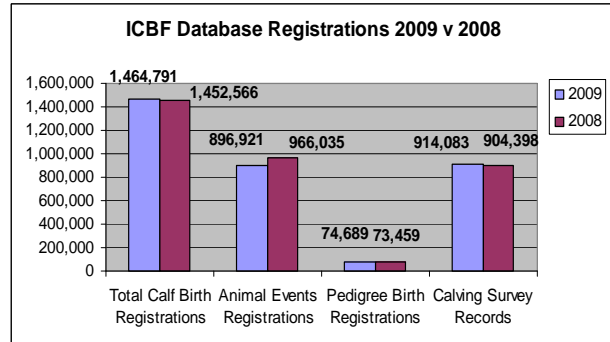
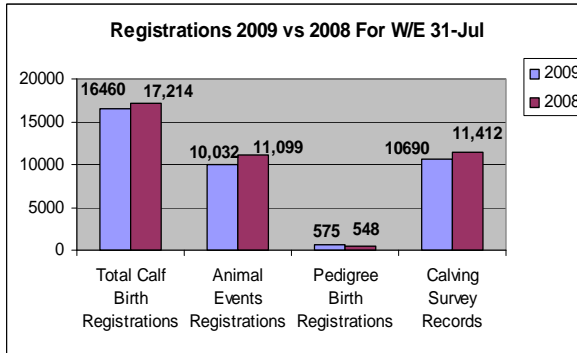


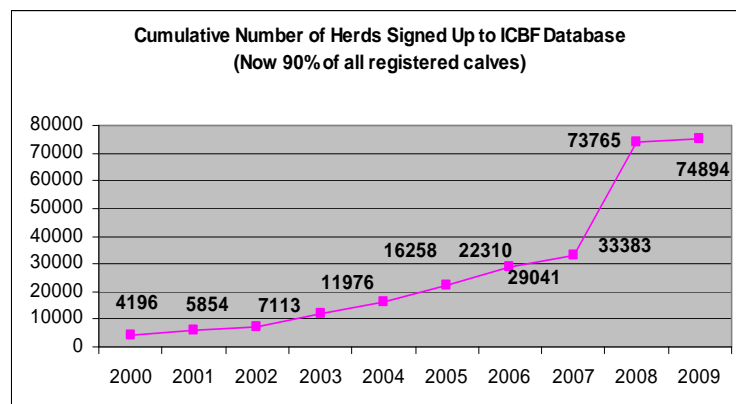
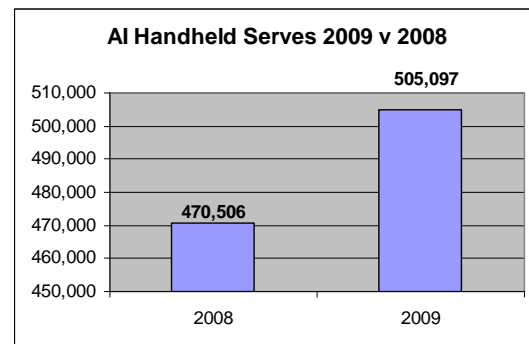
## 1. Important Dates

- ✚ **Tullamore Show - Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> August.** ICBF and Sheep Ireland will have stands featuring recent developments in cattle and sheep breeding.
- ✚ **Interbull Meetings – Sat. and Sun. 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> August.** In Barcelona before EAAP meeting.

## 1 Database



- ✚ The 2009 suckler forms (pre and post weaning) continue to go out to farmers. In relation to 2008 born calves, the number of calves with a meal feeding introduction has increased to 855,000, with just over 727,000 of these having been weaned.
- ✚ The revamp of the Milk Recording system continues. Testing has begun this week, and most of the modules are now in the final stages of completion. Testing within the milk recording organisations will begin the week after next.
- ✚ In conjunction with the finalisation of the milk recording solution, a number of other developments are taking place that will allow the migration of all users to a completely web-based front end, and the removal of the need for the Wide Area Network (WAN). The herdbooks will be the first to move off the WAN, before the end of August.
- ✚ Work on a new mechanism of sending and receiving Suckler scheme data to DAFF is now in the final stages of testing.
- ✚ The revisions to the final fertility report are on-going and will be completed next week.
- ✚ Design of a new on-line application for AI companies to manage their interaction with ICBF on bull codes is underway.
- ✚ The graph above shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2009 compared with 2008. There are more technicians using the handhelds in 2009 than there were in 2008, so even though the number of inseminations recorded is up, it looks like the overall insemes for the season will be down.



