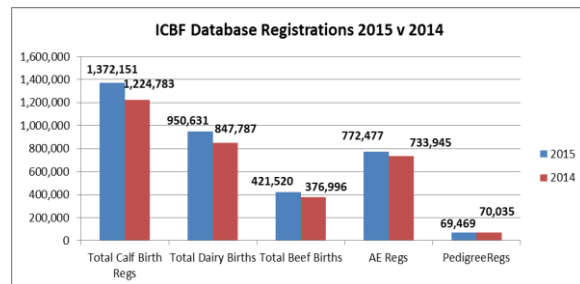
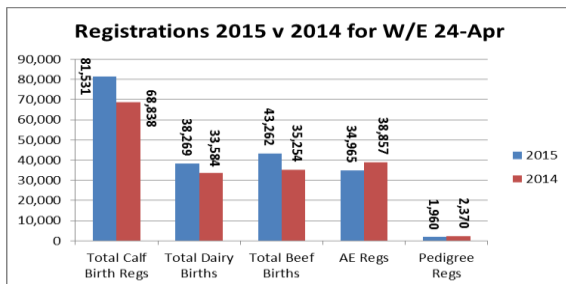


## ICBF Weekly Update 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015

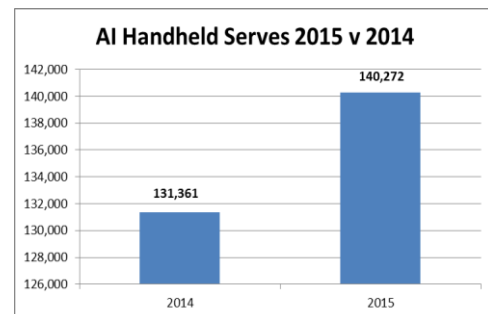
### 1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Next ICBF Board Meeting** – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015, 10:30 to 12:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF AGM** – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 12:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting & AGM** – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 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 1.4 million results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 96,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 6.35 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2014 compared with 2015.



### 3 Herd Plus®

#### Registering Calves


- ✚ As peak Spring calving has now passed on many dairy and beef farms around the country, it is important that farmers do not lose sight of the importance of recording important breeding data. ICBF acknowledges that Spring can be a busy and stressful time for farmers with an endless list of tasks to be done. However, ensuring that data (namely sires and calving ease) is recorded comprehensively and accurately is vital, not only to the work that ICBF does, but also to the development of our Agri-food industry going forward.
- ✚ Better data recording leads to more accurate genetic indexes. This will in turn lead to more informed breeding decisions which will leave more profitable stock on farms and increase output at both farm and processor levels. For this reason, people across the industry that find themselves in regular contact with farmers e.g. agri advisors, breed society representatives, AI company reps & technicians etc. need to constantly stress the importance of recording basic breeding information when registering calves.
- ✚ Any farmers that still register calves on the white cards which come with the tags, should be encouraged to switch to an animal events book or, where possible, to register calves online through [www.agfood.ie](http://www.agfood.ie) or via farm software. The animal events book and online methods allow for much more comprehensive data recording at calf registration. Animal events books can be ordered by calling **1850 625 626**. Online registration can be set up by going to the Department of Agriculture & Food website ([www.agfood.ie](http://www.agfood.ie)) or by contacting your farm software provider.

## Dairy Breeding Charts

- All HerdPlus Dairy Breeding charts have been posted. For any queries call HerdPlus on **1850 600 900** or **023 882 0452**.

### Recording Heats & Serves on ICBF.com

Use our new user friendly screens to record heats and serves



**To Record a Heat**

- Find the cow you wish to record.
- Click in the date column. The calendar will appear. Select the date the cow was in heat.
- Click Save. A heat event for the cow has been created!

**To Record a Serve**

- Find the cow you wish to record.
- Click in the date column. The calendar will appear. Select the date the cow was in heat.
- Click in the Treatment column A treatment must be selected.

*Note: For stock bull serves and conventional straws (non sexed) the treatment selected will always be Non Sexed.*

The majority of sexed straws available will be sexed 90% female. Check with your AI company if you are in doubt.

