights have been collected from Andrew Maloney's flock with lambs that are almost fit for slaughter also being scanned for muscle and fat depth, in the same way some of the LambPlus flocks are also recording. Dag scores and foot (lameness) scores were also recorded on the day. This data is invaluable in developing new novel traits like worm resistance and foot rot resistance in the future.

**Sean Coughlan** Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 872903121, Email [scoughlan@icbf.com](mailto:scoughlan@icbf.com), **Registered Office:** Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Society Ltd trading as "ICBF", Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 4914R, Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 1893 to 1978. Web: [www.icbf.com](http://www.icbf.com).

**Registered Office:** Sheep Database Ltd trading as "Sheep Ireland". Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 465004, Companies Acts 1963 to 2006. Web: [www.sheep.ie](http://www.sheep.ie).

## National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 11-JUN-2014 To 20-JUN-2014

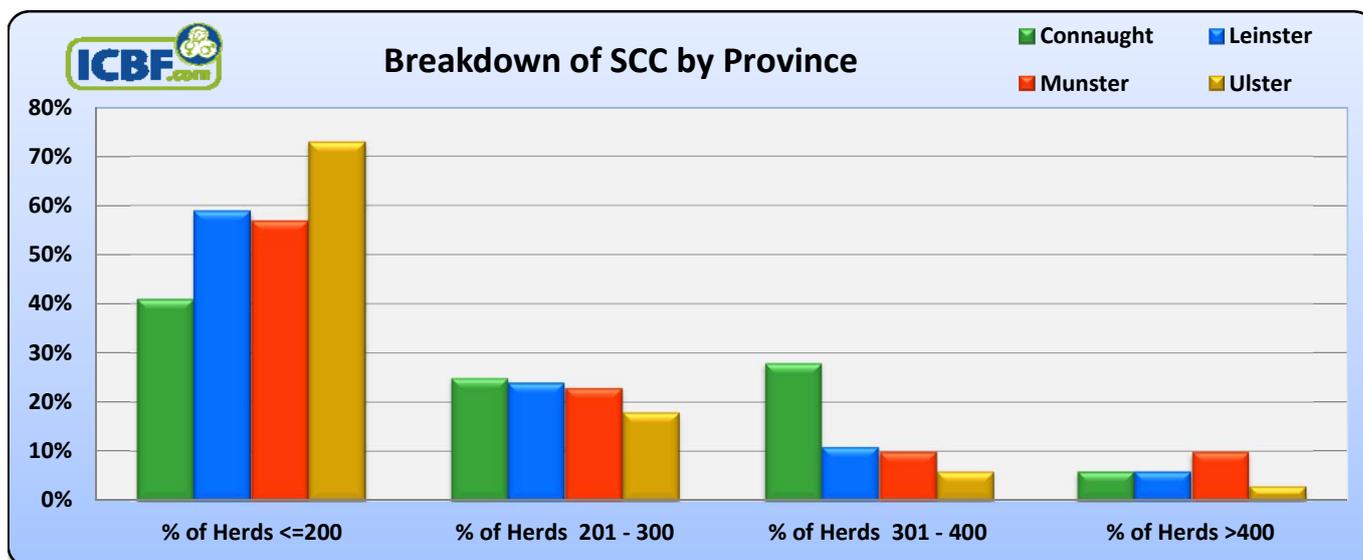
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	32	2,382	74	25.0	3.67	3.37	1.75	222
Leinster	178	14,651	82	24.2	3.73	3.38	1.72	176
Munster	618	51,363	83	25.0	3.71	3.39	1.77	185
Ulster	33	2,091	63	27.2	3.54	3.28	1.84	148
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>70,487</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>3.71</b>	<b>3.38</b>	<b>1.76</b>	<b>183</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 11-JUN-2014 To 20-JUN-2014

ICBF	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	32	2,382	74	41%	25%	28%	6%	222
Leinster	178	14,651	82	59%	24%	11%	6%	176
Munster	618	51,363	83	57%	23%	10%	10%	185
Ulster	33	2,091	63	73%	18%	6%	3%	148
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>70,487</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>183</b>

