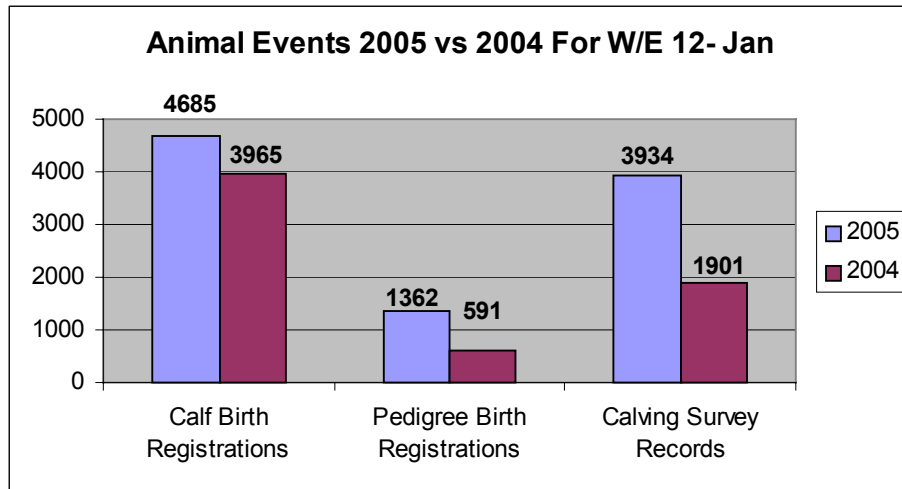




UPDATE – for period 10th – 14th January 2005

1 Database Update

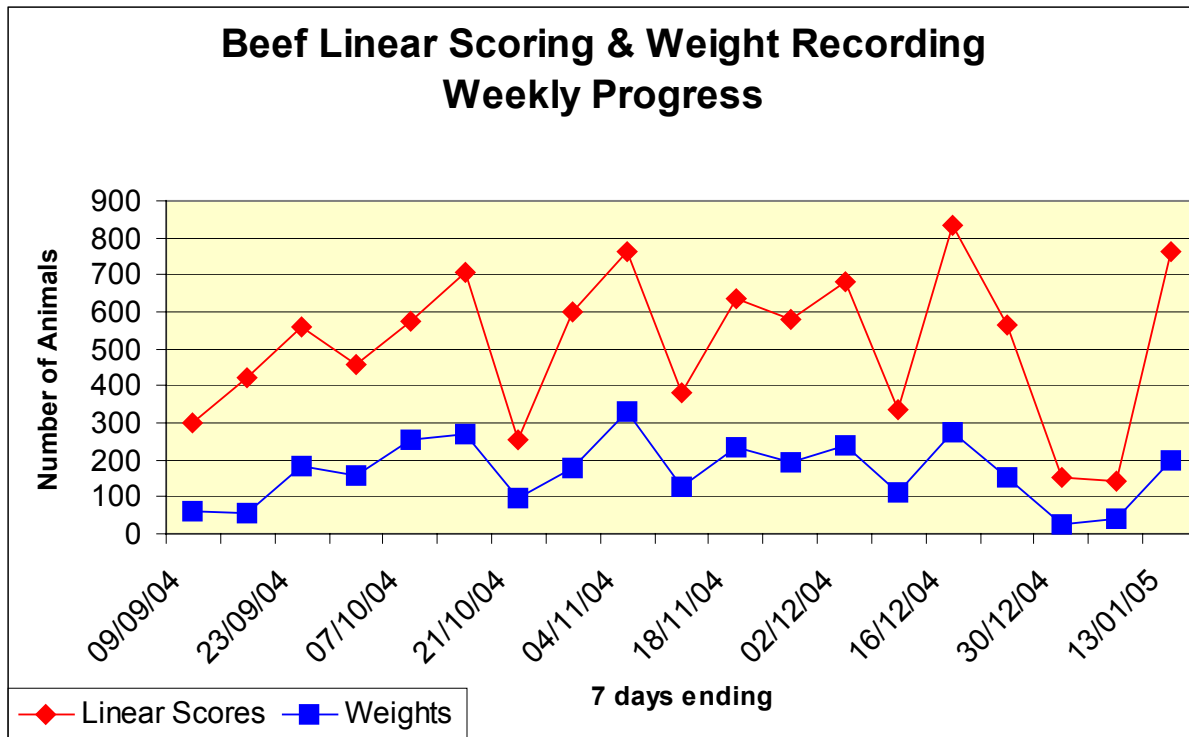
- 249 New Herds added to the database - The new herds this week are primarily those who are members of AI organisations.



- Dovea AI handheld trials will begin at the end of next week. The main issue to be faced in Dovea, and indeed all the other organisations, is to get all the AI customers signed up to the database as soon as possible, so that the herd details will be on the handheld when the technician arrives on-farm.
- The security on the transmission of GPRS data from handhelds to the database has been finalised this week.
- 2703 Teagasc ICBF permission forms have now been returned by Teagasc clients. Testing will begin on the solution giving access to farmer and advisor on-line next week, as planned. Work on internet security for the on-line access to reports should be completed next week, with extensive testing the following week.
- Database work on finalising annual milk recording reports has continued this week and the first of the annual reports are now being issued.
- The database extracts for genetic evaluations were completed this week.
- Work on the generating complete statistics from the database for 2004 is on-going and will take a number of weeks to complete.
- Some enhancements around the DIY Electronic milk recording are being worked on at the moment and should be complete at the end of next week.
- A meeting with the Rotbunt society this week has begun the process of migrating the Rotbunt herdbook into the ICBF database.
- A solution to allow scanning of Animal Events sheets will be delivered to SWS on Monday - this will assist the member organisations in dealing with farmer queries in a more timely fashion.
- We have begun moving the member organisations from the current ISDN/Leased Line means of communication to a broadband solution. This will help to cut the telecommunications bills significantly.



2 Beef Linear Scoring & Weight Recording



3 Milk Recording Processing

Milk Recording Organisation	Herds Recorded Week 07/01/05 - 14/01/05
Progressive	389
SWS	95
Dairygold	64
Kerry	52
Connacht	25
Arrabawn	4
Tipperary	1
Total	630



4 Genetic evaluation update

- Data extraction for the genetic evaluation for production traits was completed this week, the national evaluation was started today and should be complete next week. The current run for black and white breeds will be followed by a parallel evaluation across breeds.
- Data extraction for calving interval and survival as well as calving difficulty has also started so evaluation of these traits is expected to start next week.

5 Tully

- Construction of a purpose built seating area in the Sales ring has commenced and should be finished by the end of January.
- A group of commercial beef farmers visited Tully on 13-1-05 and were impressed with the standard of bulls on test.
- The October intake were tested for TB on Tuesday 11-1-05 and passed on 14-1-05.
- The sale catalogue for the October intake will be up on the ICBF web site from the 18-1-05, it is also planned to put the December intake which will be for sale in May up before the end of January.
- Construction of a purpose built seating area in the sales ring has started

6 Important Date in January

Genetic Evaluation Consultation Meeting – Beef and Dairy. 25th January. The Heritage Hotel Portlaoise.

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