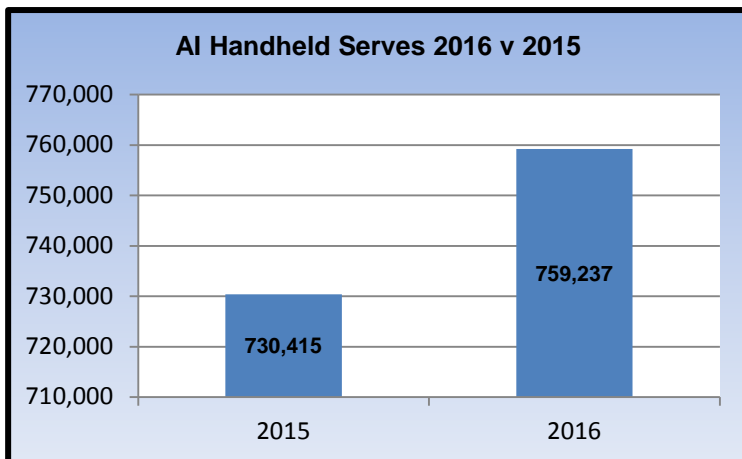
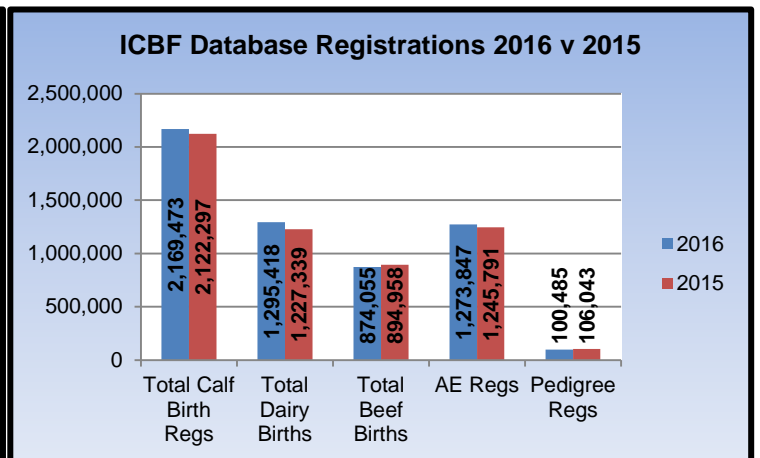
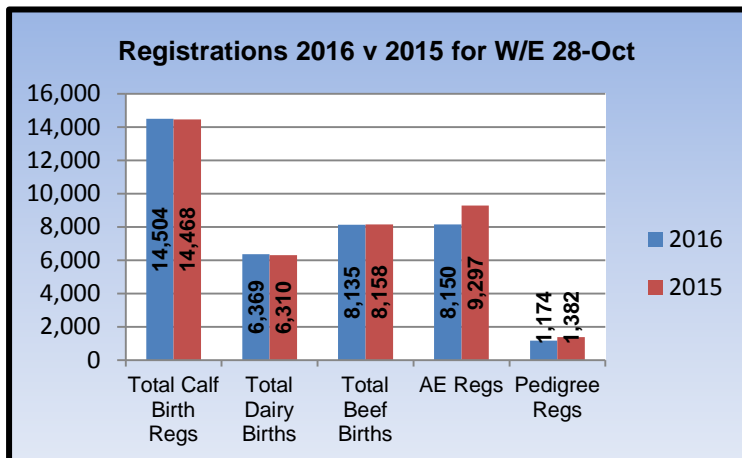


ICBF Weekly Update 28th October 2016

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Dairy Industry Meeting** – scheduled for Wednesday 2nd November - **POSTPONED**.
- ✚ **Audit & Finance Meeting** – Monday 14th November 2016 at 14:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 24th November 2016 at 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 24th November 2016 at 14:00, 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 3,279,392 results received since January 1st, of which 51,984 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 10,607,827 results have now been received.
- ✚ The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2016 compared with 2015.

3 GENEIRELAND[®] Beef

- ✚ Sign Ups are continuing for the Gene Ireland Beef programme.
- ✚ 119 herds taking a total of 1850 straws have joined so far.
- ✚ The average order is 15 straws per herd.
- ✚ Details on the available bulls can be viewed [here](#)
- ✚ To learn more or to order straws please phone **023 8820452**.
- ✚ Approx total straws ordered to date for the bulls are detailed below.

