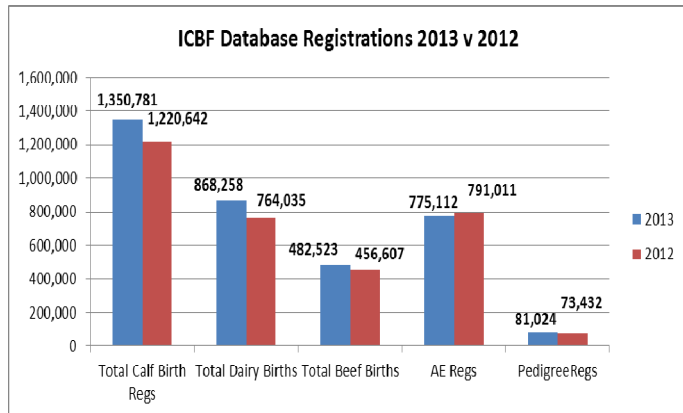
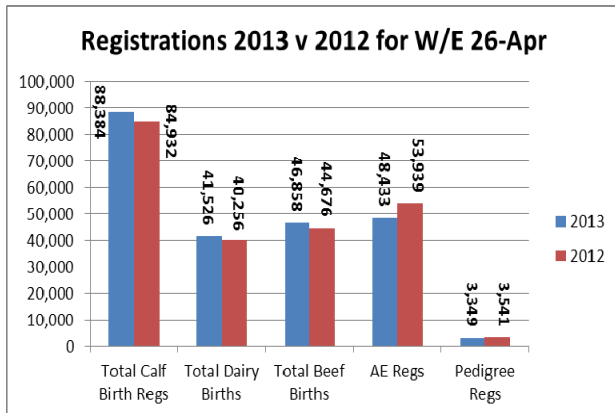


ICBF Weekly Update 26th April 2013

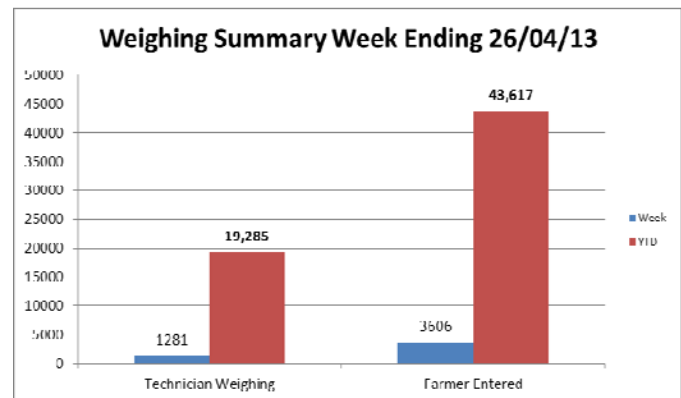
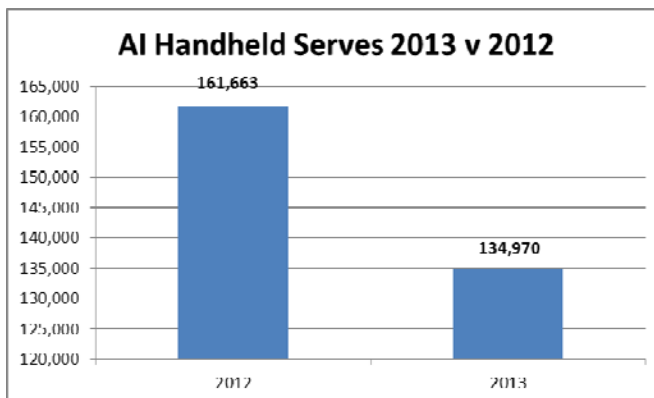
1 Important Dates

- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 2nd May, 10:00 to 12:30, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ICBF AGM Meeting** – Thursday 2nd May, 12:30 to 13:30, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Ireland Board / AGM Meeting** – Thursday 16th May, 11:00 to 14:00, Highfield House, Bandon.

