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UPDATE - FOR WEEK 13TH MARCH TO 19TH MARCH 2004.

1. Audit & Finance Sub-Committee

- Papers for next weeks Sub-Committee meeting (Wed. 24th have been prepared and distributed.
- The main items on the agenda are the Auditors report for 2003 and a review of internal procedures.

2. EBI Seminars - Farm Walks

• The provisional dates for the farm walks are:

Tralee Monday 29th March
Charleville Tuesday 30th March
Dungarvan Tuesday 30th March
Nenagh Tuesday 30th March
Meath Monday 5th April
Bandon Wednesday 7th April

In addition to these, some monitor farm discussion groups will be include a 30 minute session on EBI. These will be conducted by Teagasc and supported by ICBF.

• A special farm walk has been organized for the Board of IHFA and selected farmers. This will take place on Tuesday 6th April in or about Laois.

3. Database Project

a) Newly Live Herdbooks

- 582 new pedigree registrations received during the past week
- 97 new Beef Herds added to the database and Animal Events materials have been issued
- Limousin and Simmental BLUPs were issued this week and a further Limousin and Simmental BLUP extract will take place over the weekend.
- The implementation of the change allowing multiple names and addresses for a single DAFRD herd went live this week.
- Missing tag reports were issued to Jersey breeders.
- The facility to initiate batch printing to the local breed society offices (primarily for certificate printing) was rolled out to some breed societies this week and will be completed next week.
- 'Live' billing files were issued to the larger herdbooks this week.

b) Other database activities

- The run of milk recording annual reports from the database is now complete.
- Work is continuing on the process to get EBI reports out to all Dairy Farmers at the end of next week.
- A new migration process was implemented at PG this week for the remaining herds operating on IDRC.
- An overhaul of the mechanism by which herds are added to the database begun this week. This will result in reduced turnaround times for service providers getting herds live on the database.

4. Milk Recording

a) Database Project

• No. Herdowners Milk Recorded in IRIS = 4,749



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Dairygold	1,638
Progressive	1,431
SWS	765
Kerry	612
Nenagh	124
Connacht Gold	120
Tipperary	59

• No. Herd tests processed in IRIS = 16,579

Dairygold	7,767
Progressive	5,987
SWS	1,224
Kerry	746
Connacht Gold	450
Nenagh	346
Tipperary	59

b) Weekly Update

• No. herd tests processed in last 7 days = 892

Progressive	270	
Kerry	232	
SWS	160	Recorder Payments run from IRIS.
Dairygold	144	
Tipperary	48	
Connacht Gold	20	
Nenagh	18	

c) Annual Reports

Last round up (final batch) of Annual Reports were posted this week. This last batch includes herds which were missing dry offs. In the event a farmer has a problem with his report (and from this batch we expect some calls) and he wants a reissue of CAP cert, milk recording organisations should;

- Ensure you get original returned to your MR Office before reissuing a replacement.
- Keep a log of farmers (IE no's) who got replacements and send weekly list to ICBF, so we can update the DAF with new yield. If you don't do this then DAF will still have his "old" yield and this may cause problems with his premium claim.

d) Default Drying off date

As stated last week we are changing the default dry off date to now happen "one day after last test in previous lactation". This will come into effect Monday 22nd March 2004.

Brian

Brian Wickham Chief Executive Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Soc. Ltd, Shinagh House, 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: MaryMadden.

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