

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Thursday 30th June, 10:00 to 10:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 30th June, 10:30 to 13:00 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 30th June, 14:00 to 16:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.

2 ICBF Board Meeting – 21st April

At the Board meeting last week the Board was briefed on the preliminary findings of a review of beef breeding, including the review of the GROW service. They were given the same presentation as the Cattle Breeding Consultation held on 14th April. A copy of the presentation is in the publications section of www.icbf.com under the heading “Presentations to Beef Session of Breeding Consultation Meeting”. The Board welcomed the report and requested a detailed action plan for the next meeting.

3 ICBF AGM – 21st April

The AGM last week:

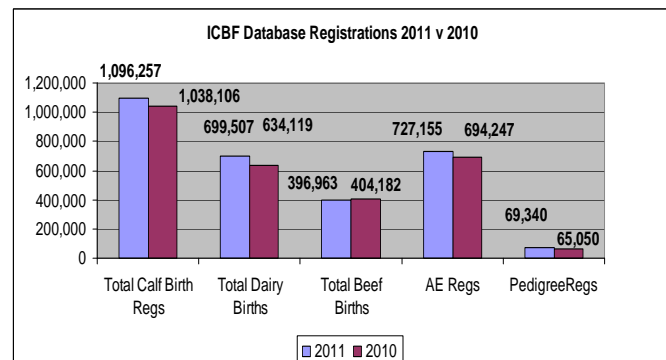
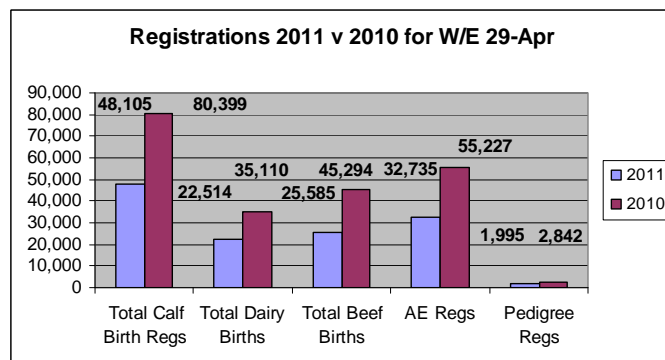
- ✚ Received the reports of the Chairman and Chief Executive. A copy of the Annual Report for 2010 is available in the publications section, under “Annual Reports”, of www.icbf.com.
- ✚ Approved the audited accounts and the re-appointment of Ernst & Young as the Auditors for 2011.

4 Sheep Ireland Board Meeting – 21st April

The Sheep Ireland Board met with representatives of Flock Books prior to the Board meeting. A report on progress was given by the CE and a range of issues were discussed. The key focus for Sheep Ireland is now to engage with ram breeders and to ensure they are able to supply the type of ram desired by commercial producers. The LambPlus service is designed to help ram breeders in this task.

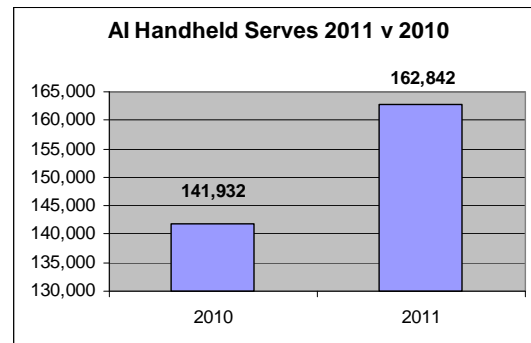
At the Board meeting a progress report was received from the Sheep Ireland team. Good progress is being made with CPT, MALP and LambPlus. A copy of the progress report can be found in the publications section of www.sheep.ie.

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 596,401 with the number of animals weaned at 521,208.
- ✚ Preparatory work for the new initiative with Farm Relief Services (FRS) continued this week. The project will involve hoof-care operators using handhelds to record the visit data and farmers will subsequently receive reports generated from the ICBF database.
- ✚ Work is on-going in establishing electronic links to the commercial animal health laboratories. New files were received this week.
- ✚ Updates to the catalogue functionality, with particular focus on the dairy catalogues are now completed and are live.
- ✚ Developments to support the on-going data capture aspects of the Dairy Efficiency Programme (DEP) are on-going. The focus has now switched to the developments around the capture of health events.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2011 compared with 2010.



6 Tully

A large crowd attended the Tully High Health status sale which was held in Tully on Monday of this week. In total 93 bulls were on offer on the day as some bulls were sold prior to the sale. Top price on the day went to Mr William Smith, Oldcastle, Co Meath for his Sauvignon bred bull which sold for €15,000 to Co. Fermanagh farmer Mr Gerry Moane. Mr Moane intends to use the bull on his Altatoner Pure Bred Limousin herd. This bull boasted 5 stars for Suckler Beef Value, Weaning Export and Beef Carcass.