2 Database



- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2012 born calves with meal introduced is 618,534 with the number of animals weaned at 541,123.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,343,000 results received since January 1st, of which 89,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012 1.83 million results have now been received.
- The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- This week there were 1281 weights received through the technician service and 3,606 weights recorded by farmers. The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 GENÉIRLAND®

Beef

- Sign-ups are almost complete for the GENÉIRLAND spring program.
- 214 herds taking a total of 3926 straws have signed up so far.
- The CH bull FYB has reached the 500 straw target this week.
- All orders received to date have been packed and dispatched.
- To learn more or to order straws please phone 1850 600 900 or 045 521573.
- The approximate total straws ordered per bull so far are detailed in table 1 & 2.

Table 2. List of Terminal Bulls currently on-test

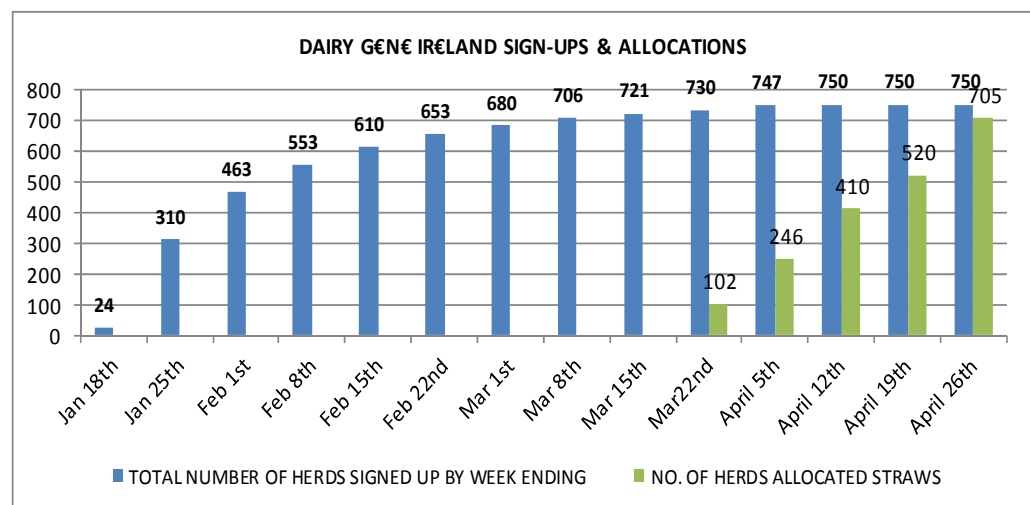
Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws
ZSD	Serpentin	BB	100
FSN	Folon	BB	75
GLP	Galopeur	BB	50
FFK	Conval Frank	CH	180
FGG	Leagaun Figaro	CH	145
FZM	Lenagh Equaliser	LM	80

Table 1. List of Maternal Bulls currently on-test

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws
GJB	Goulding Jumbo King	AA	390
TQL	Templequain Lord Jake	AA	275
VMP	Villablues Empire ET	BB	390
RWM	Rosemount Emlyn	BB	240
FWO	Fleetwood	CH	370
FSZ	Fiston	CH	350
LZF	Cavelands Fenian	CH	500
FYB	Ballylannon Frankey ET	CH	500
GRF	Gerard	CH	200
GPD	Guepard	CH	70
GZS	Gouldingpoll Superduty	HE	210
WLZ	Wilodge Enrico	LM	500
FTH	Elite Fred ET	LM	500
CJH	Filou	LM	230
FQR	Ballygarvan Stud Fernando	LM	235
GWO	Castleview Gringo ET	LM	450
FTY	Lennon Frosty	LM	500
EBY	Elderberry Galahad	LM	55
PZB	Bonaparte	SA	250
QCD	Cloondroon Calling	SI	375

Dairy

- Semen allocation is nearing completion with just 45 herds remaining; these packs will be allocated by next Monday.
- The average EBI of the Holstein-Friesian panel is €75.
- Full details in next week's update.