List of Bulls currently on-test

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Replacement Index	Straws
AU2365	Calverstown Koala	AU	€151	335
PI2157	Kilree Leo	PI	€128	460
HE2359	Arlinstown Special 13th	HE	€123	170
SH2360	Doon Giorgio	SH	€123	290
SA2366	Carrentubber Pinocchio	SA	€120	150
BA2357	Terelton Isaac	BA	€102	190
PT2356	Macgowan Herd Juno	PT	€98	210
CH4068	Glenville Jasper	CH	€93	280
SI2367	Barnattin George 2	SI	€92	180
CH2363	Dolland Jefferson	CH	€83	340

4 Herd Plus®

✚ To ensure that expected calving dates are included in the 2017 Dairy HerdPlus Pocket Notebook all serves should be recorded on the ICBF database. Pregnancy scanning data should also be recorded where completed. Data must be recorded in the ICBF database by 28th October in order to guarantee that this data is printed on your pocket notebook and expected calving list.

✚ Farmers can now genotype all their female calves which will allow them to make a more informed decision around breeding and culling potential replacements. This service could cost herd-owners as little as €2/head. Please contact HerdPlus on **1850 600 900** or **023 8820452** for further details. Alternatively when logged into HerdPlus, herd-owners can make orders online by selecting 'Services' – 'Genomic Services' – 'Place Order'

✚ HerdPlus Co-op performance reports are currently being uploaded to users online profiles and they will be dispatched by post to herd-owners next week.

✚ Are you participating in the BDGP? Please ensure that all survey data (along with tissue tags) is returned as soon as possible in order to avoid any delay in payment.



5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 28/10/16

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 28/10/16	No. EDIY Herds YTD 28/10/16	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 28/10/16	No. EDIY Cows YTD 28/10/16	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,727	1,148	31%	364,107	122,370	34%
Progressive	2,326	947	41%	254,227	103,717	41%
Tipperary	117	53	45%	11,332	4,984	44%
Total	6,170	2,148	35%	629,666	231,071	37%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15- 28/10/15	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 28/10/16	2016 vs 2015 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	365,983	364,107	-0.5%
Progressive	258,054	254,227	-1.5%
Tipperary	11,864	11,332	-4.5%
Total	635,901	629,666	-1.0%

6 Sheep Ireland

CPT AI complete

- The final day of AI took place this Tuesday on the farm of Brian Nicholson, Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny. All in all, the AI programme went extremely well with 26 rams used for the purpose of progeny testing with 7 additional rams used for linkage establishment within some smaller breeds. In total just under 2,500 ewes have been AI'd and will lamb down in a very tight window next March.

2017 LambPlus sign-up forms

- Attention now turns to the next season of LambPlus. We plan to send out sign-up forms to all pedigree ram breeders in the coming days. The fee structure for LambPlus has been under discussion at Sheep Ireland board level for a number of months and a decision has been made with regard to the fees for the 2017 season and beyond.

The fee structure that will apply will be as follows;

- €50 for breeders that are members of flockbooks who host their flockbooks on the Sheep Ireland database.
 - €100 for breeders that are members of flockbooks that do not use the Sheep Ireland database to host their flockbooks.
- The reasoning behind this split fee structure is due to additional administration costs associated with providing genetic evaluations to sheep breeds that do not operate their flockbook on the Sheep Ireland database. The extra administration is mainly caused by the need to key ancestry information for animals. Ancestry information is the foundation block for accurate genetic evaluations and when the flockbook is not hosted on the Sheep Ireland database, it is necessary to manually key the ancestry information for each individual animal, which takes a considerable amount of time.
- This change in fee structure will be communicated to all LambPlus breeders by letter along with the 2017 LambPlus sign-up form.

Regional Sheep Ireland meetings

- For the past number of years, Sheep Ireland have hosted regional LambPlus meetings at various locations around the country each November. These meetings were generally held in hotels and while we feel breeders found them beneficial, we also feel that the format was failing to attract enough LambPlus participants. In 2016 we organised a number of farm workshops/events which were more interactive and practical than the hotel room setting. In lieu of the fact that we held these workshops this summer, we will not be holding regional meetings this November. We hope to hold an industry meeting in mid-January. All LambPlus breeders will be invited to attend this meeting.