Overall, it was a very good sale with good quality high index bulls selling very well and a clearance of 75% achieved. 15 bulls were exported in total with 12 bulls sold to breeders in Northern Ireland, one bull going to Scotland and 2 to Spain. The sale was conducted by, Tom Cox, Strokestown, Co. Roscommon.

Breakdown by breed of the sale prices and clearance rate:

Blonde d'Aquitaine

2 out of 2 bulls sold for an average of €3275.

1. Philip Lyons, Westport, Co Mayo sold the champion bull sired by Ballinascrew Armani to Larry Coleman, Wexford for €3500.
2. The other Blonde bull on offer was owned by Des Green and sold to J. Kearney, Ferrybank, Waterford for €3050.

Aubrac

One Aubrac bull on offer owned by Michael McAuliffe sold at €2100 to Damien Hughes, Co Monaghan.

Saler

Michael McKeown, Gurteen, Sligo obtained €2000 for his Saler bull, sired by Moygara Bond.

Angus

14 bulls out of 17 sold for an average of €3075.

1. Champion Angus sired by Rawburn Rommel E423 and owned by Fintan Keown, Belleek, Co Fermanagh was sold at €100 to Joel Richardson, Portadown.
2. Harry Ferguson, Longford, sold his bull Edgeworthstown Lord Harry J001 at €4550 to Liam McCarthy, Newtownards, Co. Down.
3. John McEnroe, Oldcastle, Co. Meath sold his bull Liss Kewi J047 for €3700 to PJ King, Castlewellon, Co. Down.
4. Matthew Goulding Ballyduff, Co Kerry sold Goulding Jumbo K430 Et for €3300. Matthew also sold a bull to NCBC prior to the sale, sired by Aynho Rossiter Eric B125 out of a Fordel Eisenhower dam. This bull had excellent daily gain weight on test of 2.8kg per day along with being 5 stars for Suckler Beef Value.

In the Angus section, 2 of the bulls owned by O & A McFadden and Eustace Burke were sold for export to Spain.

Limousin

20 of the 24 Limousins on offer sold for an average of €3850.

1. Top price of €15,000 went to John and William Smith, Oldcastle, Co. Meath for the Champion Limousin bull, sired by Sauvignon and out of the famous dam Milbrook Kathryn and purchased by Gerry Moane, Co. Fermanagh.
2. Raymond Carolan got €7000 for Carwin Figgero, sired by Roundhill Saturn ET, and sold to Roger McCarrick, Drumree, Co. Meath.
3. Michael Sexton took home €6100 for his Mount Scott Erney bull, sired by Ronick Hawk and purchased by Joel Richardson, Portadown.

Charolais

22 of the 28 Charolais sold for an average of €3500

1. Teagasc Grange purchased 3 bulls for the Derrypatrick herd, from Elizabeth Hughes, Cootehill, Co. Cavan at €100, Jarlath McHugh, Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo at €600 and Pat Farrelly, Drumiscan, Co. Louth at €600.
2. Basil Bothwell, Killeshandra, Co. Cavan sold his Jumper bull at €600 to Michael Long, Hilltown, Co. Kilkenny. Basil also had the Champion Charolais which sold at €5000 to Jimmy Cosgrave, Enfield, Co. Meath.
3. Michael Casey, Newtowncashel, Co Longford got €3300 for his Pirate son out of a Doonally New dam.
4. Kilbline Fatal, sired by Major and owned by Josephine Sugrue was unsold in the ring at €100.

Simmental

6 of the 10 Simmental sold for an average of €2800

1. Top priced Simmental went to John Finnegan Coachford, Co. Cork with his Kilbride Farm Newry bred Champion bull which sold for €5000 to Anthony Brennan, Dunleer, Co. Louth.
2. Paul McCardle, Castleblayney, Co. Monaghan, sold a Cairnview Snazzy son for €3400 to John Reynolds, Naas, Co. Kildare.

Belgian Blue

1 of the 4 bulls sold for €4000.

Timothy Donnellan sold a Westside Bob son out of a Torrero Du Grand Courty dam for €4000.



Milbrook Filio Et the top priced Limousin at €15000 with owner William Smith, Oldcastle Co. Meath.



Milbrook Filio selling in the sales ring and lead by John Lynch.



Second top priced Limousin bull Carwin Figgero, sold for €7000 pictured with owner Ray Carolan, Cavan, Co. Cavan and Mr McCarrick, purchaser of the bull.



Third top priced Limousin, Mount Scott Erney that sold for €100, pictured with owner Michael Sexton.



Third joint top priced Charolais at €600 Rivergloir Fergal, pictured with James, JJ and Liam (front) McHugh.



Third joint top priced Charolais at €600 Dromiskin Fernando pictured with Patrick Farrelly.