## Database Growth

This graph (previous page) illustrates how the ICBF database has grown since its inception in 2000.

## 2 LambPlus

### First Sheep Euro-Star Sale.

- ✚ The first Pedigree Sheep Sale with Euro-Stars displayed for sheep was held by the Irish Vendéen Sheep Society in Roscommon Mart on Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of July. This was noted in the Irish Farmers Journal this week.
- ✚ The Society published the Overall Sheep Value as well as the 3 Sub Indexes (Production, Maternal & Lambing). By publishing all of the Euro-Star indices they enabled a purchaser to make a very well informed selection decision as all of the information was provided.
- ✚ 22 of the sheep, out of 37 lots at the sale, had indexes. 18 Ram Lambs & 4 females. 5 Lambplus participants had sheep for sale at the sale:
- ✚ Cheryl O'Brien had 4 Indexed Rams for sale. She sold the Overall Show Champion, that was also a 5\* Ram for 'Overall Sheep Value', 'Quitrent Isaac' for €600. The other 3 Euro-Star Indexed Rams averaged €400. Indeed the bloodline of this Show Champion was evident in other lots with its Grandsire 'Quitrent Gordon' appearing in the back pedigrees of 7 other lots at the sale.
- ✚ Gordon & Yvonne Johnston sold 5 Euro-Star Indexed Rams. 'Cottage Impala', 5\* - Overall Sheep Value sold for €630. The other 4 indexed Rams averaged €405.
- ✚ Mark Crowe sold 3 Indexed Rams. His 5\* Ram for 'Overall Sheep Value' – 'Killeen Invincible' sold for €570. The other 2 indexed Rams averaged €360.
- ✚ Ena Nagle sold 'Landmark Ivan Bunty' – a 5\* Ram for 'Production' for €440.
- ✚ Tom Duffy sold 4 Euro-Star Indexed Rams. 'Killeen Hagrid' – a 5\* Ram for 'Overall Sheep Value' as well as having a very high Production Sub Index of €1.02 sold for €610. The other 3 indexed Rams averaged €330.
- ✚ Following are some photographs from the sale.



Left to right: Sheep Ireland: Stephen Potterton, Vendéen Society Chairman, Tom Duffy, Lambplus Breeder -Cheryl O'Brien, Judge: Charles Vernon Miller, Sheep Ireland Graham Potterton, Lambplus Breeder -Gordon Johnston.



Vendéen sheep being judged



*Vendeen sheep being judged*



*Vendeen Show Champion Ram, with Owner Cheryl O'Brien, Tom Duffy Judge right*



*Vendeen Sheep being shown at their Premier sale*



*Mark Crowe selling ram at Vendeen Premier sale*

### Ram Lamb Euro-Star Webpage Launched

- ✚ A new 'Ram Lamb Euro-Star' section to the website has been launched. As the name suggests, this section shows all of the Euro-Star results for Ram Lambs born since the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2008.
- ✚ An Explanation Section which explains the new evaluations is included.

- ✚ A link for each Sheep Breed Society with members in the Lambplus Scheme is now also on the website.

### MALP Flocks

- ✚ The compilation of MALP files for the evaluation system has begun. This will make use of the DNA Parentage results linking all of the Commercial Lambs with their Sires.
- ✚ Meetings with MALP Farmers are being held to discuss how they will acquire replacement Lambplus Rams this year.
- ✚ Producer Groups are also being met to formalise their Ram Premium purchasing schemes.
- ✚ Several Rams that are well connected within their own Breed have already been located and their movement to MALP flocks is being organized.

### 3 HerdPlus

- ✚ The 2009 Dairy Calving Report was generated and posted to HerdPlus members during the week. The Beef calving report will be generated this weekend.
- ✚ HerdPlus staff attended an open day on James Murray's farm in Birr, Co Offaly. James was the winner of the Volac sponsored National Heifer rearing competition. Copies of James's HerdPlus reports were distributed to the 250 farmers who attended the event. The summary pages are attached. James herd demonstrates that Irish dairy farmers can achieve good levels of profitability through a combination of superb genetics and superb animal husbandry.

