

1. Important Dates

- + **Breeding Consultation Meeting** – Tuesday 16th November, Killeshan Hotel, Portlaoise. Dairy 10:00 to 11:30, Dairy & Beef 11:45 to 15:00 and Beef 15:00 to 17:00.
- + **Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Thursday 18th November, 10:00 to 14:00.
- + **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 2nd December, 10:30 to 14:00 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- + **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 2nd December, 14:00 to 16:30 – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.

2. Review of GROW[®] Call for Submissions

This week we issued a call for submissions for the GROW[®] service review. The review is being conducted in three parts:

- a. **Weights.** To establish a service for recording the growth (weights, dates, condition scores) of pedigree and commercial cattle. This service to be financially attractive to any farmer who is focused on profitable beef production.
- b. **Linears.** To review the traits included in the beef linear scoring service, the ages at which animals are scored and means by which the service is provided. Our goal is to ensure the service provides information that is valued by bull breeders and bull buyers.
- c. **Farm Practices.** To review and identify strategies for ensuring the data recorded in bull breeding and commercial herds can be reliably used in genetic evaluations which are valued by bull buyers.

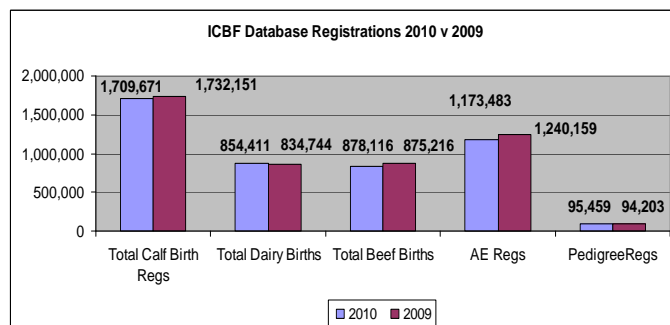
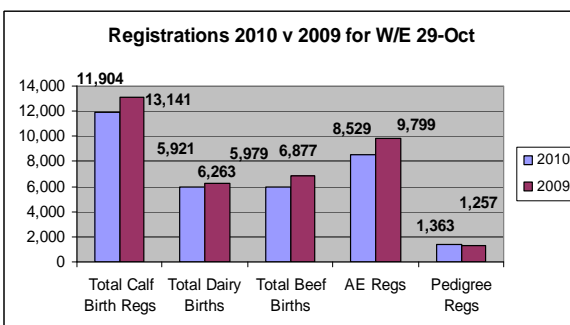
A full copy of the call is available on request.

If you, or your organisation, would like to meet to discuss the review we will be holding a series of by appointment “discussions”. These will take place all day on **Tuesday 9th in Port Laoise** and in the morning on **Thursday 11th in Athlone**. To make an appointment to participate in a discussion please contact me directly.

3. Upcoming Events

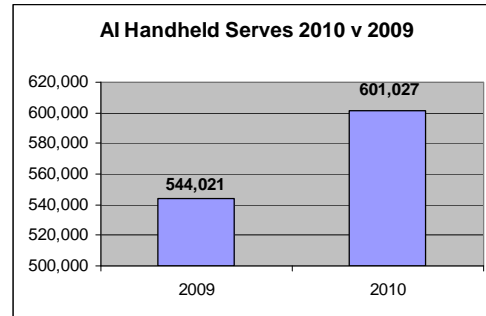
- + EBI Discussion Group Competition – jointly sponsored by ICBF, Teagasc, the Irish Farmers Journal and ACC Bank - entry forms have been distributed this week and can be obtained from the ICBF and Teagasc websites.

4. 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 419,765 with the number of animals weaned at 182,029.

- ✚ A redesigned Eurostar Profile is currently in test mode and will be implemented next week.
- ✚ A number of developments required to support the EBI discussion group competition are in the final stages of completion.
- ✚ The design of a new infrastructure to manage genotypes at ICBF is continuing. The functional design is now complete and the detailed design will begin next week.
- ✚ Work on a new infrastructure for communicating with marts is nearing completion. The first marts will begin transmitting data on a daily basis next week.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2010 compared with 2009.



5. GENEIRLAND®

Dairy

- ✚ There are 126 herds signed up to the Autumn programme so far, taking a total of 3911 straws.
- ✚ There were 265 letters and catalogues sent to potential participants this week and phone calls continue to be made to herd owners.
- ✚ Dispatch of straws will commence next week.

Beef

- ✚ The Autumn 2010 program is now well underway.
- ✚ Straws are being dispatched for all available bulls.
- ✚ 145 herds have signed up so far.
- ✚ To order straws phone 1850 600900 or 045 521573.
- ✚ Approx total straws sent out per bull so far are in the table below.

