



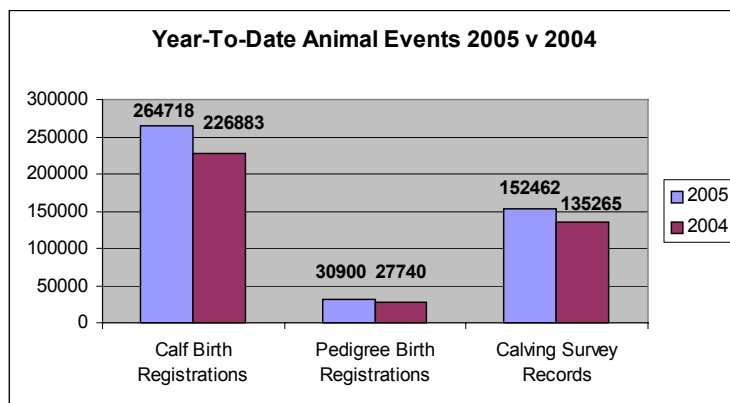
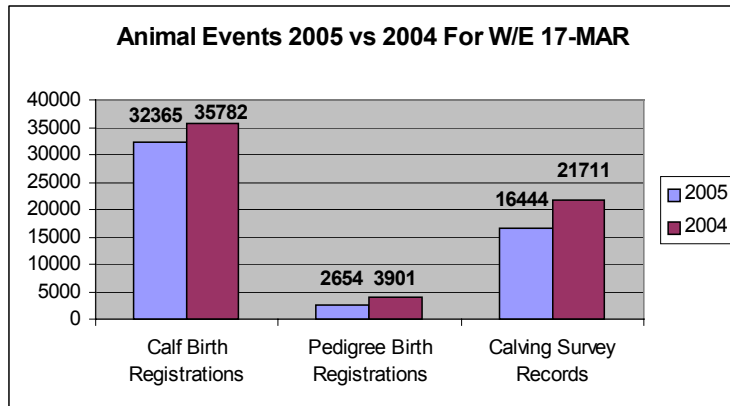
**UPDATE – for period 12<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March 2005**

**1 Cattle Breeding – Important Dates**

- **10:00 – 17:00 Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March, at the Punchestown Event Centre, Naas, Co. Kildare.** **National Spring Fair.** ICBF and its member organisations will have a stand at this event featuring: the database, electronic DIY milk recording, recent enhancements to the EBI and progeny testing. This promises to be a day where dairy farmers interested in cattle breeding can obtain the latest information on all aspects of breeding.
- **14:00 Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, Dublin.** Launch of National Cattle Breeding Centre.
- **10:30 – 13:00 and 14:00 – 16:00, The Montague Hotel, Emo, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.** Herd Book Operations Review, Beef Technical Meeting and Meeting of Numerically Small Herd Books.
- **10:30 – 13:00 Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March, Great Southern Hotel, Cork Airport.** Audit & Finance Sub-Committee.
- **10:30 – 13:00 Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March, Heritage Hotel, Port Laois.** ICBF Board meeting.
- **5<sup>th</sup> May.** ICBF Annual General Meeting.

**2 Database Update**

- 448 New Herds added to the database
- Comment from the staff in the Animal Events office: *"The numbers of AE Sheets coming in is staying high, though the Missing sire reports and dry off sheets have reduce to almost nil. We are still getting jumbo assignment sheets for processing and we are also still very busy with new herd permission forms."*
- 4,161 Teagasc ICBF permission forms have now been returned by Teagasc clients. The Teagasc Beef Client forms are coming back at the rate of 50-75 per day. The total number of Teagasc Beef herds signed up is now some 950. This is great progress.
- Work on the latest EBI reports has been finished. The reports will be available on-line from Monday. The printing and distribution has begun today and will take until the end of next week to complete.

