



## UPDATE – for period 23rd – 29<sup>th</sup> June 2007

### 1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Tuesday 3rd July, Irish Grasslands Assn.** Abbeyleix Manor Hotel. Beef farm walk and conference. Farm walk on property of Robin Talbot.
- ✚ **Thursday 5th July, ICBF Beef Breeding Industry Consultation Meeting, Horse & Jockey.**
- ✚ **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July, ICBF Board Meeting, Comfort Inn Portlaoise.**
- ✚ **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> July.** Highfield House, Bandon. Database training for Herdbook office staff.
- ✚ **August 24<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>.** Interbull and EAAP Annual Meetings, UCD, Dublin.
- ✚ **September 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>.** Ploughing Championships, Tullamore.

### 2 Beef Breeding – Important Meetings

There are two very important beef breeding meetings next week. Both are on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July at the Horse & Jockey.

The morning meeting will be focused on **new and improved beef breeding services** to be launched later this year. A lot of work over the last few weeks has focused on ensuring our beef breeding services provide good value for beef breeders and are financially viable. We have taken into account the many excellent suggestions from the beef herd books. We will cover HerdPlus for Beef, Linear Scoring & Weight Recording and the Central Performance Test service provided at Tully. The meeting will include a workshop to ensure the views of all attending are known and can be taken into account before the details of each service are finalised.

The afternoon meeting will focus on our **plans for beef genetic evaluations**. This year the Euro-Star indexes have been launched and it is now time to review progress. We will also provide an update on the outcome of recent research and our plans for enhancements to be introduced November 2007.

### 3 Genetic Evaluations

#### Dairy Genetic evaluations

- ✚ Transfer of CIS to new software is still on-going. This process is almost complete and testing will begin in the coming week.

#### Beef Genetic Evaluations

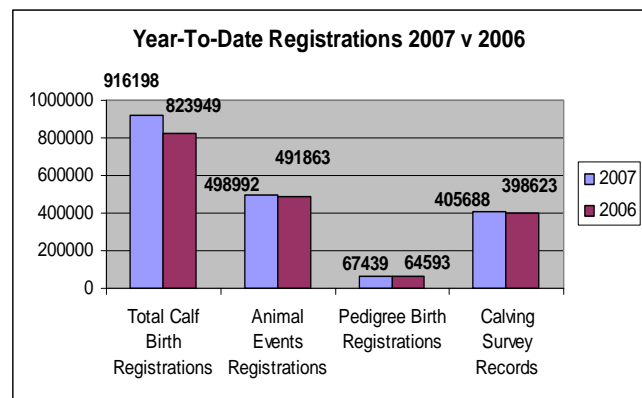
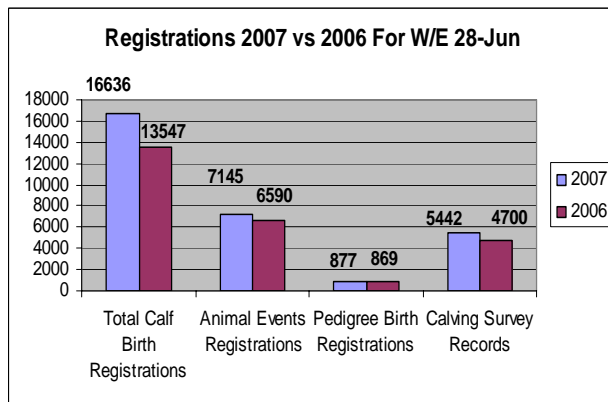
- ✚ More slaughter and mart data is being collected before the next evaluation is run.
- ✚ Preparatory work is taking place in advance of the visit of Peter Amer and the beef industry meeting next week.
- ✚ A new across breed linear evaluation has been completed and results will be distributed to the industry early next week prior to the beef industry meeting.



## International Evaluations

- ✚ Following last week ITTs update.
  - \* 7 448 ITT have been created.
  - \* 1 173 didn't get an ITT because they probably were duplicate animals (some of them will need to be looked at)
- ✚ Because that work was done with the May 2007 pedigree extraction:
  - \* 511 animals already had an identical ITT in the database.
  - \* 8 animals had a different ITT in the database (pb of sex)
- ✚ Preliminary tests on carcass cut data have started, with a view to beginning analysis shortly.

## 4 Database Update



- ✚ 285,968 inseminations have been received so far in 2007, compared with 115,696 in 2006 for the same period.
- ✚ Preparations are underway for a release of the handhelds to the technicians in the PG North East area.
- ✚ The initial version of the 'Herd-Book Online' are being emailed to herdbooks today, in order that some testing can be carried out. Further functionality will be issued next week.
- ✚ The use of the new Herdbook front end is continuing to increase, and we are in the process of adding the final modules to the solution.
- ✚ A number of herdbooks have expressed an interest in the proposed Herdbook training. The training is scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup> in Bandon.
- ✚ Orders have been placed for new hardware (i.e. the main database server). The existing server is coming out of warranty and will be replaced over the coming months, along with the implementation of increased storage.



## 5 Tully

- ✚ A review of the Bio-Security protocols for Tully will be finalized by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July.
- ✚ Maintenance of safety barriers and feed boxes is continuing.
- ✚ An update of the future of Tully will be presented at the ICBF Beef Industry meeting on 5th July.

## 6 Milk Recording Processing this week

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2005 Cows Recorded 01/01/05 - 29/06/05	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 29/06/06	YTD 2007 Cows Recorded 01/01/07 - 29/06/07	2007 vs 2006 Year on Year Difference (%)
<b>Progressive</b>	141,323	146,622	156,648	6.4%
<b>Dairygold</b>	91,633	98,092	105,413	6.9%
<b>Kerry</b>	64,336	67,286	68,479	1.7%
<b>SWS</b>	52,519	55,995	58,068	3.6%
<b>Tipperary</b>	9,044	11,229	11,798	4.8%
<b>Arrabawn</b>	6,700	10,432	11,303	7.7%
<b>Connacht</b>	6,975	7,963	8,858	10.1%
<b>Donegal</b>	2,756	4,758	3,230	-47.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>375,286</b>	<b>402,377</b>	<b>423,797</b>	<b>5.1%</b>

Milk Recording Organisation	2007 Herds Recorded Week 22/06/07 - 29/06/07
Progressive	376
Dairygold	239
SWS	215
Kerry	184
Tipperary	42
Connacht	21
Arrabawn	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,095</b>

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