

1 Important Dates

- + **Teagasc Beef Conference** – Tuesday 5th April, Killin Hill Mart, Kilkenny.
- + **Breeding Consultation Meeting** – Wednesday 14th April, Portlaoise. Invitations and Agenda will be distributed in next few days.
- + **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 21th April, 10:00 to 12:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **ICBF Board AGM** – Thursday 21th April, 12:30 to 14:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **Sheep Ireland AGM** – Thursday 21th April, 14:30 to 15:00 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 21st April, 15:00 to 17:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **Tully Bull Sale** – Monday 25th April, 12:00 to 16:00 – Tully Performance Test Centre, Tully.

2 Cattle Board

At its meeting on Thursday this week the ICBF Board:

- + Adopted a series of recommendations from the Audit & Finance Sub-Committee dealing the Audited Accounts for 2010 and related matters.
- + Was briefed on:
 - The analysis and case that ICBF made for the continuation of a single tag supplier for cattle in Ireland.
 - ICBF's involvement and support of animal health initiatives.
 - Progress with genomics for dairy and beef cattle breeding.

3 Sheep Board

At its meeting on Thursday this week the Board:

- + Adopted a series of recommendations from the Audit & Finance Sub-Committee dealing the Audited Accounts for 2010 and related matters.
- + Was briefed on:
 - The need for the key database principle of “*single point of entry and shared access*” to underpin the relationship between Sheep Ireland, Flock Books and sheep breeders.
 - Progress with the priorities for 2011. A copy of the project report is in the publications section of www.sheep.ie.

4 GENÉIRLAND[®]

Dairy

- + Sign-ups and allocations are on-going.

HERDS SIGNED UP	630
STRAWS REQUESTED	26,201
STRAWS ALLOCATED	20,743
HOLSTEIN PACKS	387
FRIESIAN PACKS	22
HOLSTEIN FRIESIAN & FRIESIAN MIX	112
JERSEY & CROSSBRED PACKS	94

MIXED BREED PACKS

34

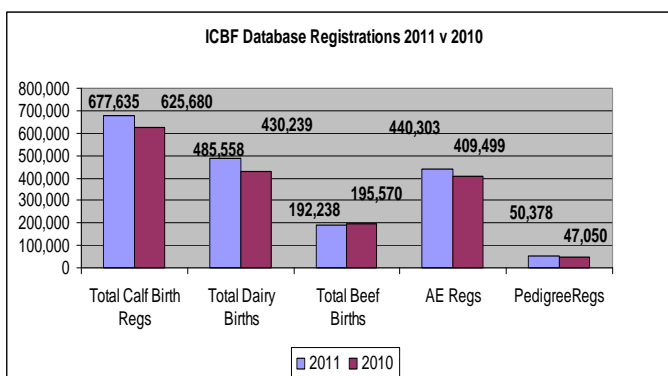
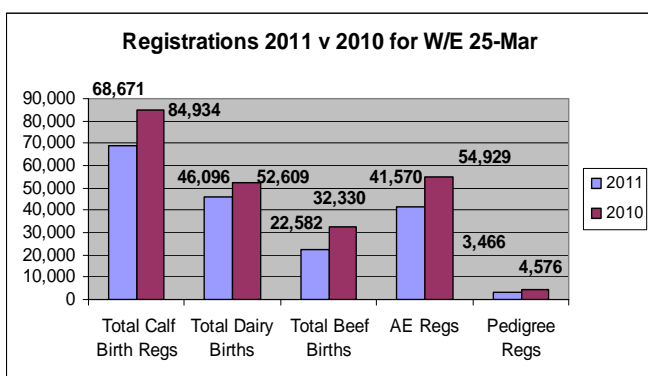
- There is a large panel of Jersey and Crossbred bulls available.
- Call 1850 600 900 to order.

Beef

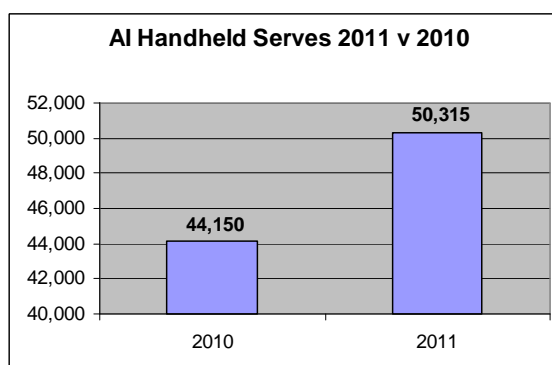
- 201 herds have signed up so far.
- More details on the bulls are available in the GEN€IR€LAND section of the website.
- To order straws phone 1850 600 900 or 045 521573.
- Approx total straws sent out per bull currently available are in the table below.