### 4 Genetic Dairy & Beef Evaluations

- ✚ All the work of the evaluations unit will be focused on the routine genetic evaluations for the next couple of weeks. At this point all extracts have been completed and evaluations are underway for most traits. More information will be available next week.

### Carcass Data

- ✚ The software created by E+V (Germany) which transforms the double image of carcasses into meat cuts has been successfully installed at ICBF. The conversion of the digital images stored at ICBF since mid-2005 to predict cut yields will start in the coming weeks.

### 5 Milk Recording

#### National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 21/07/09 to 31/07/09.

	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	16	1,009	63	21.5	3.84	3.37	1.55	326
CAVAN	32	1,801	56	22.6	3.71	3.32	1.59	442
CLARE	24	1,213	51	21.6	3.71	3.32	1.52	300
CORK STH	274	18,133	66	20.7	3.90	3.41	1.51	275
CORK NTH	243	18,154	75	21.6	3.84	3.44	1.57	288
DONEGAL	15	1,436	96	22.3	3.83	3.30	1.59	293
DUBLIN	5	325	65	23.7	3.35	3.47	1.62	398
GALWAY	16	1,198	75	20.8	4.00	3.37	1.53	456
KERRY	135	8,928	66	22.2	3.70	3.32	1.56	390
KILDARE	29	2,252	78	23.0	3.62	3.38	1.61	382
KILKENNY	56	4,188	75	19.7	3.87	3.45	1.44	258
LAOIS	37	2,678	72	21.0	3.82	3.44	1.52	313

LEITRIM	4	174	44	17.1	3.67	3.09	1.16	426
LIMERICK	120	8,508	71	21.1	3.72	3.32	1.49	360
LONGFORD	10	621	62	18.9	3.97	3.41	1.39	395
LOUTH	19	1,616	85	28.7	3.64	3.29	1.99	364
MAYO	36	2,066	57	24.6	3.20	3.33	1.61	413
MEATH	65	5,789	89	21.0	3.83	3.34	1.51	404
MONAGHAN	35	1,875	54	23.0	3.70	3.26	1.60	365
OFFALY	28	1,886	67	22.0	3.79	3.38	1.58	399
ROSCOMMON	2	150	75	25.3	3.38	3.13	1.65	664
SLIGO	12	592	49	21.2	3.62	3.33	1.47	348
TIPPERARY NTH	73	6,161	84	20.1	3.96	3.44	1.49	276
TIPPERARY STH	79	5,399	68	20.1	3.88	3.39	1.46	285
WATERFORD	45	3,917	87	17.9	3.97	3.45	1.33	255
WESTMEATH	19	1,191	63	18.2	4.30	3.49	1.42	290
WEXFORD	68	4,757	70	19.4	3.86	3.41	1.41	304
WICKLOW E	21	1,353	64	19.0	3.71	3.38	1.35	372
WICKLOW W	13	964	74	18.9	3.79	3.33	1.35	411
	<i>No. Herds Recorded</i>	<i>No. Cows Recorded</i>	<i>Average Herd Size</i>	<i>Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow</i>	<i>Average Fat %</i>	<i>Average Protein %</i>	<i>Average F + P kg</i>	<i>Average SCC</i>
National	1,531	108,334	69	21.3	3.76	3.36	1.52	360

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 21/07/09 to 31/07/09

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	993	70,413	71	20.7	3.85	3.39	1.50	304
Leinster	386	28,629	74	21.2	3.76	3.40	1.51	355
Connacht	70	4,180	60	21.8	3.79	3.25	1.53	461
Ulster	82	5,112	62	22.6	3.75	3.29	1.59	367

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 31/07/09

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 31/07/09	No. EDIY Herds YTD 31/07/09	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 31/07/09	No. EDIY Cows YTD 31/07/09	% Cows EDIY
Progressive	2,052	830	40%	171,671	69,134	40%
Dairygold	1,498	558	37%	114,630	44,920	39%
Kerry	888	66	7%	61,539	4,179	7%
SWS	855	113	13%	60,757	8,704	14%
Tipperary	135	55	41%	10,915	4,848	44%
Arrabawn	139	114	82%	11,492	9,713	85%
Connacht	136	47	35%	8,977	3,050	34%
Donegal	32	32	100%	3,659	3,659	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,735</b>	<b>1,815</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>443,640</b>	<b>148,207</b>	<b>33%</b>