4 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ The first of the CPT flocks had their lambs weighed yesterday with the rest of the flocks to be weighed next week. The Malp flocks will have their weights collected during the second week of May.
- ✚ There has been a real increase in the number of queries regarding ram eligibility in the run up to the deadline for choosing tasks for the STAP scheme, we are currently still replying to most queries within two days of receiving them.
- ✚ We have started calling all LambPlus breeders to determine if they want to have their lambs ultrasonically scanned for back fat and muscle this year by our Sheep Ireland technicians. This is an extremely important option for breeders to consider if they want to improve the accurices of their flock, especially in the case of new members to LambPlus this year as they will be starting from a lower accuracy percentage. We will also be reminding them of any data they may have missed /forgotten to submit to Sheep Ireland as well as answer any queries that breeders may have.

5 Sexed Semen Project Gathers Pace

- ✚ The ICBF and Teagasc sexed semen field research trial is starting to gather real pace on farms with over 3,500 inseminations now completed. A total of 375 herds, covering 8,600 cow inseminations and 7,400 heifer inseminations are involved in the project. The first semen arrived on farms on 17th April and is expected to continue until mid-May, when all herds on the project will have completed their first full round of AI.
- ✚ This semen is being distributed by 110 AI technicians, working on behalf of the partner AI organizations involved in the project (Dovea Genetics, Munster Cattle Breeding and Progressive Genetics).
- ✚ Average herd size of participating herds is 99 cows and 45 maiden heifers, with each farmer taking, on average, 32 inseminations for cows and 29 inseminations for heifers. Average mating start date for the project is 21st April for cows and 24th April for heifers.
- ✚ High EBI, easy calving bulls Holstein Friesian bulls are currently being collected by the AI partners, with 6 bulls being shipped to the semen laboratory/day. These bulls come in at 8 hour intervals (6 AM from Mallow, 2 PM from Enfield and 10 PM from Dovea), thereby ensuring that the laboratory is operating 24/7. This is necessary to ensure that the peak semen demand for the project (some 1,200 straws/day) is achieved from the laboratory. This peak semen demand is now being achieved, which is an excellent endorsement of the Sexing Technologies team, whose hard-work and dedication has resulted in us achieving peak capacity within less than 7 working days. Once the semen is processed it is dispatched to AI technicians (and to participating herds) via a network of semen couriers.
- ✚ In terms of study design, each ejaculate from a bull is spilt equally into four semen treatments; (i) sexed fresh (1 million sperm/straw), (ii) sexed fresh (2 million sperm/straw), (iii) sexed frozen (2 million sperm/straw) and (iv) fresh conventional. In this way, we can accurately assess the impact of each of the semen treatments on subsequent calf sex and conception rates. The semen is used randomly on the participating herds (across cow and heifers); thereby again ensuring we remove any potential bias from the subsequent data analysis.
- ✚ This is arguably the largest ever and most comprehensive sexed semen field research trial, ever undertaken. It is creating a huge buzz of anticipation amongst farmers, industry stakeholders and the wider public (as evidenced by its front page slot on last week's Irish Farmers Journal).
- ✚ A phenomenal amount of work has been completed over the past number of weeks, with dedicated people in all the organisations involved, giving their all, and working together to achieve a common goal. In particular we would like to acknowledge the project stakeholders, without whose financial assistance, the project would not have been possible. These are ICBF, Teagasc, Sexing Technologies, Dovea AI, Munster Cattle Breeding, Progressive Genetics, ABP, Dawn Meats, Kepak, Slaney Meats and the Agricultural Trust.

