

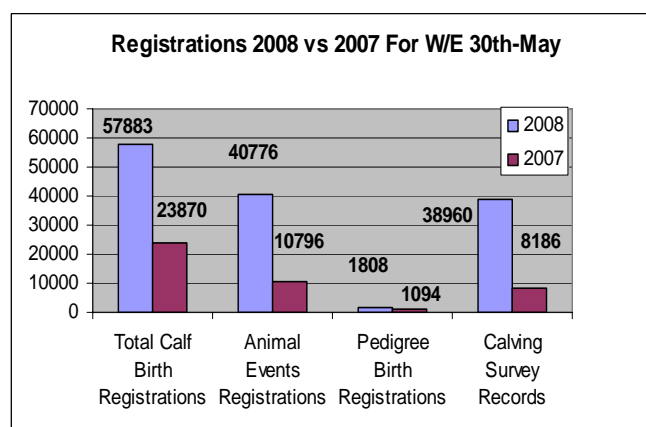
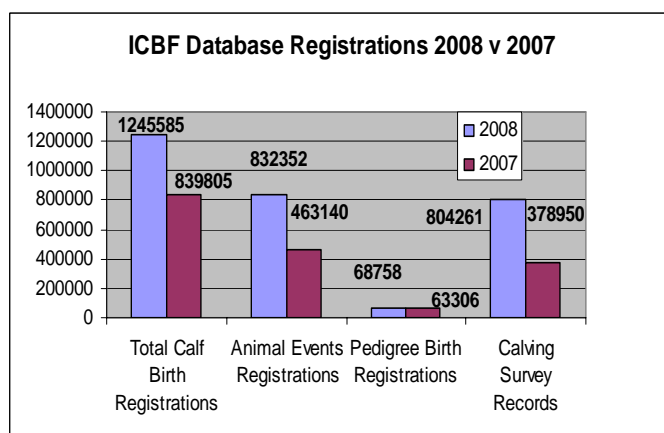


UPDATE – for period 24th – 30th May 2008

1 Important Dates

- + **16th to 20th June** – ICAR and Interbull meetings, Niagara Falls, USA.
- + **20th June** - Farmfest '08, Teagasc Major Event of the Year, Athenry.
- + **17th July, 10:30am** – ICBF Board Meeting, Comfort Inn Portlaoise.
- + **9th to 11th October** – World Holstein Friesian Conference hosted by Ireland at Killarney & Millstreet. For details see www.ihfa.ie.
- + **11th and 12th October** – International Beef Expo being hosted in Ireland at Kilkenny Mart.

2 Database Update



- + 317,899 inseminations have been received so far in 2008, compared with 220,742 in 2007 for the same period. We have identified the key issue which has caused some problems in the communication between the handhelds and the database, and the issues have now been largely dealt with.
- + Over 400,000 birth registrations from new Animal Events users have been received as part of the Suckler Scheme. With the Dairy Animal Events registrations falling off, the positive impact of the Suckler Scheme is really showing its effect on the ‘year on year’ comparisons for Animal Events usage.
- + Further batches of Sire Errors and Pre-weaning forms have been issued to Suckler Scheme participants this week.
- + The on-line herdbook functionality is being progressed by a number of herdbooks, and the first should be live next week.
- + Work on enhancing the EBI profiles for HerdPlus users is on-going.
- + A re-designed linear scoring and weight recording report is under development and will be completed over the next couple of weeks.



3 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 30/05/08						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 30/05/08	No. EDIY Herds YTD 30/05/08	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 30/05/08	No. EDIY Cows YTD 30/05/08	% Cows EDIY
Progressive	2,155	830	39%	158,067	57,345	36%
Dairygold	1,536	503	33%	102,326	34,401	34%
Kerry	900	125	14%	69,462	7,679	11%
SWS	1,132	236	21%	54,982	13,882	25%
Tipperary	165	68	41%	10,976	4,733	43%
Arrabawn	163	135	83%	11,274	9,471	84%
Connacht	127	38	30%	7,081	1,879	27%
Donegal	34	34	100%	2,704	2,704	100%
Total	6,212	1,969	32%	416,872	132,094	32%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison				
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2006 Cows Recorded 01/01/06 - 30/05/06	YTD 2007 Cows Recorded 01/01/07 - 30/05/07	YTD 2008 Cows Recorded 01/01/08 - 30/05/08	2008 vs 2007 Year on Year Difference (%)
Progressive	136,129	144,968	158,067	8.3%
Dairygold	89,828	95,222	102,326	6.9%
Kerry	62,949	63,864	69,462	8.1%
SWS	52,921	54,510	54,982	0.9%
Tipperary	9,829	10,812	10,976	1.5%
Arrabawn	9,763	10,365	11,274	8.1%
Connacht	6,755	8,090	7,081	-14.2%
Donegal	3,295	3,182	2,704	-17.7%
Total	371,469	391,013	416,872	6.2%