**National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 31/07/09**

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 31/07/09	No. EDIY Herds YTD 31/07/09	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 31/07/09	No. EDIY Cows YTD 31/07/09	% Cows EDIY
Progressive	2,052	830	40%	171,671	69,134	40%
Dairygold	1,498	558	37%	114,630	44,920	39%
Kerry	888	66	7%	61,539	4,179	7%
SWS	855	113	13%	60,757	8,704	14%
Tipperary	135	55	41%	10,915	4,848	44%
Arrabawn	139	114	82%	11,492	9,713	85%
Connacht	136	47	35%	8,977	3,050	34%
Donegal	32	32	100%	3,659	3,659	100%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,735</b>	<b>1,815</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>443,640</b>	<b>148,207</b>	<b>33%</b>

**Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison**

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2008 Cows Recorded 01/01/08 - 31/07/08	YTD 2009 Cows Recorded 01/01/09 - 31/07/09	2009 vs 2008 Year on Year Difference (%)
Progressive	175,410	171,671	-2.2%
Dairygold	119,149	114,630	-3.9%
Kerry	77,799	61,539	-26.4%
SWS	60,376	60,757	0.6%
Tipperary	12,837	10,915	-17.6%
Arrabawn	12,546	11,492	-9.2%
Connacht	9,214	8,977	-2.6%
Donegal	4,593	3,659	-25.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>471,924</b>	<b>443,640</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>

Brian Wickham Ph.D. Chief Executive Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Soc. Ltd, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co. Cork, Ireland, Phone office +353 (0)23 882 0222, mobile +353 (0)86 826 9911 Fax office +353 (0)23 882 0229 E-Mail [bwickham@icbf.com](mailto:bwickham@icbf.com) ICBF Web site [www.icbf.com](http://www.icbf.com)

**Dairy Calving Statistics**  
**(01/07/2008 --- 30/06/2009)**

LoCall 1850 600 900

Herd Owner: JAMES MURRAY

Herd Number: IE3310158

Print Date: 17/07/2009

Page: 1(3)

**(a). Summary Data** - Report is based on dairy cows that calved between 01/07/2008 and 30/06/2009 . (Embryo births excluded)

**Spring Calving Dates**

	Start Calving	Median Calving <sup>1</sup>	Last Calving	Calving Period	Avg Age Calving
<b>Cows</b>	03/02/2009	28/02/2009	12/05/2009	14 weeks + 0 days	4y 11m
<b>Heifers</b>	04/02/2009	25/02/2009	12/05/2009	13 weeks + 6 days	2y 0m

	All			Heifers			Eligible Cows <sup>2</sup>	65
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female		
<b>Total Calves born</b>	84	42	42	31	12	19	Total Dairy Calvings	82
<b>Calves Live at Birth</b>	83	41	42	31	12	19		
<b>Calves Dead at Birth</b>	1	1	0	0	0	0		

**(b). Top 5 Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)**

**1. Calving Interval (days)**

Average number of days between successive calvings for cows calved during the period. (52)

Your Herd

370 days

Nat Avg

401 days

Btm. 5%

460 days

Top 5%

365 days

**2. Spring 6 Week Calving Rate**

Number of cows calved within the first 6 weeks (67) as a proportion of all cows calved during the Spring. (82)

82%

53%

19%

82%

**3. Calves per cow per year<sup>3</sup>**

Number of live calves at 28 days (64) that were born to eligible cows. (65)

0.98

0.84

0.62

1 calves per cow

**4. Females not calved in Period**

Number of cows in the herd on 30/06/2009 that did not have a calving in the period, (1) as a proportion of eligible cows. (65)

2%

11%

29%

0%

**5. Current Replacements rate**

Number of 1st calving cows on 30/06/2009 (18) as a proportion of eligible cows. (65)