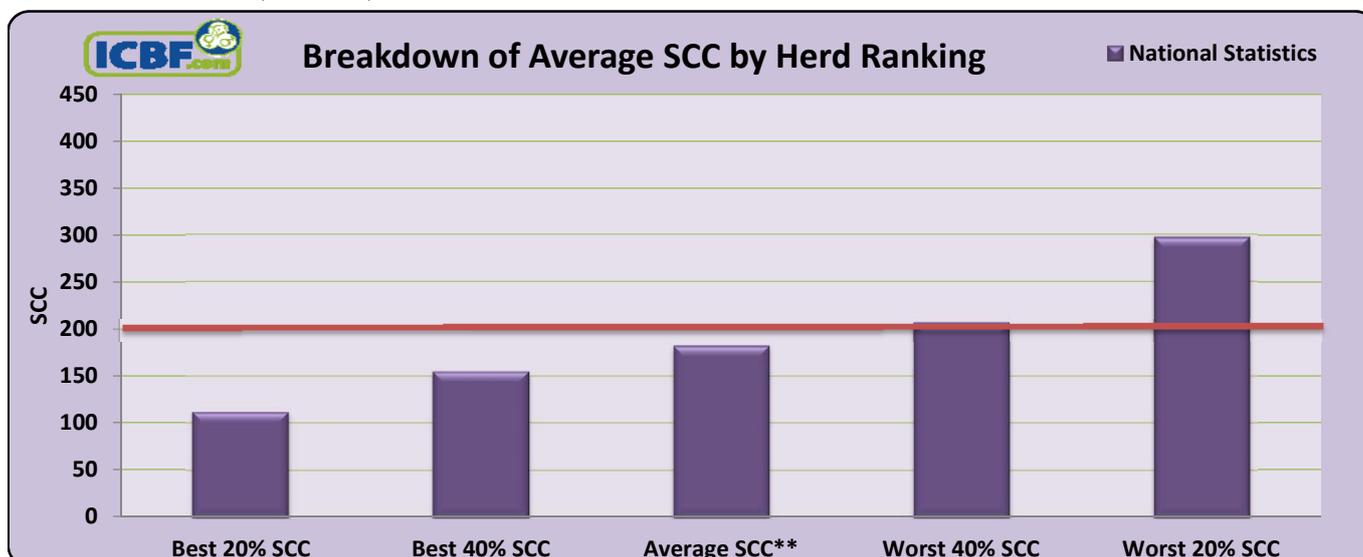
\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



## % Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 11-JUN-2014 To 20-JUN-2014

ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	32	2,382	74	142	198	226	252	337
Leinster	178	14,651	82	110	147	173	208	283
Munster	618	51,363	83	113	158	184	206	299
Ulster	33	2,091	63	94	125	151	164	267
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>70,487</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>297</b>

\*\* Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)



Beef 2014 – Gene Ireland Marquee



Farmers sampling steak from Gene Ireland sired progeny



Steaks were barbequed throughout the day by staff from 'Michael Devines Catering Company from Drogheda



The Gene Ireland Marquee was busy throughout the day



UCD Research Students from Lyons Estate enjoying the day  
L-R: Philip Brady, Mick Walsh, Fiona McGovern, Camille Lesacher, Chloe Meilo.



Andrew Moloney and Paul Sykes explaining the Gene Ireland Limousin program.



Willie Branagan & Larry Feeney promoting the Hereford Maternal program



Richard Smith (Irish Angus) & John Tait (Aberdeen Angus) on the Angus Stand in the Gene Ireland Marquee.



Paul Sykes & Doreen Corridan at the Limousin stand – Beef 2014.



The Munster & Progressive Genetics stand at Beef 2014



Nevan McKiernan from the Irish Charolais Society explaining the Gene Ireland program to a Charolais breeder.



Irish Charolais Society Secretary – Nuala Hourihane at Beef 2014



Mary Duggan, secretary of the Irish Belgian Blue Society busy at Beef 2014



Irish Simmental Society Secretary Peadar Glennon, supported by John Fortune, Meryl Gillespie (Society Secretary) & Joe Fortune from the Irish Society President Tom Maloney, deep in discussion with a farmer at Beef 2014

Salers Society at Beef 2014

Alan Rigney (Gene Ireland Herd Liaison Officer), Caitriona Scanlan & Margaret Browne (ICBF) at Beef 2014



Irish Parthenaise Society Secretary Laurie Harney & friends at Beef 2014

ICBF Team members at Beef 2014: L-R Dan O'Riordan, Lisa Ring and Dan O'Riordan, Edana Keavney, Eamon Finnerty, Uchenna Uwechue & Finbar Twomey enjoying Beef 2014



Paschal Coughlan (ICBF) manning the 'menu' at the Gene Ireland Barbeque at Beef 2014. The Tag number, breeder, breed and sire details of each animal was posted up as each steak was being served