


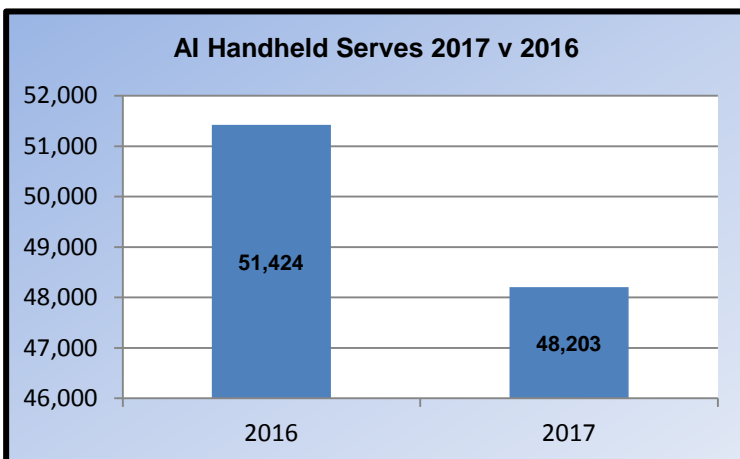
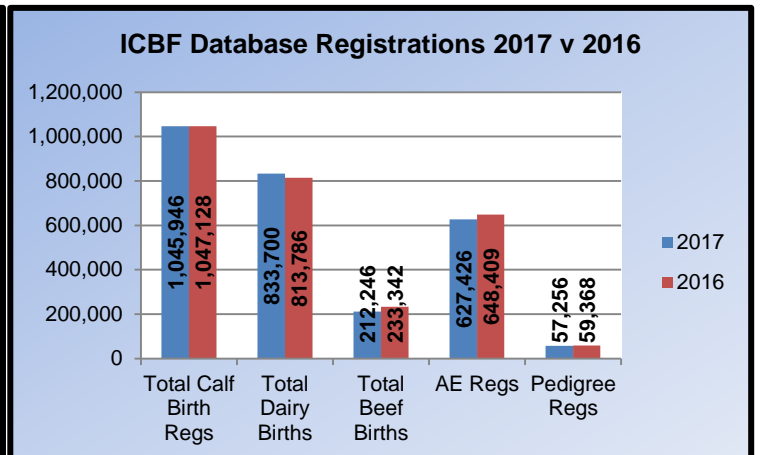
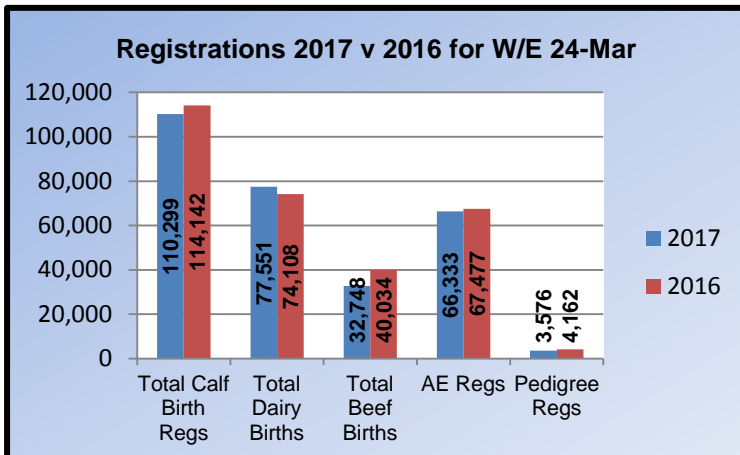





## ICBF Weekly Update 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017

### 1 Important Dates




-  **Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 14:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
-  **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 14:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
-  **ICBF Board Meeting** – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise. (*Please note change of date*)

### 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 1,033,871 results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 99,988 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 10,564,116 results have now been received.
-  The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2017 compared with 2016.

### 3 Herd Plus®

-  Ever wondered how we calculate the Euro-Star Replacement and Terminal indexes? Click [here](#) for more details.
-  Almost 90% of beef calves born in Ireland come from 5 breeds of Dam: Charolais, Limousin, Angus, Hereford and Simmental. Click [here](#) for more details.
-  ICBF HerdPlus has added a new profile screen to complement the existing milk recording screens on offer. – Click [here](#) for more.