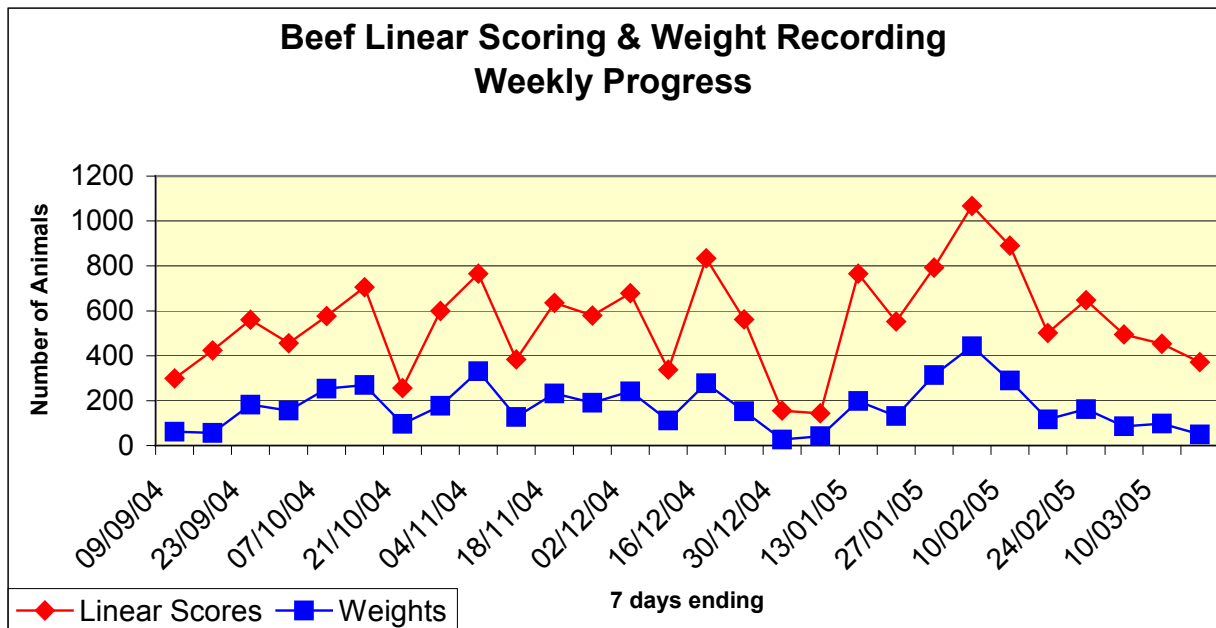


- Attached is an example of the modified EBI report. The report now includes information for the four sub-indexes – milk, fertility, calving and beef. This report includes averages and detailed information for both the milking cows and young stock. The covering letter gives instructions to farmers who wish to access their EBI report over the internet.



- The rollout of the AI handhelds is moving more slowly than anticipated - the number of herds returning authorization forms after being contacted by phone has been much slower than expected. These forms are essential as they give DAF the farmer's permission for animal data to be copied to the ICBF database.
- Work on generating complete statistics from the database for 2004 is on-going. This work will be finished at the end of March.
- The full integration of SMS text messaging to the database is continuing. The basic infrastructure is now in place and is being tested. The ability to receive insemination data from farmers using text messaging is being tested. The functionality will be available for demonstration at the Spring Fair in Punchestown on March 19th.
- The development work to get all herdbooks available on-line is on-going and will be finished next week.

### 3 Beef Linear Scoring & Weight Recording



### 4 Tully

- A review of the March Tully Bull Sale will be presented at the Beef Technical meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> April in the Montague Hotel Emo, Portlaoise.
- Inspections for the May intake will start on 23<sup>rd</sup> March. Health testing will take place on 11<sup>th</sup> April and the entry date to Tully will be from 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2005.
- Preparations are under way for the next Sale in Tully on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2005. There will be 97 bulls offered for Sale.
- On 18<sup>th</sup> April a group of 20 Beef farmers from Antrim will visit Tully.



## 5 Milk Recording

Milk Recording Organisation	2005 Herds Recorded Week Ending - 18/03/05	2004 Herds Recorded Week Ending - 19/03/04
Progressive	369	270
Dairygold	187	144
SWS	165	160
Kerry	145	232
Connacht	13	20
Tipperary	13	48
Arrabawn	8	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>892</b>

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A N OTHER  
SHINAGH  
BANDON  
CO CORK

National ID: IE1234567

Dear Herdowner

16th March 2005

Enclosed are:

1. Herd EBI Reports
2. Details of how to access reports via the web

Please take time to study each of these, as they will greatly assist you in identifying the most profitable cows (and bulls) for breeding dairy herd replacements (or culling cows).

