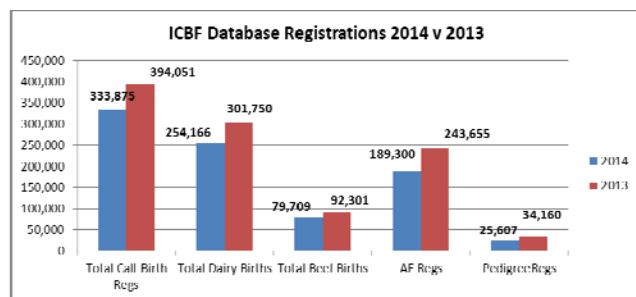
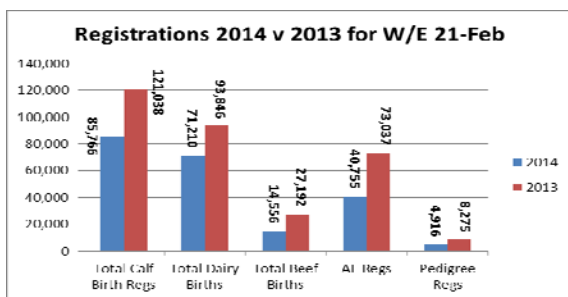


ICBF Weekly Update 21st February 2014

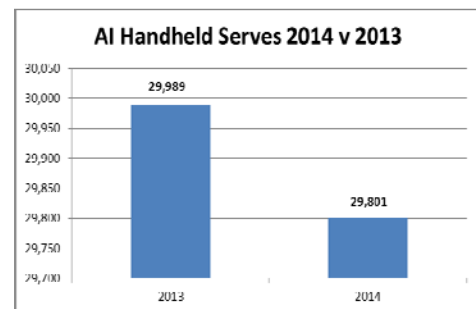
1 Important Dates

- ICBF Audit & Finance Sub Committee meeting** – Thursday 13th March, 10:00 to 13:30, Horse & Jockey.
- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 27th March 2014, 10:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ICBF Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 27th March 2014, 14:00 to 17:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

2 Database

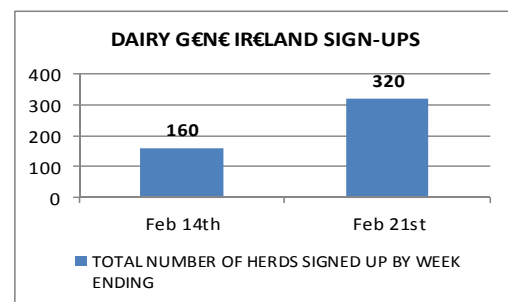


- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 380,000 results received since January 1st, of which 100,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 3.04 million results have now been received.
- The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.



3 GENÉIRELAND[®] Dairy

- Herd-owners continue to sign-up to the programme by post and phone.
- The Holstein-Friesian panel consists of 44 potential bulls with an average EBI of €296.
- There are 3 Friesians, 4 Jerseys and 8 Crossbred Jerseys on the panel to date.
- Call **1850 600 900** to order.



4 Genetic Evaluations

- Extracts have commenced ahead of the upcoming April routine evaluation update. Evaluations for milk production, calving, and fertility will commence next week for submission to Interbull routine run.

- Requests for foreign breeding value updates for beef sires have been circulated to foreign evaluation centres for incorporation into the beef performance evaluation.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 21/02/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 21/02/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 21/02/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 21/02/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 21/02/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	552	26	5%	30,246	2,255	7%
Progressive	912	173	19%	55,812	11,418	20%
Tipperary	9	2	22%	454	117	26%
Total	1,473	201	14%	86,512	13,790	16%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 21/02/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 21/02/14	2014 vs 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	35,440	30,246	-17.2%
Progressive	61,343	55,812	-9.9%
Tipperary	541	454	-19.2%
Total	96,783	86,512	-11.9%

Please see milk recording stats attached.

6 Sheep Ireland

- The number of lambs being entered on the Sheep Ireland database has exceeded the 1500 mark this week – this is well ahead of where we were this time last season and this bodes well for what will hopefully be our best performance recording season yet.
- Last Monday we travelled to Westport to meet with our MALP flocks in that area. All participants were present and there was some great discussion. 2013 was a big year for these West MALP flocks, we introduced the TGM software packages across all the flocks, it was the first year of tagging lambs at birth, and the introduction of artificial insemination in the past mating season. These were all major changes to the previous MALP programme, but all changes were embraced in a hugely enthusiastic manner by the farmers involved.



