



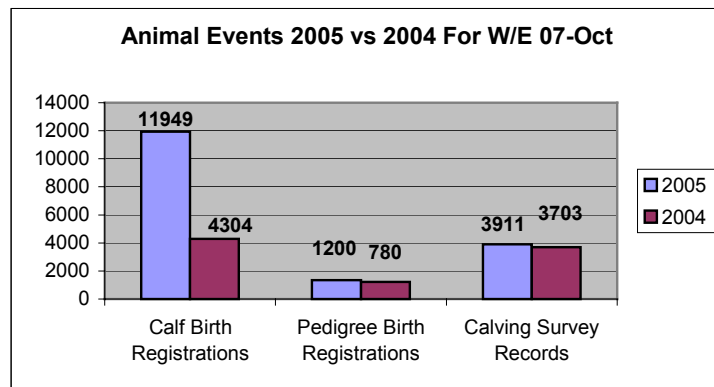
**UPDATE for period 15<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2005**

**1 Important Dates**

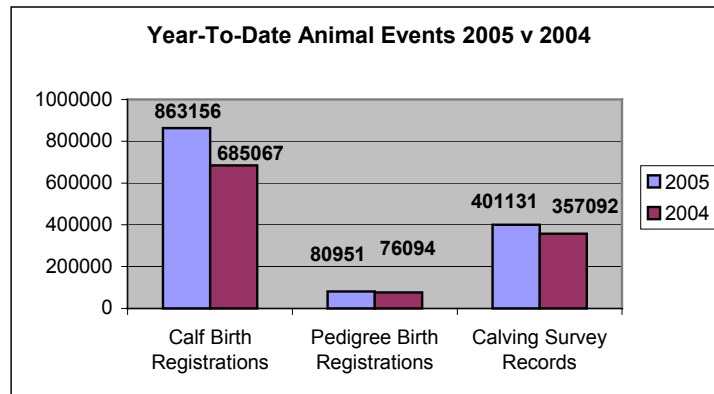
- **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. Genetic evaluation consultation meetings** – Beef in AM, Dairy PM.
- **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. ICBF Board** Meeting after Genetic evaluation consultation meeting.
- **Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December. ICBF Board** meeting.
- **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January. Tully review meeting** to finalise plans for sale on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

**2 Database Update**

- 36 new herds added to the database last week.
- 5,164 Teagasc ICBF permission forms have now been returned by Teagasc clients.
- Over 350 breeding charts have been keyed. The first of the Expected Calving and Fertility reports are currently being tested.



- Good progress has been made on the new beef genetic evaluation reports. This work will continue for around the next four weeks.
- The first of the October EBI reports were issued this week, with the majority being issued next week.



- The dry-off sheets have also been posted to farmers this week. As well farmers being able to post the dry-offs back to the Animal Events office, farmers will also be able to text the dry-off details back on their mobile phone, or use the on-line reports section of the ICBF website.
- A new batch of linear scoring data is currently in the process of being issued to the beef linear scoring handhelds.
- There was a steady flow of farmers to the ICBF stand at the National Dairy Show in Millstreet last week. Knowing that there is access to the database at these events, farmers are using the opportunity to get queries answered and any errors corrected.



### 3 Milk Recording

#### Weekly Stats: Fri 21/10/05

Milk Recording Organisation	2005 Herds Recorded Week 14/10/05 - 21/10/05	2004 Herds Recorded Week 14/10/04 - 21/10/04
Progressive	336	404
Dairygold	265	268
Kerry	185	186
SWS	174	191
Connacht	16	22
Arrabawn	23	17
Tipp	24	28
Others (Donegal, OAD)	5	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,028</b>	<b>1,116</b>