**Herd EBI Reports.** These contain information on the Economic Breeding Index (EBI) for Holstein Friesian females in your herd. The EBI is an indication of the expected profit/lactation from progeny of each female and contains information on milk production (52% weighting), fertility/survival (35% weighting), calving difficulty & gestation (8% weighting) and carcass (5% weighting) traits. It reflects the animals ancestry (e.g. sire, dam, maternal grand sire) and includes information on the animals own performance (provided the cow is calved and in milk recording). Where the animal is not in milk recording (e.g. young-stock), the EBI is just based on ancestry information.

Your cattle breeding reports can now be viewed either through your milk recording or herdbook websites, or through the ICBF website at [www.icbf.com](http://www.icbf.com) (and click the 'Online Reports' image)

Your username is: IE1234567

Your password is:

I hope these reports will be of value to you in your decision making over the coming months. If you have any questions or comments, please call the Animal Events Helpline at 1850-625-626 or email [query@icbf.com](mailto:query@icbf.com)

Yours sincerely,



Brian Wickham  
Chief Executive, Irish Cattle Breeding Federation

*These reports are provided as part of the service from your milk recording, AI and herdbook organizations including; Arrabawn Co-op, Connacht Gold Co-op, Dairygold AI & Farm Services, South Eastern Cattle Breeding Society, Irish Holstein Friesian Association, Kerry Agri Business, Progressive Genetics, South Western Services and Tipperary Co-op.*

# Economic Breeding Index (EBI) Herd Summary Report - Mar 2005

Herd Owner: A N OTHER  
Herd Number: IE1234567

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Group	Num of Cows	M Kg F Kg P Kg	F% P %	Surv% CI Days	Milk Fertility	Calving Beef	EBI € EBI Rel (%)
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## 1. Active Cows in Milk Recording

Average EBI for all Holstein Friesian cows with; (i) a known sire (or milk recorded progeny with a known sire), (ii) valid lactation record (between 1 and 5) and (iii) are currently on your farm.

Overall	93	199			€43.4	€0.4	€40
		7.5	0.00	0.6	€-3.7	€0.3	35%
		9.2	0.04	0.0			
1st Lactation	22	254			€55.6	€0.4	€48
		9.7	0.00	1.2	€-8.4	€0.4	32%
		11.8	0.06	0.0			
2nd Lactation	21	154			€34.2	€-0.8	€34
		5.2	-0.01	0.1	€0.3	€-0.1	33%
		7.4	0.04	0.1			
3rd Lactation	9	210			€54	€2.1	€54
		8.2	0.01	0.4	€-1.5	€-0.7	36%
		11.2	0.07	0.1			
4th Lactation (+)	41	191			€39.3	€0.7	€37
		7.4	0.01	0.5	€-3.7	€0.7	37%
		8.3	0.03	0.0			