- Click in the bull used column. Enter an AI code or tag number (stock bull). The sire check column will confirm the bull code/tag is valid.
- Click Save. A serve event for the cow has been created!

Remember: Heats and serves can also be recorded via farm software & animal events. If are on the AI technician service & your AI technician has a handheld, AI inseminations will be sent to ICBF automatically.

**HerdPlus**  
Profit through Science

## Beef Data Programme 2014

- Farmers are reminded to input any missing data that is required for the 2014 BDP scheme. This data can be recorded through the ICBF website, farm software packages or on paper forms. The deadline for recording information for calves born before November is the 30<sup>th</sup> April. The deadline for calves born in November and December is when the calf reaches 6 months of age.

## 4 GENE IRELAND<sup>®</sup> Beef

- Sign Ups are continuing for the Spring 2015 Beef programme.
- 355 herds taking a total of 5680 straws have joined so far.
- The average order is 16 straws per herd.
- The catalogue is available to view on the ICBF website.
- To learn more or to order straws please phone **1850 600 900**.
- Approximate total straws ordered to date for the remaining bulls are in **Table 1**.

Table 1. List of Bulls currently on-test			
Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws Ordered
JJC	Cairnmor John	AA	400
JBS	Steil Jacob	AA	415
VEZ	Balinclea Iveco	AU	475
SGA	Scaughmolin G Mail	BA	405
LJE	Lislea Hermes	BA	170
OZR	Rosemount Gar	BB	205
CH2000	Coom Indurain	CH	300
PDR	Dereskit Improver	CH	185
HHJ	Heracles	CH	265
DBF	Dereskit Invincible	CH	235
LM2014	Ewdenvale Ivor	LM	180
LM2010	Raffertys Immanuel	LM	325
ZYH	Alamira Harry	PT	420
ZKY	Kyle Herd Ivan	PT	195
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	190
EMS	Doon Erasmus	SH	280
PPA	Polar Edinson	SI	325
KJG	Knoackane Dag	SI	300
ETP	Curaheen Evolution P	SI	190
AHC	Auroch Deuter PP	SI	250

## 5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 24/04/15						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 24/04/15	No. EDIY Herds YTD 24/04/15	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 24/04/15	No. EDIY Cows YTD 24/04/15	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,101	815	26%	234,205	69,178	30%
Progressive	1,857	637	34%	155,797	54,787	35%
Tipperary	77	23	30%	5,894	1,837	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,035</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>395,896</b>	<b>125,802</b>	<b>32%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 24/04/14	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15 - 24/04/15	2015 vs. 2014 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	200,420	234,205	14.4%
Progressive	150,758	155,797	3.2%
Tipperary	5,666	5,894	3.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>356,844</b>	<b>395,896</b>	<b>9.9%</b>

## 6 Sheep Ireland

### LambPlus data deadline

✚ We are in the final week for submitting lambing data with the deadline of April 30<sup>th</sup> only 6 days away. As a result the office has been very busy with queries in recent days, however, the quality of the data seems to be of a higher standard upon initial review compared to years gone by. As each year passes breeders become more familiar with the requirements of LambPlus and this is starting to be reflected in the data being submitted. We would urge any breeders that have not submitted any lambing data as of yet either via the website or on paper to do so as soon as possible, in case any issue arises and therefore giving everyone time to rectify them before the deadline.

Don't Miss the  
**DEADLINE!**

✚ We would also like to remind breeders about removing sheep from their *Flock Inventory's* that are no longer on the farm. This will result in a better DQI and a flock that is much easier to manage for the breeder as there will be less sheep to filter through to find the one you require.

### Lamb weight recording

✚ Many pedigree ram breeders have already submitted their 40 day lamb weights via our new batch weight recording screens. A lot of lambs are now approaching the ideal age for the weaning weight (approximately 100 days). Again breeders are reminded to collect this weight from lambs within the time frame of between 60 and 120 days of age. For more information click [here](#).