BREED	AA	BA	BB	CH	CH	CH	HE	LM	LM	PT	SI
CODE	MLJ	KCE	BZP	CSQ	LGL	DZP	GCT	CZH	ERE	CBQ	SXD
# STRAWS	375	435	130	225	599	55	135	600	530	220	140

5 Database



- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFF AIM systems.
- In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2010 born calves with meal introduced is 588,293 with the number of animals weaned at 509,376.
- As the newly launched genotyping process progresses, on-going development tweaks are being carried out. Farmer requests continue to be processed on a daily basis.
- Developments on a number of updates to the Sire Advice programme have been completed. Testing will be completed early next week.
- Testing on a new authorisation module for farmers and their service providers is on-going. This will give farmers more flexibility and control in providing authorisation to others to see their data.
- Further developments on the beef slaughter report took place this week. Final testing is now under way.
- Work is on-going in establishing electronic links to the commercial animal health laboratories.
- The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2011 compared with 2010.



6 Genetic Evaluations

- Genetic evaluations are underway for the April update which will be a full update of information across all traits. Data has been sent to the INTERBULL centre for participation in the International evaluation for milk production and fertility traits. Anticipated release date is April 11.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 15/03/11 to 25/03/11

	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
CARLOW	7	364	52	24.2	3.88	3.30	1.74	352
CAVAN	11	503	46	26.9	4.02	3.17	1.93	285
CLARE	11	583	53	28.8	3.90	3.31	2.08	246
CORK STH	240	13,864	58	25.3	4.19	3.40	1.92	323
CORK NTH	173	9,584	55	26.8	4.21	3.38	2.03	276
DONEGAL	8	305	38	28.3	4.17	3.20	2.09	263
DUBLIN	5	408	82	26.8	4.23	3.34	2.03	279
GALWAY	19	945	50	28.1	3.85	3.25	2.00	390
KERRY	115	5,106	44	26.4	3.97	3.26	1.91	325
KILDARE	18	1,155	64	26.4	4.04	3.34	1.95	357
KILKENNY	19	1,325	70	27.1	4.00	3.24	1.96	193
LAOIS	20	1,360	68	25.5	4.01	3.30	1.86	322
LEITRIM	4	195	49	20.8	3.68	3.19	1.43	305
LIMERICK	101	4,869	48	27.6	3.94	3.36	2.01	334
LONGFORD	3	118	39	18.4	4.16	3.40	1.39	402
LOUTH	10	710	71	24.4	3.82	3.25	1.73	455
MAYO	21	941	45	25.4	3.92	3.42	1.86	350
MEATH	29	1,677	58	26.1	4.01	3.29	1.91	364
MONAGHAN	8	354	44	27.4	3.48	3.12	1.81	471
OFFALY	13	660	51	24.8	4.18	3.27	1.85	425
ROSCOMMON	3	167	56	23.0	3.92	3.46	1.70	603
SLIGO	7	207	30	28.2	3.56	3.37	1.95	328
TIPPERARY NTH	24	1,459	61	25.0	4.16	3.24	1.85	317
TIPPERARY STH	28	1,467	52	25.1	4.09	3.34	1.86	304
WATERFORD	32	2,807	88	24.9	4.40	3.33	1.92	283
WESTMEATH	6	425	71	27.1	3.80	2.91	1.82	253
WEXFORD	39	2,345	60	25.9	4.08	3.30	1.91	272
WICKLOW E	7	575	82	22.0	3.76	3.20	1.53	258
WICKLOW W	1	151	151	37.3	3.09	2.96	2.26	349
	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
National	982	54,629	60	26.0	3.95	3.27	1.88	334

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 15/03/11 to 25/03/11

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	724	39,739	55	26.2	4.11	3.33	1.95	301
Leinster	177	11,273	64	25.8	3.90	3.24	1.84	329
Connacht	54	2,455	45	25.1	3.79	3.34	1.79	395
Ulster	27	1,162	43	27.5	3.89	3.16	1.94	340

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 25/03/11

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 25/03/11	No. EDIY Herds YTD 25/03/11	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 25/03/11	No. EDIY Cows YTD 25/03/11	% Cows EDIY
Munster	1,863	225	12%	102,343	13,980	14%
Progressive	1,298	306	24%	88,230	20,721	23%
Tipperary	33	2	6%	1,825	102	6%
Connacht	70	6	9%	3,656	326	9%
Total	3,264	539	17%	196,054	35,129	18%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/10 - 25/03/10	YTD 2011 Cows Recorded 01/01/11 - 25/03/11	2011 vs. 2010 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	91,902	102,343	10.2%
Progressive	82,629	88,230	6.3%
Tipperary	1,435	1,825	21.4%
Connacht	4,047	3,656	-10.7%
Total	180,013	196,054	8.2%

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