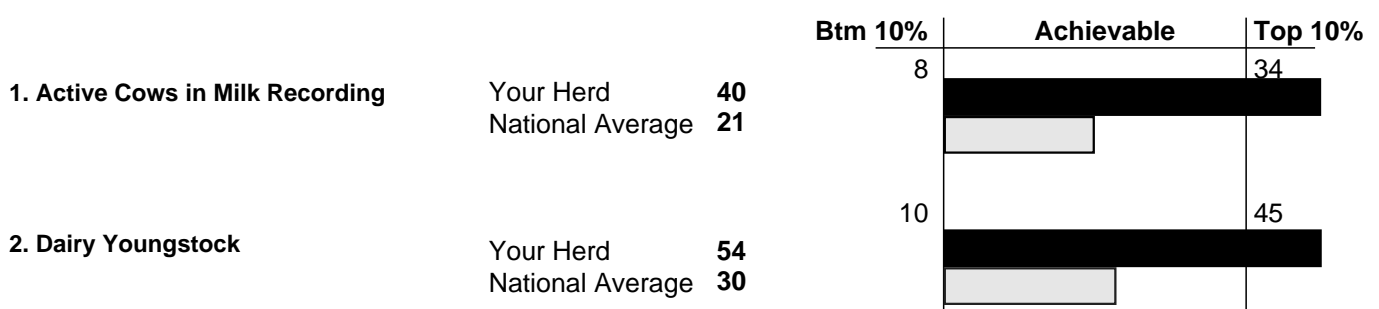
## 2. Dairy Youngstock

Average EBI for all Holstein Friesian youngstock with a known sire and are currently on your farm. Please note that this summary may be incomplete due to young-stock not yet (or just recently) registered.

Females 0-9 months	28	211			€52	€-2	€47
		7.8	11.0	0.4	€-3.4	€0.8	30%
		0.00	0.07	-0.1			
Females 9+ months	44	185			€45.1	€0.2	€54
		7.5	9.3	-0.4	€7.1	€1.4	30%
		0.01	0.06	0.4			

## 3. Herd Performance

Herd figures are expressed relative to all herds in milk recording, where the herd has a minimum of 30 animals with a valid EBI record.



### **How does your herd rank on EBI value ?**

The Economic Breeding Index is the most accurate way of establishing expected profit from your herd from breeding.

Table 1 will indicate where your herd ranks in EBI value relative to all herds in milk recording (this is based on some 6006 herds with >30 cows in milk recording).

**Table 1.** *Ranking of Herds on EBI value*

<b>Top 1%</b>	<b>Top 5%</b>	<b>Top 10%</b>	<b>Top 25%</b>	<b>Ave.</b>	<b>Btm 25%</b>	<b>Btm 10%</b>	<b>Btm 5%</b>	<b>Btm 1%</b>
€45	€38	€34	€28	€21	€14	€8	€4	€-4

If your herd has an overall EBI value of 34 euro (or greater), then your herd is in the top 10% of herds in the country. If your herd EBI is 8 euro ( or less), then you are in the bottom 10%.

How can I increase the EBI of my herd and hence increase profit from breeding.

1. Identify the highest EBI cows in your herd from your EBI report.
2. Mate these cows to bulls from the "Active Bull List".
3. Where possible cull/sell surplus cows on the basis of EBI.

This will ensure that the profit generated from your dairy herd is increased in the future.

### **Top Cows on EBI value**

The ranking of cows on EBI value is given in Table 2. If you have a cow with an EBI value of 63 euro (or greater), then she is ranked in the top 5% of all cows in the National milk recording population (based on 370,691 animals in milk recording and with an EBI value.

**Table 2.** *Ranking of Animals on EBI value*

<b>Top 1%</b>	<b>Top 5%</b>	<b>Top 10%</b>	<b>Top 25%</b>	<b>Ave.</b>	<b>Btm 25%</b>	<b>Btm 10%</b>	<b>Btm 5%</b>	<b>Btm 1%</b>
€79	€63	€55	€40	€23	€5	€-11	€-21	€-40

# Economic Breeding Index (EBI) Animal Report

Herd Owner:   A N OTHER  
Herd No:       IE1234567  
Page:          1(12)