28%

25%

Not Applicable

Target 18-22%

**Explanatory Notes**

**1. Median Calving Date:** Date on which 50% of your cows have calved.

**2. Eligible Cows:** Number of dairy cows in the herd on 30/06/2009

**3. Calves per cow per year:** Number of calves born to eligible cows & live at 28 days / eligible cows.

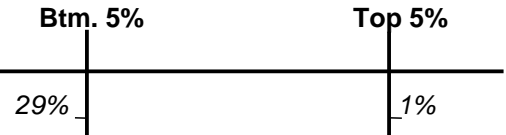
Herd Owner: JAMES MURRAY  
Herd Number: IE3310158  
Print Date: 17/07/2009  
Page: 2(3)

**(c). Other Performance Indicators**

**6. Cows Culled in period**

Number of cows culled (Factory/Died) during the period. (2) as a proportion of eligible cows (65)

Your Herd: 3%  
Nat Avg: 14%



**7. Average no.of calvings per cow**

Average number of calvings per eligible cow

Your Herd: 3.2  
Nat Avg: 3.5



**8. Recycled Cows**

% of cows that slipped from one calving season to the next (1) as a proportion of eligible cows. (65)

Your Herd: 2%  
Nat Avg: 20%



**9. Autumn 6 Week Calving Rate**

Number of cows calved within the first 6 weeks, as a proportion of all cows calved during the Autumn. (0)

Your Herd: n/a  
Nat Avg: 37%



**10. Potential replacement rate**

Dairy Females born in the period and in the herd on 30/06/2009 (42) as a proportion of eligible cows (65)

Your Herd: 65%  
Nat Avg: 26%



**11. Replacements bred to Dairy AI**

Replacements born in the period that are bred to Dairy AI (38)

Your Herd: 90%  
Nat Avg: 51%



**12. Births with a known sire**

Number of births with a known sire recorded, (84) as a proportion of all births during the period. (84)

Your Herd: 100%  
Nat Avg: 53%



**13. Births with calving survey data**

Number of births with calving survey data (84) as a proportion of all births during the period. (84)

Your Herd: 100%  
Nat Avg: 45%



**14. Mortality - Dead at Birth**

Number of calves born dead (1) as a proportion of all births during the period (84)

Your Herd: 1.2%  
Nat Avg: 4.6%



**15. Mortality - Dead at 28 Days**

Number of calves born dead or dead within 28 days, (1) as a proportion of all births recorded during the period. (84)

