

ICBF Weekly Update 2nd August 2013

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 12th September, 10:30 to 14:00, Highfield House, Bandon.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 19th September, 14:00 to 16:00, Tullamore Court Hotel.

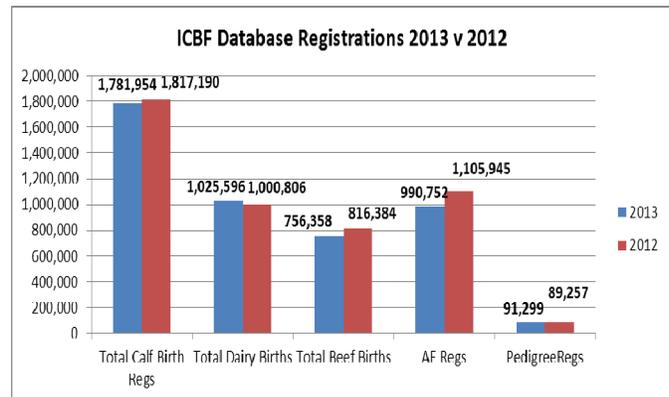
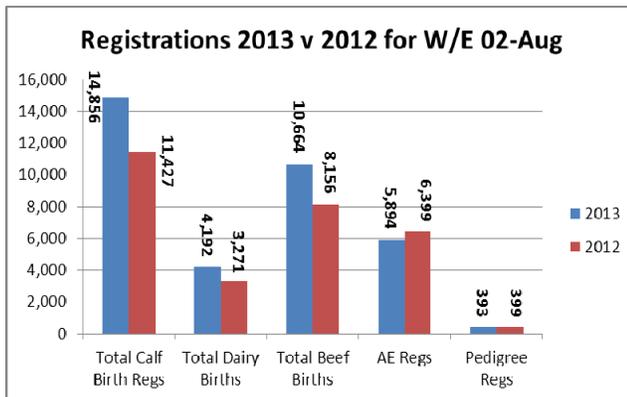
2 Dairy and Beef Industry Consultation Meeting – 1st August

Yesterday, we had a very well attended Dairy and Beef Industry consultation meeting in Portlaoise. Topics discussed at the meeting included:

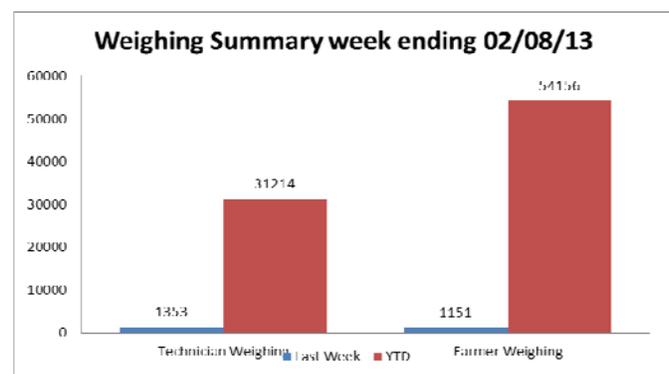
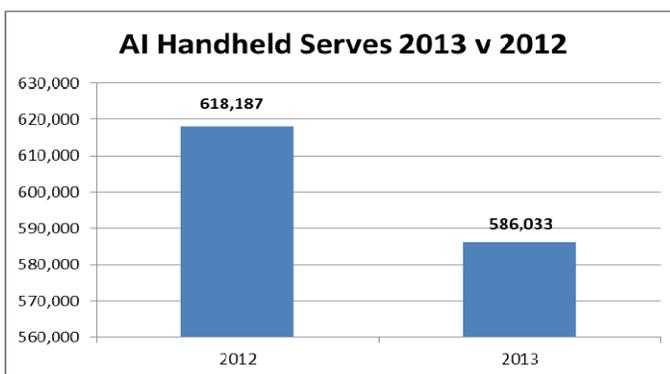
- ✚ **Economic Values in EBI** - Laurence Shalloo (Teagasc) provided an update on the background to the economic values in the EBI. They will be updated this autumn, and the Milk Processing Sector Model (MPSM) will be used to update the component values of milk, along with the integration of seasonal outputs from the model
- ✚ **Improvements in dairy genetic evaluations** - Andrew Cromie gave an update in relation to areas currently being worked on in dairy genetic evaluations, including the implementation of the Test Day Model, Health and Disease evaluations, and the update to the genetic base.
- ✚ **Next Generation Dairy Herd** - Sinead McParland (Teagasc) provided an update on the Next Generation Herd, where the fertility performance of the elite group has been well ahead of the control group.
- ✚ **Calving evaluations** - Ross Evans gave an update on the calving evaluations, and posed the question as to whether there needs to be separate Dairy and Suckler herd PTA's for calving difficulty
- ✚ **Sexed semen update** - Ian Hutchinson (Teagasc) provided an update on the sexed semen project, and covered some of the latest results based on the pregnancy scanning data.
- ✚ **Genetics of Health & Disease** - Donagh Berry (Teagasc) provided some compelling evidence around the potential of genetics to play a key role in reducing disease incidence in the national herd.
- ✚ **New projects ((i) health & disease, (ii) traceability/quality assurance/genetics, (iii) male fertility & (iv) meat eating quality)** - Andrew Cromie gave an update on a number of new projects that ICBF are developing with other industry stakeholders, and which have the potential to impact the industry significantly.
- ✚ **Development of IDB19k chip** - Mike Mullen (Teagasc) gave an update on the next iteration of the custom chip being used for genotyping in Ireland. The new chip is expected to be available in early 2013.
- ✚ **Genomics for parentage verification** - Karl O'Connell provided some background to the 'Genomics for parentage verification' process. There have been significant teething issues, but things are now finally settling down. The challenge now is to encourage breeders to return outstanding hair cards as soon as possible.
- ✚ **Validation of indexes** – Norin McHugh (Teagasc) provided some interesting analysis which validate that the maternal index is working, and will take the industry in the right direction.
- ✚ **Interbeef & international genetic evaluations** – Thierry Pabiou provided a brief update on progress in relation to the use of international data to assist in generating more accurate Irish evaluations.
- ✚ **GEN€IRELAND Update**, including Tully progeny test. – Stephen Conroy gave a comprehensive update on the significant work on-going in relation to Beef Gene Ireland.