- The latest HerdPlus Suckler Cow Reports have been generated and are now available online. A number of useful updates have been made to the report for Spring 2017. Click here for further details.
- The first calves from the Spring 2016 Gene Ireland beef bulls are currently being born on farms. If you have any photos of Gene Ireland progeny that you would like to share with us, please email them to query@icbf.com.



#### 4 GENE IRELAND® Beef

- Sign-ups are continuing for the GI beef programme.
- 73 herds taking a total of 1275 straws have joined so far.
- The average order is 17 straws per herd.
- Details on the bulls available can be viewed on the ICBF website.
- The GI Panel flyer was posted to AI users this week.
- To learn more or to order straws please telephone **023 8820452**.

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Replacement Index	Across Breed Stars	Total Straws Ordered
SH2361	Doon Gladiator	SH	€144	5	370
SI4083	Clonagh Frosty King	SI	€136	5	0
LM4063	Ampertaine lfor	LM	€132	5	420
SI2367	Barnattin George 2	SI	€126	5	325
SA2366	Carrentubber Pinocchio	SA	€122	5	205
AA4086	Marianhill L Pappa	AA	€114	5	85
CH4082	Firoda Jason	CH	€112	5	220
SI2362	Dermotstown Gigantasaurus	SI	€105	5	335
HE2359	Arlinstown Special 13th	HE	€105	5	245
SH4209	Stoneyroyd Halcyon Matrix P	SH	€101	5	0
CH4090	Jalabert	CH	€99	5	125
BA2357	Terelton Isaac	BA	€94	5	270
CH2363	Dolland Jefferson	CH	€91	4	95
LJE	Lislea Hermes	BA	€88	4	210
PT2356	Macgowan Herd Juno	PT	€81	4	260
PDR	Dereskit Improver	CH	€76	4	415

- Approximate total straws ordered to date for the bulls are detailed in graph above.

#### 5 Milk Recording

##### National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 24/03/17

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 24/03/17	No. EDIY Herds YTD 24/03/17	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 24/03/17	No. EDIY Cows YTD 24/03/17	% Cows EDIY
Munster	1,562	209	13%	110,595	17,873	16%
Progressive	1,038	238	23%	85,184	20,770	24%
Tipperary	14	3	21%	915	196	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,614</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>196,694</b>	<b>38,839</b>	<b>20%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 24/03/16	YTD 2017 Cows Recorded 01/01/17- 24/03/17	2017 vs 2016 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	115,357	110,595	-4.1%
Progressive	89,179	85,184	-4.5%
Tipperary	821	915	11.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>205,357</b>	<b>196,694</b>	<b>-4.2%</b>

## 6 Sheep Ireland

### LambPlus Data Recording

- The end of April is the deadline by which pedigree ram breeders must enter their flocks lambing data onto the Sheep Ireland database. Any lambs entered after this date will not receive genetic evaluations in 2017, but will be published in 2018. This week we have circulated a text message reminder to all breeders to get their data recorded on the Sheep Ireland website.

### Muscle and Backfat Ultrasound Scanning 2017

- We are currently putting plans in place for the upcoming Ultrasound scanning season. There will not be any major changes to this service for 2017. We will however be making a big effort to get all flocks scanned as early as possible in the season in order to have results included in each breeders genetic evaluations, in advance of the ram sale season. This ensures that the best possible information is being made available to commercial sheep farmers purchasing these rams.

### First Genetic Evaluation Run

- A regular test genetic evaluation has been carried out by Sheep Ireland over the past number of months to ensure everything is working well. The only issue which dictates first evaluation publishing date is the amount of lambing data which has yet to be entered onto the database.
- We acknowledge that some breeders are anxious to cull surplus pedigree lambs at this time of year to avail of high Easter lamb prices. One advantage this year is that Easter is falling on 16<sup>th</sup> April, which is three weeks later than last year. This will afford LambPlus breeders interested in culling lambs, based on genetic evaluations, a little extra time to make their decisions.