Your Herd: 1.2%  
Nat Avg: 6.4%



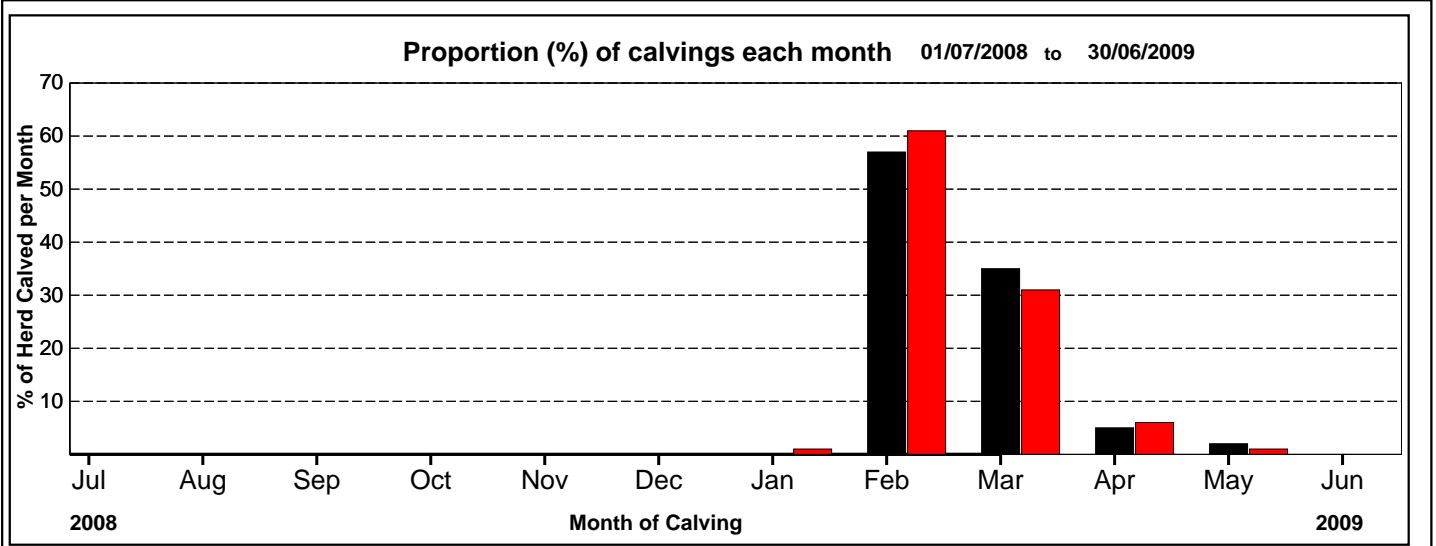


**Dairy Calving Statistics**  
**(01/07/2008 --- 30/06/2009)**

LoCall 1850 600 900

Herd Owner: JAMES MURRAY  
Herd Number: IE3310158  
Print Date: 17/07/2009  
Page: 3(3)

**d. Current Calving Pattern**

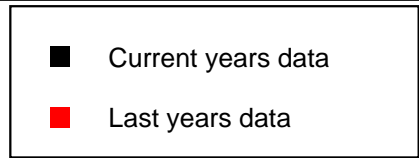


**2008**

Month	No. Calved	% Calved
Jul	0	0
Aug	0	0
Sep	0	0
Oct	0	0
Nov	0	0
Dec	0	0

**2009**

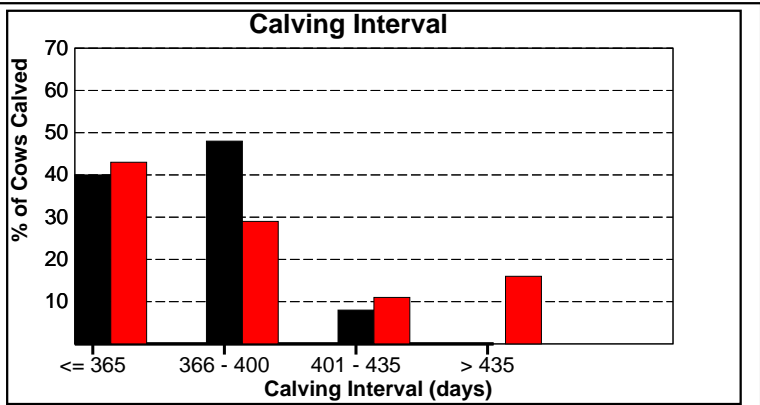
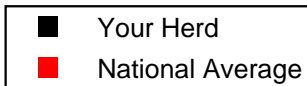
Month	No. Calved	% Calved
Jan	0	0
Feb	47	57
Mar	29	35
Apr	4	5
May	2	2
Jun	0	0



**e. Additional Information**

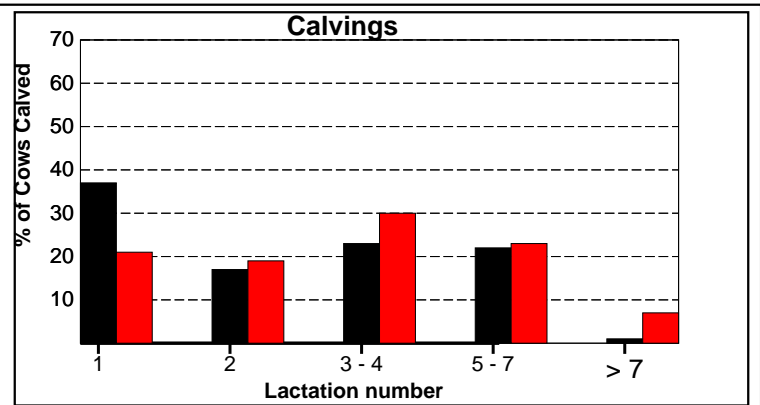
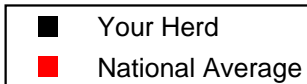
**A. Calving Interval**

Calving Interval	No. Calved	% Calved
% Cows calved <= 365 days	21	40
% Cows calved 366 - 400 days	25	48
% Cows calved 401 - 435 days	4	8
% Cows calved > 435 days	0	0