- Overall, we had a very constructive meeting with lots of good feedback provided in relation to each of the presentations.

3 Database



- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2012 born calves with meal introduced is 648,205 with the number of animals weaned at 585,424.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,863,000 results received since January 1st, of which 14,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 2.35 million results have now been received.
- The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- This week there were 1353 weights received through the technician service and 1151 weights recorded by farmers.
- The graphs below shows the week and year to date totals.



4 Genetic Evaluations

- Evaluations are well underway for the upcoming routine evaluation update on 20th August.
- INTERBEEF: ICBF have commenced a project on the estimation of genetic parameters for weaning weight as part of our participation in the INTERBEEF project. This work commenced in July of this year and is expected

to take 3- 4 months to undertake for the 8 current participating countries. The two breeds currently involved are Charolais and Limousine.

- Test day model for milk production. Work is well advanced on the development of a test day model which will hopefully replace the existing lactation based model in December 2013. It is hoped to submit data on this new evaluation to the Interbull test run in September.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 02/08/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 02/08/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 02/08/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 02/08/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 02/08/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,671	1,055	29%	307,076	94,899	31%
Progressive	2,411	975	40%	226,425	94,292	42%
Tipperary	112	39	35%	9,738	3,542	36%
Total	6,194	2,069	33%	543,239	192,733	35%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 02/08/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 02/08/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	301,923	307,076	1.7%
Progressive	217,651	226,425	3.9%
Tipperary	9,874	9,738	-1.4%
Total	529,448	543,239	2.5%

Please see milk recording stats attached

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Registered Office: Sheep Database Ltd trading as "Sheep Ireland". Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 465004, Companies Acts 1963 to 2006. Web: www.sheep.ie.

National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 24-JUL-2013 To 02-AUG-2013

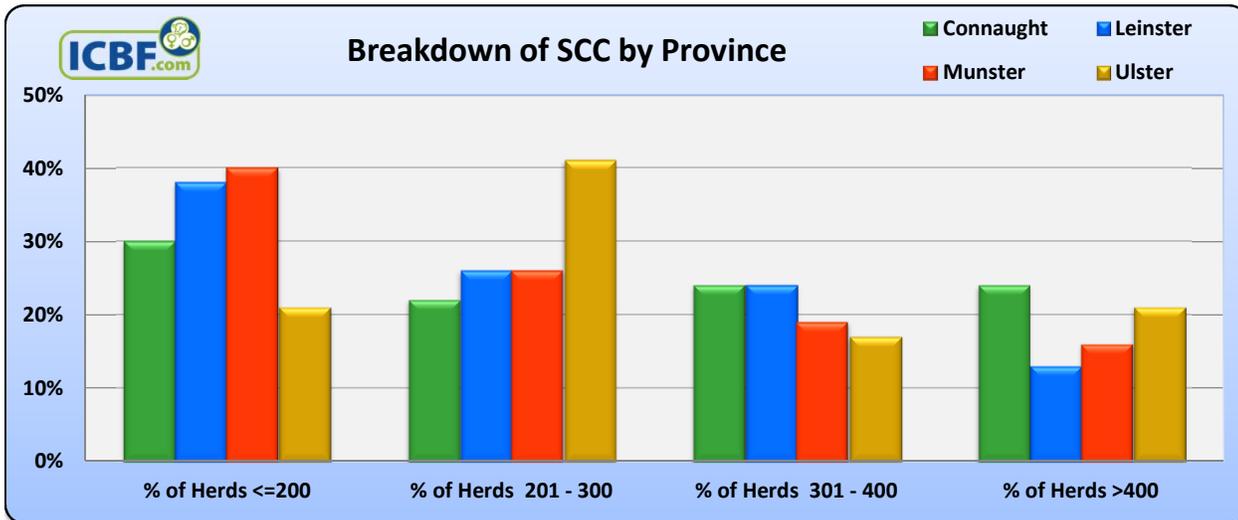
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	37	2,444	66	23.9	3.57	3.27	1.62	263
Leinster	109	10,049	92	20.8	3.62	3.34	1.44	220
Munster	528	41,186	78	21.8	3.74	3.36	1.55	233
Ulster	29	1,605	55	24.2	3.62	3.20	1.64	266
National Statistics	703	55,284	79	21.9	3.71	3.35	1.54	234

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 24-JUL-2013 To 02-AUG-2013

ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	% of Herds <=200	% of Herds 201 - 300	% of Herds 301 - 400	% of Herds >400	Average SCC*
Connaught	37	2,444	66	30%	22%	24%	24%	263
Leinster	109	10,049	92	38%	26%	24%	13%	220
Munster	528	41,186	78	40%	26%	19%	16%	233
Ulster	29	1,605	55	21%	41%	17%	21%	266
National Statistics	703	55,284	79	38%	26%	20%	16%	234

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 24-JUL-2013 To 02-AUG-2013

ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	37	2,444	66	170	222	296	340	409
Leinster	109	10,049	92	129	214	258	279	336
Munster	528	41,186	78	141	201	235	268	362
Ulster	29	1,605	55	199	224	255	288	406
National Statistics	703	55,284	79	141	207	238	273	366

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