#### Year to Date Stats: up to 21/10/05

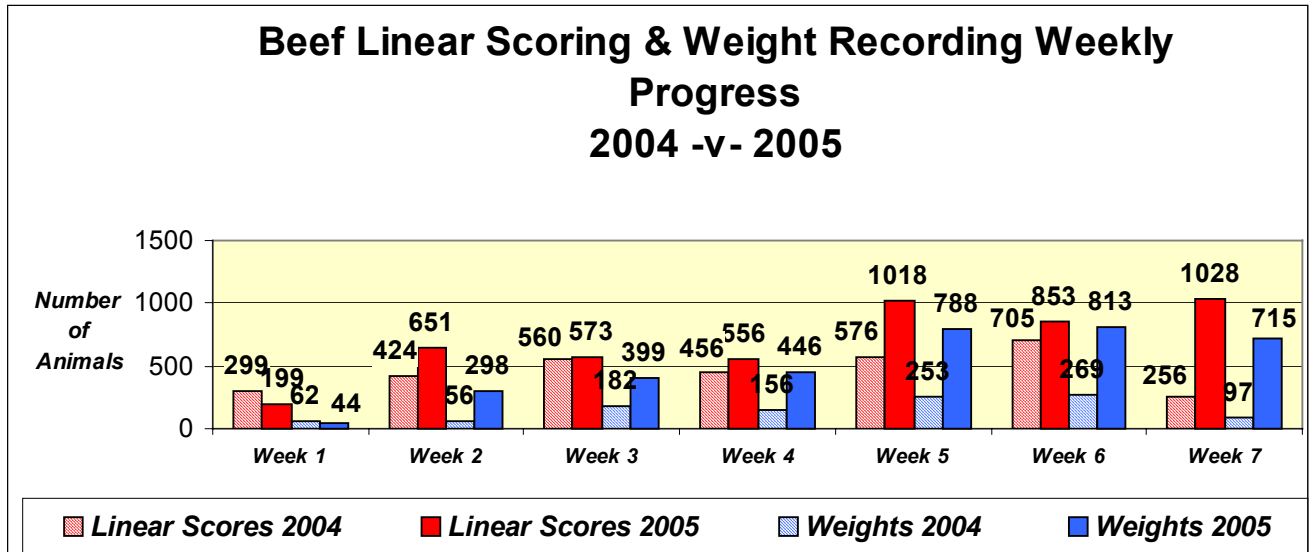
Milk Recording Organisation	HERD Count		COW Count	
	2005 No. Herds Owners Year to Date Jan 01 <sup>st</sup> - Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	2004 No. Herd Owners at Year End	2005 No. Cows Year to Date Jan 01 <sup>st</sup> -Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	2004 No. Cows at Year End
Progressive	2,081	2,233	148,855	156,588
Dairygold	1,523	1,620	97,612	102,778
Kerry	1,064	1,099	67,002	66,952
SWS	937	964	54,644	56,753
Tipperary	141	147	9,269	9,268
Connacht	110	121	7,156	7,597
Arrabawn	109	120	7,112	7,369
Others (Donegal/OAD)	36	N/A	3,666	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,001</b>	<b>6,304</b>	<b>395,316</b>	<b>407,305</b>

### 4 Tully

- A record entry of 134 bulls has entered Tully for the September intake, this batch of bulls will start the performance test on Tuesday and will be offered for sale on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2006.
- The Bulls that entered Tully in May 2005 will finish their performance test on 31<sup>st</sup> October. This batch of bulls will be advertised in the Farmers Journal over the next 2 weeks.
- Inspections for the November Intake have started and will be finished by 28<sup>th</sup> October. This batch of bulls will enter Tully in early December.



## 5 Beef Linear Scoring



## 6 Genetic Evaluations

- Processing of new calving performance evaluations has been completed and the new proofs will be released to the industry early next week. Correlations suggest that there is good agreement between the old and new proofs.
- Work on the across-breed evaluation for dairy calving interval and survival is continuing. Progress has been made and new test evaluations for EBI should be released to the industry prior to the next dairy industry meeting.
- Interbull files have been prepared for production, somatic cell count, longevity and type and will be submitted to Interbull next week ahead of the next routine International evaluation commencing on November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Work has commenced on the development of a new linear evaluation for beef traits to incorporate the 7 core linear type traits as well as several other important traits such as functionality traits.

### High v Low Beef Index AI Sire Trial

- Teagasc Grange in conjunction with ICBF are about to begin a comparison trial between High and Low BPSI AI Beef Sires. 11 High Index and 11 Low Index AI Sires across four breeds have been identified. Six progeny from each Sire will be put on trial.
- The ICBF database was used to locate all of the progeny. Farmers with cattle of interest for the trial began being contacted on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> from a list generated from the database. By the following evening almost all of the required progeny from the 22 AI Sires had been secured.
- Teagasc Grange are now arranging for these cattle to be transported to Grange.
- Friesian and Holstein weanlings will now also be sourced from the database for inclusion in this trial.

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