**B. Number of Calvings**

Calvings	No. cows	% of cows
1st Calving	30	37
2nd Calving	14	17
3rd - 4th Calving	19	23
5th - 7th Calving	18	22
> 7th Calving	1	1



# Weekly Fertility Report Spring 2009

LoCall 1850 600 900

Herd Owner: JAMES MURRAY  
Herd Number: IE3310158

—  
—  
—  
—

<b>Mating Start Date (MSD):</b> 02/05/2009 06/05/2009 <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; font-size: small;"> <span>Cows</span> <span>Heifers</span> </div>	<b>Report Date:</b> 11/07/2009
--	--------------------------------

**(a). Calving Summary Data - Report is based on dairy cows that calved from 03/02/2009**

	Spring Dairy Calving Dates	
	Start Calving	Median Calving <sup>1</sup>
<b>Cows</b>	03/02/2009	28/02/2009 (25 days)
<b>Heifers</b>	04/02/2009	25/02/2009 (21 days)
<b>Herd</b>	03/02/2009	25/02/2009 (22 days)
<b>Total Dairy Calvings</b>	82	
<b>Total Dairy Calves Born</b>	84	

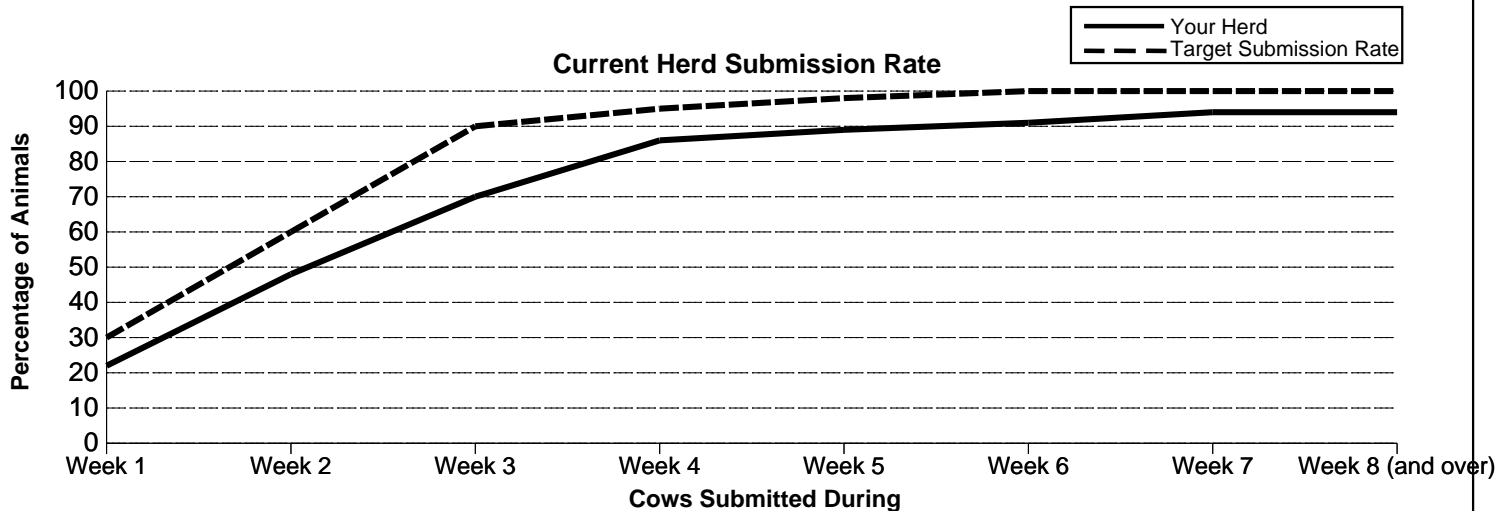
	Spring Dairy Calving Pattern	
	Num. Calved (%)	Top 15% <sup>2</sup>
<b>Week 3</b>	34 (41%)	47%
<b>Week 6</b>	67 (82%)	74%
<b>Week 9</b>	77 (94%)	88%

**Explanatory Notes**

<sup>1</sup> **Median Calving:** Date on which 50% of cows/heifers have calved as a percentage of cows/heifers calved on report date.

<sup>2</sup> **Top 15%:** This figure relates to the National Top 15% of Spring Calving Dairy Herds.