Champion Simmental Bull: Leeherd Barclay, sired by Kilbride Farm Newry and owned by John Finnegan, Coachford, Co. Cork sold for €5000.



Champion Angus Bull: Home Farm Ebony Ahead K894, sired by Rawburn Rommel E423 and owned by Fintan Keown, Belleek, Co. Fermanagh sold for €5100



John McEnroe (bull owner) chatting with potential buyers.



Seamus and Dara Clarke, Bailieborough, with their Limousin bull that sold for €1800



Leo McEnroe leading limousin bull into the ring.



Alan Wood with son Nigel, Michael and Eilish Gill, Crossmolina

May intake

120 of the 170 bulls inspected for the up-coming may intake have met the visual criteria for muscle, skeletal and functionality. Bull owners whose bulls have passed the visual inspection have all received their health testing information. As a result, bloods are coming in at a steady rate from the on-farm health testing and are being sent to Backweston for analysis. Bulls are due to enter Tully on the 22nd May 2011.

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Dairy

- ✚ Straws have been dispatched to all the participants.
- ✚ Calls were made to Herd-owners who got part of their orders. All of these orders will be completed next week.
- ✚ Crossbred packs are available. Call 1850 600 900 to order.

8 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 19/04/11 to 29/04/11								
	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	9	572	64	29.7	4.21	3.37	2.25	238
CAVAN	46	2,415	53	27.9	3.67	3.23	1.93	185
CLARE	28	1,534	55	30.1	3.71	3.34	2.12	231
CORK STH	250	16,782	67	28.1	3.85	3.37	2.03	247
CORK NTH	240	16,677	69	28.9	3.75	3.40	2.07	245
DONEGAL	7	666	95	27.1	3.84	3.24	1.92	260
DUBLIN	5	282	56	27.1	3.65	3.40	1.91	347
GALWAY	10	562	56	27.2	3.61	3.34	1.89	304
KERRY	128	8,336	65	29.6	3.69	3.34	2.08	313
KILDARE	12	824	69	27.4	3.88	3.31	1.97	370
KILKENNY	41	3,264	80	27.1	3.58	3.25	1.85	209
LAOIS	44	3,055	69	25.0	4.02	3.31	1.83	325
LEITRIM	7	361	52	23.1	3.78	3.17	1.61	263
LIMERICK	116	7,743	67	29.9	3.72	3.36	2.12	280
LONGFORD	7	498	71	31.5	3.40	3.25	2.09	207
LOUTH	13	1,023	79	26.7	3.61	3.22	1.82	165
MAYO	18	877	49	26.8	3.33	3.17	1.74	269
MEATH	48	4,492	94	25.8	3.65	3.21	1.77	291
MONAGHAN	26	1,303	50	28.0	3.82	3.16	1.95	280
OFFALY	48	2,984	62	26.8	3.96	3.30	1.95	280
ROSCOMMON	1	70	70	31.5	3.66	3.27	2.18	186
SLIGO	7	257	37	30.6	3.43	3.30	2.06	268
TIPPERARY NTH	47	3,678	78	27.6	3.90	3.33	2.00	312
TIPPERARY STH	87	7,381	85	27.0	3.85	3.30	1.93	229
WATERFORD	50	4,612	92	26.7	4.03	3.40	1.98	231
WESTMEATH	11	904	82	30.8	3.73	3.09	2.10	174
WEXFORD	64	3,944	62	27.0	3.75	3.31	1.91	272
WICKLOW E	17	1,193	70	27.3	3.56	3.31	1.88	220
WICKLOW W	6	707	118	27.0	3.58	3.22	1.84	208
	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	1,393	96,996	69	27.9	3.73	3.29	1.96	255

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 19/04/11 to 29/04/11

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	946	66,743	71	28.5	3.81	3.36	2.04	261
Leinster	325	23,742	73	27.6	3.74	3.27	1.94	254
Connacht	43	2,127	49	27.8	3.56	3.25	1.90	258
Ulster	79	4,384	55	27.7	3.78	3.21	1.93	242

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 29/04/11

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 15/04/11	No. EDIY Herds YTD 29/04/11	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 29/04/11	No. EDIY Cows YTD 29/04/11	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,129	746	24%	207,399	54,320	26%
Progressive	1,817	556	31%	138,024	41,865	30%
Tipperary	92	34	37%	7,080	3,136	44%
Connacht*	70	6	9%	3,656	326	9%
Total	5,108	1,342	26%	356,159	99,647	28%

* Connacht Gold Milk Recording outsourced to Progressive Genetics Spring 2011

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/10 - 29/04/10	YTD 2011 Cows Recorded 01/01/11 - 29/04/11	2011 vs. 2010 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	184,839	207,399	10.9%
Progressive	124,089	138,024	10.1%
Tipperary	5,839	7,080	17.5%
Connacht *	6,061	3,656	-65.8%
Total	320,828	356,159	9.9%

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