### Changes to the 2017 Euro-Star Evaluations

- For the first time in Ireland, health data will be incorporated into the Euro-Star genetic evaluations. This health data will only form a small percentage of the overall Terminal and Replacement Indexes due to the current trait heritability being used and overall economic impact of the traits on an overall basis. This does not mean that health traits are not economically important as they most certainly are, but higher impact traits such as 'Lamb Survival' and 'Number of Lambs Born' will always have a more prominent role within the Euro-Star indexes.
- We do not currently have plans to display a 'Health Index' on the Sheep Ireland Euro-Star catalogue output. However we may display this as an individual trait on LambPlus breeders online profiles in the future and perhaps on the Sheep Ireland ram search. Initial accuracies will be very low given the amount of health data collected up to this point, but this will increase over time.

## National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 15-MAR-2017 To 24-MAR-2017

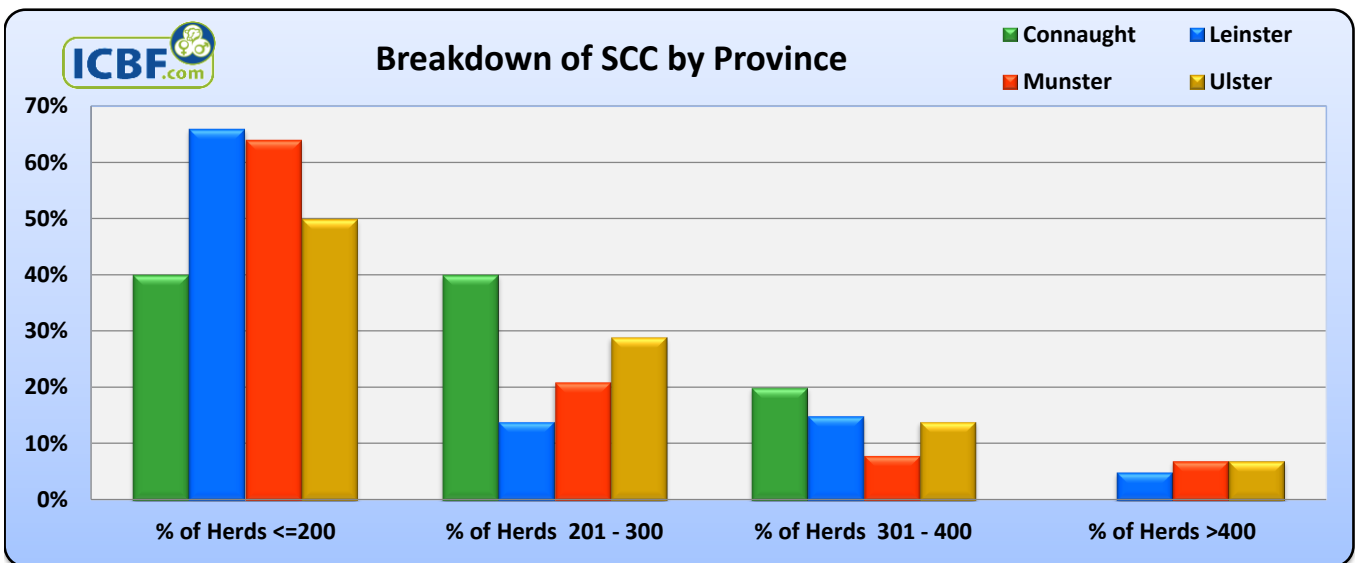
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	10	625	63	27.4	3.90	3.24	1.95	190
Leinster	80	8,123	102	25.6	4.14	3.31	1.91	156
Munster	354	27,161	77	26.6	4.14	3.24	1.96	161
Ulster	14	701	50	26.2	4.29	3.29	2.01	196
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>36,820</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>26.4</b>	<b>4.14</b>	<b>3.25</b>	<b>1.95</b>	<b>162</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 15-MAR-2017 To 24-MAR-2017

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	10	625	63	40%	40%	20%	0%	190
Leinster	80	8,123	102	66%	14%	15%	5%	156
Munster	354	27,161	77	64%	21%	8%	7%	161
Ulster	14	701	50	50%	29%	14%	7%	196
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>36,820</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>162</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 15-MAR-2017 To 24-MAR-2017								
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	10	625	63	143	206	221	237	294
Leinster	80	8,123	102	95	136	150	175	289
Munster	354	27,161	77	96	138	163	193	263
Ulster	14	701	50	144	172	194	214	319
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>36,820</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>275</b>

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