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Cow ID	Sire ID	Sire EBI	Sire Name	C. Date	M Kg	F %	Surv%	Milk	Calving	EBI €
Name	Dam FB	Dam EBI	Dam Tag/HB No.	Age	F Kg	F %	CI	Fertility	Beef	Rel.
Breed	MG Sire ID	MGS EBI	MG Sire Name	Lact.	P Kg	P %	(Days)			Herd Rk.
8 IESNYH0008G	ASE	35	SILVER BEAT ET	15/01/2005	129		1.6	€63	€-4	€82
P JERRI 5	318	49	DSK184229	9y 1m	15.5	0.18	-1.5	€27	€-3	38%
HO 84.4% FR 15.6%	DSK	30	SHEIKSON	8	9.5	0.09				5
10 IESNYH0010V	EZF	70	FERRARI	09/02/2004	274		-0.2	€83	€4	€75
P IRIS 4	342	73	DDL529664	9y 1m	16.0	0.09	2.1	€-17	€5	37%
HO 87.5% FR 0%	EZB	81	BOWI	6	15.5	0.10				8
39 IESNYH0039U	ASE	35	SILVER BEAT ET	11/10/2004	16		0.5	€-6	€-4	€-4
P JERRI 6		-19	DWA896192	9y 0m	3.5	0.05	-0.4	€9	€-2	38%
HO 62.5% FR 12.5%	DIJ	-8	JERICHO	7	-2.0	-0.05				98
41 IESNYH0041J	ESQ	17	ESQUIMAU	28/11/2003	4		-0.6	€5	€-1	€3
P NANCY 5	246	16	DGL561689	9y 0m	0.0	0.00	-0.5	€-3	€3	38%
HO 87.5% FR 12.5%	VKS	52	KLAUS	5	1.0	0.02				94
61 IESNYH0061C	ESQ	17	ESQUIMAU	20/09/2004	166		-0.5	€12	€-1	€25
P LEONE 3	330	17	DDL529037	8y 6m	-2.5	-0.15	-1.9	€8	€6	39%
HO 84.4% FR 3.1%	OMR	42	OMAR	6	5.5	0.00				73
67 IESNYH0067P	ELC	64	CASH	28/10/2004	1		0.8	€17	€3	€43
P ROSE 5	271	-24	DSK88576	8y 6m	6.0	0.11	-1.9	€22	€1	38%
HO 62.5% FR 37.5%	WYT	-31	BARONET ET	7	1.5	0.03				50
107 IESNYH0107E	DCJ	-49	JABOT	27/09/2004	178		-0.1	€40	€-5	€13
P SNOWDROP 4	278#	25	0101578582	8y 4m	15.0	0.14	2.3	€-18	€-3	36%
HO 62.5% FR 25%	LSR	26	SOLDIER ET	4	6.0	0.00				88
136 IESNYH0136W	ELC	64	CASH	23/01/2005	236		0.8	€45	€6	€62
P MARIA 7	247	49	DSK184765	8y 1m	7.5	-0.02	-0.3	€10	€1	38%
HO 46.9% FR 40.6%	BEY	45	ECONOMY	7	10.0	0.04				22
148 IESNYH0148P	ELC	64	CASH	11/11/2003	261		1.2	€59	€7	€72
P IRIS 5	342	73	DDL529664	8y 0m	9.5	-0.01	0.8	€7	€0	39%
HO 84.4% FR 3.1%	EZB	81	BOWI	5	12.5	0.06				10
167 IESNYH0167K	ELC	64	CASH	03/03/2004	134		0.4	€20	€5	€21
P NANNYBREEZE 9	261	-36	DMK159404	7y 11m	3.0	-0.04	1.5	€-6	€2	39%
HO 53.1% FR 46.9%	TBN	-35	BERLIN	6	5.0	0.01				77
183 IESNYH0183M	ELC	64	CASH	28/03/2004	127		0.6	€38	€4	€51
P AMANDA 14	295	1	DSK188986	7y 5m	9.5	0.08	-0.5	€10	€0	41%
HO 59.4% FR 40.6%	WYT	-31	BARONET ET	5	6.5	0.04				38
200 IESNYH0200Q	ASI	45	INGOT	09/02/2004	72		0.1	€28	€1	€39
P NORA MAY 36	288	39	DSK188144	7y 4m	3.5	0.02	-1.0	€8	€1	46%
HO 65.6% FR 34.4%	CHW	25	LINIER	4	5.5	0.05				55
205 IESNYH0205E	ASI	45	INGOT	26/02/2004	250		-0.6	€66	€-3	€55
P MILLIE 10	319	14	DYK923973	7y 4m	17.0	0.12	-0.4	€-4	€-4	38%
HO 87.5% FR 0%	COA	-42	COMBAT ET	4	11.5	0.05				34
208 IESNYH0208X	RRG	-2	GUTHRIE	17/02/2004	282		-0.4	€46	€-4	€20
P GUTHERIE NORA MA	353	60	DCL979178	7y 4m	12.5	0.03	2.5	€-21	€0	37%
HO 75% FR 25%	EZF	70	FERRARI	4	9.5	0.00				80