### STAP

✚ This week marked the start of STAP 2015 for Sheep Ireland with the first group STAP meeting of the year. On Tuesday night Shane Randles gave a presentation to two STAP groups organised by Tony Murphy about the benefits of using Euro-Stars when selecting a breeding ram. The STAP scheme was a great success in 2013 & 2014 and the opportunity to speak to so many farmers at both large and small meetings is having a huge effect on the awareness of the Sheep Ireland Euro-Stars among commercial sheep farmers.

**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, 15-APR-2015 To 24-APR-2015

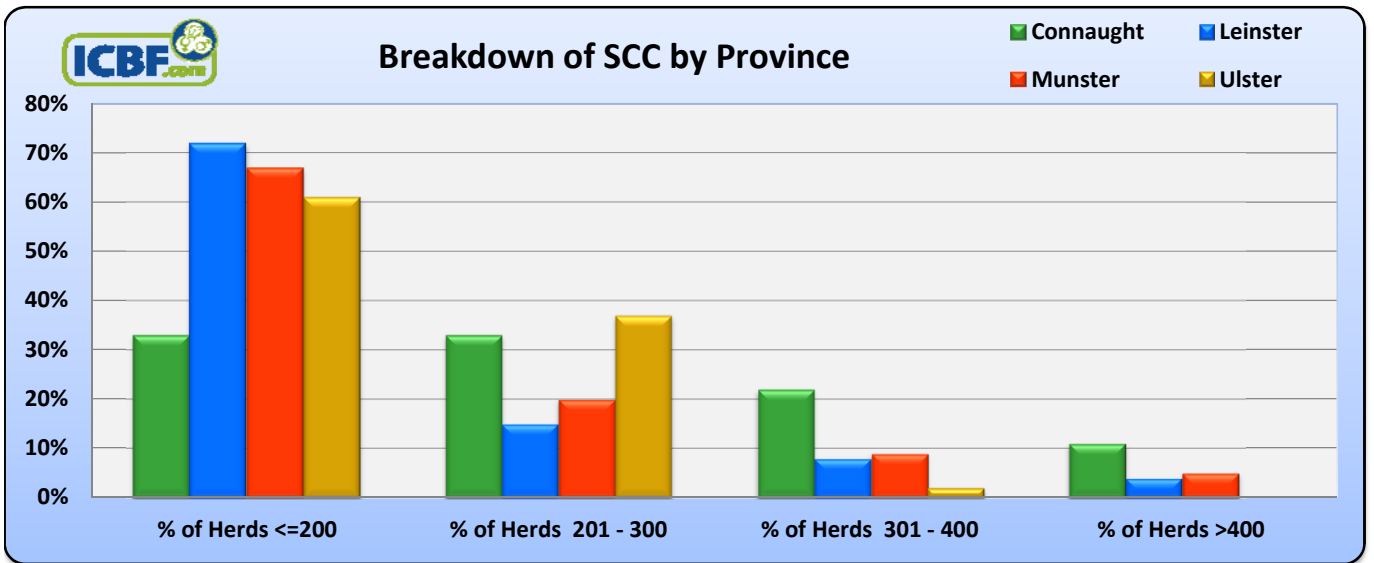
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	9	433	48	27.4	3.81	3.33	1.96	275
Leinster	170	15,710	92	27.3	3.77	3.41	1.96	143
Munster	550	45,984	84	28.3	3.77	3.41	2.03	159
Ulster	41	2,562	62	27.7	3.64	3.33	1.94	161
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>64,689</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>3.77</b>	<b>3.40</b>	<b>2.01</b>	<b>156</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 15-APR-2015 To 24-APR-2015

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	9	433	48	33%	33%	22%	11%	275
Leinster	170	15,710	92	72%	15%	8%	4%	143
Munster	550	45,984	84	67%	20%	9%	5%	159
Ulster	41	2,562	62	61%	37%	2%	0%	161
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>64,689</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>67%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>156</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 15-APR-2015 To 24-APR-2015								
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	9	433	48	169	254	269	284	362
Leinster	170	15,710	92	92	123	135	160	245
Munster	550	45,984	84	102	131	153	178	258
Ulster	41	2,562	62	103	135	169	188	256
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>64,689</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>257</b>

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