BREED	AA	BA	BB	BB	CH	CH	CH	CH	HE	LM	LM	LM	PT	SA	SH
CODE	MLJ	KCE	KYR	STQ	DEZ	GHX	LGL	CXY	GCT	ADX	NHL	CZH	CBQ	BHU	LYJ
#STRAWS	110	60	150	240	550	75	110	100	15	250	200	30	35	500	5

6. Sheep Ireland

- ✚ A successful meeting was held between Sheep Ireland and Eurofins Medigenomix regarding the DNA issues arising in the MALP project this year.
- ✚ Meetings will be held with each MALP group next Thursday (4th of November) to discuss the outcomes of the meeting.
- ✚ AI on CPT farms has now finished and the rams have been returned to their owners.

7. Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ The deadline for new data for the next routine evaluation is Monday 1st November. The publication schedule is available on our website at http://www.icbf.com/services/evaluations/publication_schedule.php.
- ✚ Files are being prepared for the Interbull Genomic Evaluation validation tests.
- ✚ New beef proofs for animals scored and between 16th September and 15th October will be available next Monday.

8. Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 19/10/10 to 29/10/10

	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	600	67	21.0	4.57	3.89	1.78	420
CAVAN	41	2,331	57	17.3	4.13	3.85	1.38	346
CLARE	48	2,461	51	16.7	4.23	3.88	1.35	312
CORK STH	270	17,655	65	17.1	4.41	3.91	1.42	315
CORK NTH	222	16,977	76	17.9	4.34	3.97	1.49	300
DONEGAL	16	1,442	90	17.3	4.35	3.68	1.39	320
DUBLIN	4	405	101	19.0	4.22	3.65	1.50	259
GALWAY	25	1,561	62	20.1	4.20	3.70	1.59	300
KERRY	136	8,407	62	17.6	4.17	3.81	1.40	338
KILDARE	22	1,471	67	21.8	4.15	3.72	1.72	313
KILKENNY	38	3,049	80	16.0	4.42	3.96	1.34	318
LAOIS	31	2,181	70	16.3	4.46	3.94	1.37	389
LEITRIM	3	97	32	18.6	3.88	3.74	1.42	359
LIMERICK	133	9,290	70	17.3	4.24	3.83	1.40	308
LONGFORD	13	998	77	16.1	4.23	3.86	1.30	349
LOUTH	12	1,262	105	22.6	3.92	3.62	1.70	435
MAYO	8	559	70	14.6	4.33	3.91	1.20	288
MEATH	52	4,183	80	19.9	4.13	3.61	1.54	333
MONAGHAN	30	1,486	50	19.9	3.99	3.56	1.50	413
OFFALY	33	2,114	64	16.9	4.36	3.86	1.39	326
ROSCOMMON	1	37	37	17.7	4.06	3.53	1.34	356
SLIGO	4	98	25	15.2	4.48	3.91	1.28	365
TIPPERARY NTH	65	5,019	77	15.3	4.55	4.00	1.31	311
TIPPERARY STH	71	6,094	86	15.6	4.56	3.92	1.32	298
WATERFORD	64	5,377	84	16.8	4.50	3.96	1.42	278
WESTMEATH	18	1,358	75	19.8	4.43	3.73	1.62	333
WEXFORD	70	4,981	71	16.4	4.24	3.89	1.33	395
WICKLOW E	15	1,009	67	20.7	3.85	3.63	1.55	357
WICKLOW W	8	713	89	20.1	4.16	3.52	1.54	508
	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	1,462	103,215	69	18.0	4.26	3.79	1.45	343

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

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	1009	71,280	71	16.8	4.38	3.91	1.39	308
Leinster	325	24,324	75	19.0	4.22	3.76	1.51	364
Connacht	41	2,352	57	17.2	4.19	3.76	1.37	334
Ulster	87	5,259	60	18.2	4.16	3.70	1.43	360

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 29/10/10						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 29/10/10	No. EDIY Herds YTD 29/10/10	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 29/10/10	No. EDIY Cows YTD 29/10/10	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,558	1,000	28%	277,004	85,609	31%
Progressive	2,003	766	38%	178,468	67,412	38%
Tipperary	133	57	43%	11,940	5,766	48%
Connacht	151	59	39%	10,009	3,788	38%
Total	5,845	1,882	32%	477,421	162,575	34%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2009 Cows Recorded 01/01/09 - 29/10/09	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/10 - 29/10/10	2010 vs. 2009 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	257,252	277,004	7.1%
Progressive	178,104	178,468	0.2%
Tipperary	11,149	11,940	6.6%
Connacht	9,745	10,009	2.6%
Total	456,250	477,421	4.4%

Brian Wickham (PhD) Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 86 826 9911, Email bwickham@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.