**(b). Current Herd Submission Rate - Report is based on dairy cows that calved from 03/02/2009**



**(c). Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)**

	Cows		Maiden Heifers	
	Your Herd	Top 15%	Your Herd	Top 15%
<b>Days since Mating Start Date:</b>	71	67		
	Cows      Heifers			
<b>1. 21-day Submission rate</b> <small>Cows/heifers submitted for mating within 21 days of MSD (45 cows/ 27 heifers) as a percentage calved up to 21 days after MSD (64) /dairy heifers &gt; 11mths (43)</small>	70%	69%	63%	83%
<b>2. 42-day Submission rate</b> <small>Cows/heifers submitted for mating within 42 days of MSD (58 cows/ 37 heifers) as a percentage calved up to 42 days after MSD (64) /dairy heifers &gt; 11mths (43)</small>	91%	85%	86%	92%
<b>3. Cows calved &gt;30 days and not bred</b> <small>% of cows calved greater than 30 days at MSD (60) and not yet submitted within 21 days of MSD (15)</small>	25%	21%		
<b>4. 6 Week Repeat rate</b> <small>Cows/heifers with more than one serve (9 cows/ 1 heifers) as a percentage of cows/heifers served in the 1st 6 weeks (58 cows/ 37 heifers)</small>	16%	40% *	3%	30% *

\* This is a target figure as many farmers do not record stock bull serves, therefore the top 15% would not be accurate.

# Economic Breeding Index (EBI) Herd Summary Report

Herd Owner: JAMES MURRAY  
Herd Number: IE3310158  
Data Extracted: 09/03/2009

LoCall 1850 600 900

## 1. EBI Herd Summary

Average EBI for all dairy cows with; (i) a known sire (or milk recorded progeny with a known sire) and (ii) are currently on your farm.

Group	Num of Cows	M Kg F Kg P Kg	F% P %	Surv% CI Days	Milk Solids % Contrib	Fertility % Contrib	Calving % Contrib	Beef % Contrib	Health % Contrib	EBI €
Overall Cows	64	0			€ 32.9	€ 64.2	€ 17.1	€ -5	€ -2.1	€ 107
		4.9	0.10	2.0	27.1%	52.9%	14.1%	-4.1%	-1.7%	
		3.9	0.08	-3.5						
1st Lactation	20	30			€ 40.8	€ 58.5	€ 20.1	€ -4.6	€ -1.4	€ 113
		8.1	0.14	1.8	32.5%	46.7%	16%	-3.7%	-1.1%	
		4.8	0.08	-3.2						
2nd Lactation	9	-25			€ 37.8	€ 66.7	€ 17.4	€ -4.8	€ -3.5	€ 114
		3.6	0.09	2.0	29%	51.2%	13.4%	-3.7%	-2.7%	
		4.5	0.11	-3.7						
3rd Lactation	14	-83			€ 24.9	€ 71.9	€ 17.4	€ -5.2	€ -1.4	€ 108
		2.5	0.11	2.4	20.6%	59.5%	14.4%	-4.3%	-1.2%	
		2.1	0.1	-3.8						
4th Lactation	4	20			€ 35.5	€ 72.1	€ 18.7	€ -4.7	€ -1.4	€ 120
		9.0	0.16	2.3	26.8%	54.5%	14.1%	-3.5%	-1.1%	
		3.8	0.06	-3.9						
5th Lactation (+)	17	40			€ 26.9	€ 61.2	€ 12.6	€ -5.5	€ -3	€ 92
		3.1	0.04	1.9	24.6%	56%	11.5%	-5%	-2.7%	
		3.9	0.05	-3.4						

## 2. Dairy Youngstock

08 Calves	42	-8			€ 38.5	€ 58.7	€ 20.1	€ -6.9	€ -1.4	€ 109
		6.5	0.14	2.0	30.7%	46.7%	16%	-5.5%	-1.1%	
		4.3	0.1	-3.0						
07 Calves	2	99			€ 51.2	€ 57	€ 15.7	€ -4.7	€ -1.7	€ 117
		9.6	0.12	1.3	39.3%	43.7%	12%	-3.6%	-1.3%	
		6.9	0.08	-3.6						

Herd EBI pattern