6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 26/04/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 26/04/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 26/04/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 26/04/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 26/04/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	2,867	602	21%	201,583	47,261	23%
Progressive	1,897	642	34%	152,413	52,372	34%
Tipperary	61	12	20%	4,388	828	19%
Total	4,825	1,256	26%	358,384	100,461	28%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 26/04/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 26/04/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	213,892	201,583	-6.1%
Progressive	154,119	152,413	-1.1%
Tipperary	6,180	4,388	-40.8%
Total	374,191	358,384	-4.4%

Please see milk recording stats attached

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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, 17-APR-2013 To 26-APR-2013

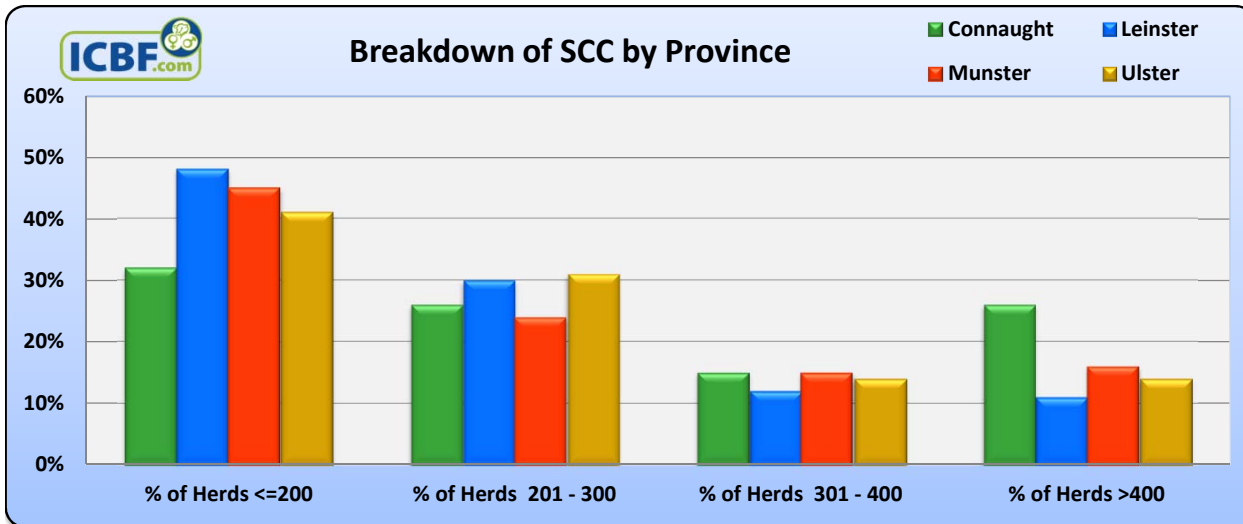
	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
ICBF.com								
Connaught	34	1,930	57	25.0	3.91	3.17	1.77	273
Leinster	171	14,400	84	24.2	3.77	3.17	1.68	199
Munster	535	38,492	72	25.4	3.83	3.22	1.79	216
Ulster	29	1,505	52	25.0	3.86	3.04	1.72	205
National Statistics	769	56,327	73	25.1	3.82	3.20	1.76	214

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 17-APR-2013 To 26-APR-2013

	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*
ICBF.com								
Connaught	34	1,930	57	32%	26%	15%	26%	273
Leinster	171	14,400	84	48%	30%	12%	11%	199
Munster	535	38,492	72	45%	24%	15%	16%	216
Ulster	29	1,505	52	41%	31%	14%	14%	205
National Statistics	769	56,327	73	45%	26%	14%	15%	214

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 17-APR-2013 To 26-APR-2013								
	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
ICBF.com								
Connaught	34	1,930	57	178	222	269	314	484
Leinster	171	14,400	84	130	172	209	227	330
Munster	535	38,492	72	125	181	216	257	368
Ulster	29	1,505	52	130	180	224	247	348
National Statistics	769	56,327	73	130	182	216	251	356

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