Some images from Brian Nicholsons AI



Ewes awaiting AI. Ewes must be fasted for 24 in advance of AI to ensure they are empty. This makes laparoscopic AI much easier for the AI technician.



Ewes immediately after AI. Ewes are released to grass immediately after AI.



Ewes awaiting release after AI. These ewes have just been AI'd by the team in the background.

Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Email info@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. **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, 19-OCT-2016 To 28-OCT-2016

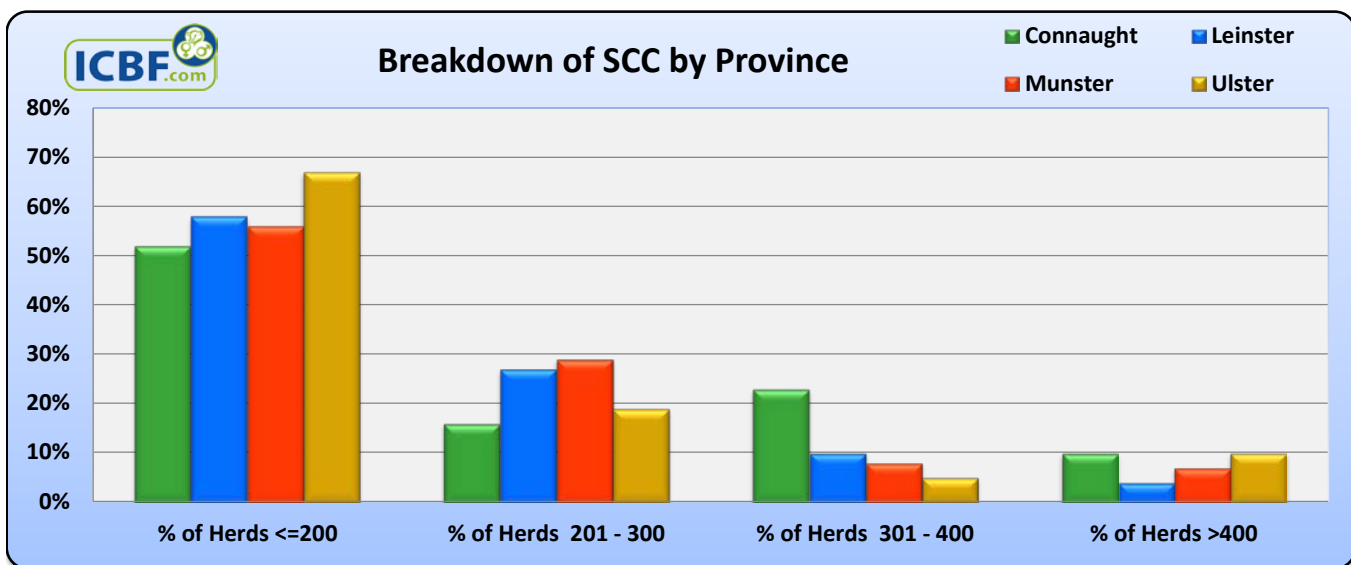
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	31	1,677	54	16.3	4.41	3.73	1.31	202
Leinster	146	14,848	102	15.7	4.53	3.88	1.31	183
Munster	576	51,018	89	15.2	4.61	3.96	1.29	191
Ulster	21	1,334	64	15.6	4.35	3.67	1.25	178
National Statistics	774	68,877	89	15.3	4.58	3.93	1.30	190

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 19-OCT-2016 To 28-OCT-2016

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	31	1,677	54	52%	16%	23%	10%	202
Leinster	146	14,848	102	58%	27%	10%	4%	183
Munster	576	51,018	89	56%	29%	8%	7%	191
Ulster	21	1,334	64	67%	19%	5%	10%	178
National Statistics	774	68,877	89	56%	28%	9%	7%	190

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 19-OCT-2016 To 28-OCT-2016								
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	31	1,677	54	114	171	189	237	350
Leinster	146	14,848	102	122	167	190	204	267
Munster	576	51,018	89	124	163	187	211	278
Ulster	21	1,334	64	114	157	164	193	287
National Statistics	774	68,877	89	123	164	188	210	278

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