4 Tully

- ✚ Bull inspections will be finished on the 31-5-08 and the final list will be sent out to breed societies on the 4-6-08.
- ✚ Health testing letters and a list of cattle for testing on the farm will be sent out to breeders on the 3-6-08.
- ✚ Cleaning and disinfection of the pre entry isolation units has started and will be finished before the 23-6-08.

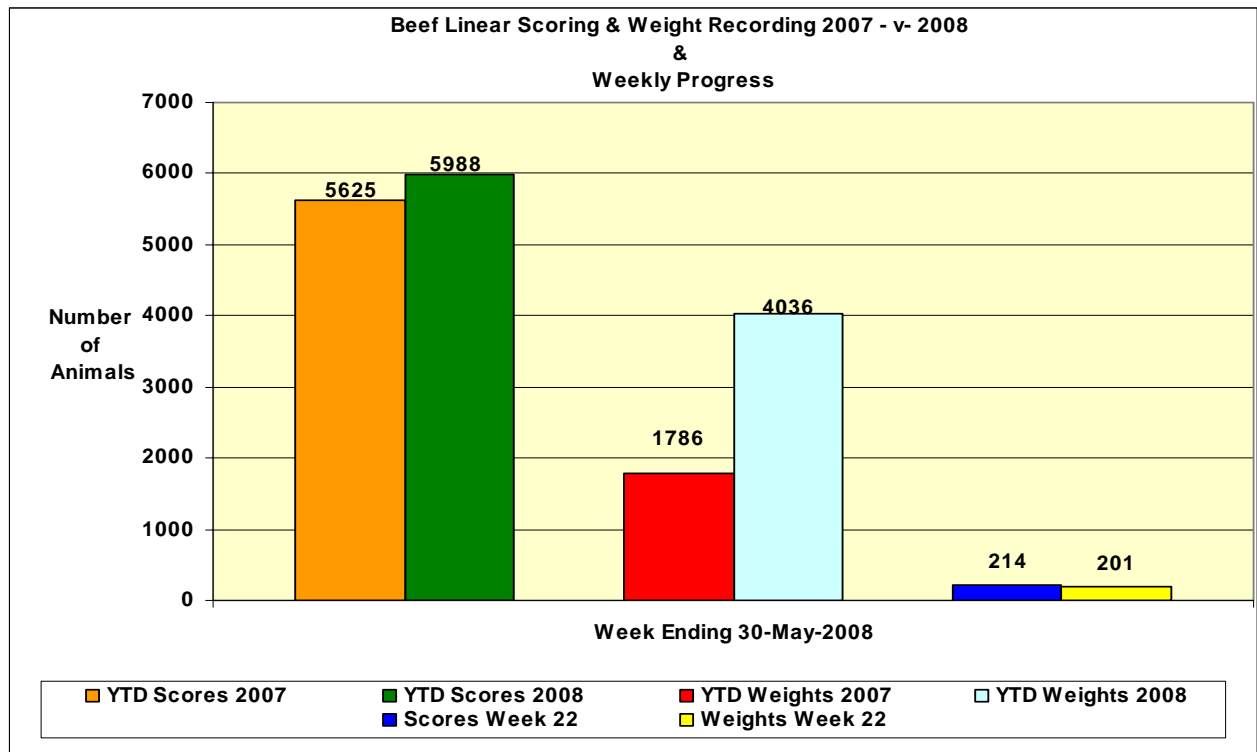


5 Genetic Evaluations

✦ Work continues on various aspects to enhance the genetic evaluations and presentation of information. This work will be on going over the next number of months and will be presented to the respective industries in due course. Current areas include:

- Direct inclusion of foreign data into the beef evaluation.
- Linear evaluations for beef.
- Calving performance.
- Revised bull search.

6 GROW – Linear Scoring & Weight Recording



Brian Wickham Ph.D. Chief Executive Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Soc. Ltd, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co. Cork, Ireland, Phone office +353 (0)23 20222, mobile +353 (0)86 826 9911 Fax office +353 (0)23 20229 E-Mail bwickham@icbf.com ICBF Web site www.icbf.com Assistant: Mary Madden.