# Economic Breeding Index (EBI) Animal Report

Herd Owner:   A N OTHER  
Herd No:       IE1234567  
Page:          12(12)

Cow ID Name Breed	Sire ID Dam FB MG Sire ID	Sire EBI Dam EBI MGS EBI	Sire Name Dam Tag/HB No. MG Sire Name	C. Date Age Lact.	M Kg F Kg P Kg	F % P %	Surv% CI (Days)	Milk Fertility	Calving Beef	EBI € Rel. Herd Rk.
IE151013780818	AHD	58	ARCHIBALD		174		0.9	€53	€1	€74
P MARGO 13	487	91	IE151013780487	0y 1m	5.5	-0.01	-1.3	€19	€1	32%
HO 96.9% FR 3.1%	QUR	80	EUROPE ET		11.3	0.10				
IE151013770817	RMB	32	BALEY		201		-0.4	€69	€-6	€44
P NORA MAY 60	3730	56	IE151013710373	0y 1m	11.3	0.07	2.1	€-19	€1	30%
HO 75% FR 25%	ASI	45	INGOT		13.0	0.10				
IE151013720820	GMI	74	MERCI ET		207		0.3	€44	€2	€52
P NANNYBREEZE 29	578	28	IE151013780578	0y 1m	9.0	0.02	-0.6	€7	€-2	34%
HO 96.9% FR 3.1%	ASI	45	INGOT		9.0	0.03				
IE151013780826	RMB	32	BALEY		91		0.0	€54	€-5	€48
P AMANDA 41	596	62	IE151013710596	0y 1m	5.0	0.04	-0.1	€1	€-2	29%
HO 93.8% FR 6.3%	MFX	66	FERRO		10.3	0.12				
IE151013790827	DUF	-1	MARSMAN		205		-0.3	€34	€-4	€16
P AMANDA 42	286	1	IESNYH0286B	0y 1m	2.3	-0.10	1.7	€-15	€1	17%
HO 84.4% FR 3.1%	FAL	15	FATAL		9.0	0.04				
IE151013710828	GMI	74	MERCI ET		97		0.6	€36	€2	€57
P RITA 25	504	40	IE151013780504	0y 1m	5.8	0.04	-2.0	€20	€-1	35%
HO 96.9% FR 3.1%	AHD	58	ARCHIBALD		6.8	0.07				
IE151013720829	GMI	74	MERCI ET		204		0.4	€43	€5	€50
P NANNYBREEZE 30	327	26	IE151013740327	0y 1m	8.5	0.02	0.2	€2	€0	35%
HO 87.5% FR 12.5%	HPM	30	MARCONI		9.0	0.04				
IE151013740830	GMI	74	MERCI ET		162		0.5	€45	€2	€61
P AMELIA 14	595	48	IE151013790595	0y 1m	8.0	0.03	-1.3	€15	€0	34%
HO 96.9% FR 3.1%	MFX	66	FERRO		8.8	0.06				
IE151013750831	RMB	32	BALEY		47		-0.3	€41	€-4	€46
P JILL 14	262	59	IESNYH0262R	0y 1m	4.8	0.06	-0.8	€3	€5	31%
HO 93.8% FR 0%	MAU	105	MARS USNES		7.3	0.10				
IE151013780834	RUU	120	RUUD		284		0.8	€64	€10	€91
P IRIS 22	226	63	IESNYH0226V	0y 1m	13.3	0.04	-1.4	€18	€0	29%
HO 96.9% FR 3.1%	CAU	35	AMOS		12.8	0.05				
IE151013740839	HRZ	85	BREIZ		378		1.0	€58	€0	€66
P SNOWDROP 16	643	46	IE151013770643	0y 0m	7.6	-0.10	0.2	€9	€-1	34%
HO 96.9% FR 3.1%	MFX	66	FERRO		14.8	0.04				