Above is one of the Mayo Connemara rams used as an A.I. sire in MALP (West)

- ✚ The flocks have recently concluded pregnancy scanning so the results of our AI campaign are now known. The objective of the AI programme was to increase the level of linkage across all of the flocks and it has been a major success. If anything, it has been too successful as the farmers have recorded a high level of twin and triplet bearing ewes that were artificially inseminated. This is where the value of carrying out the pregnancy scan pays dividends. These twin and triplet ewes will now be segregated from the main flock and given a little bit of special treatment in the run-up to lambing. The farmers can now put plans in place to prepare for carrying out some lamb adoptions onto single bearing ewes. If it is decided to organise a project similar to this in future involving Blackface sheep, we can perhaps reassess the level of PMSG hormone used in advance of insemination.

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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.

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.

National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 12-FEB-2014 To 21-FEB-2014

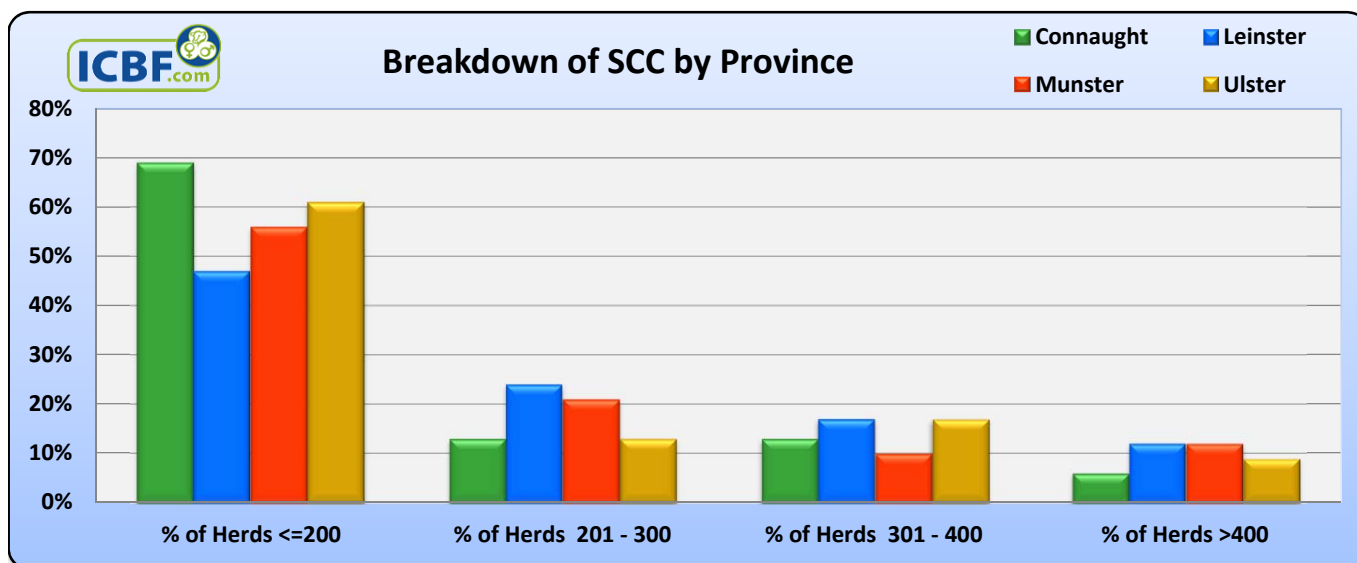
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	16	627	39	23.7	3.90	3.15	1.68	173
Leinster	110	6,835	62	23.2	4.17	3.38	1.75	208
Munster	155	8,625	56	24.0	4.21	3.33	1.80	198
Ulster	23	1,043	45	24.0	3.89	3.29	1.72	191
National Statistics	304	17,130	56	23.7	4.16	3.33	1.77	200

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 12-FEB-2014 To 21-FEB-2014

ICBF.com	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	16	627	39	69%	13%	13%	6%	173
Leinster	110	6,835	62	47%	24%	17%	12%	208
Munster	155	8,625	56	56%	21%	10%	12%	198
Ulster	23	1,043	45	61%	13%	17%	9%	191
National Statistics	304	17,130	56	54%	21%	13%	12%	200

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 12-FEB-2014 To 21-FEB-2014

ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	16	627	39	113	177	186	200	277
Leinster	110	6,835	62	116	178	219	265	350
Munster	155	8,625	56	122	165	187	218	310
Ulster	23	1,043	45	108	162	183	197	317
National Statistics	304	17,130	56	119	170	191	234	324

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

