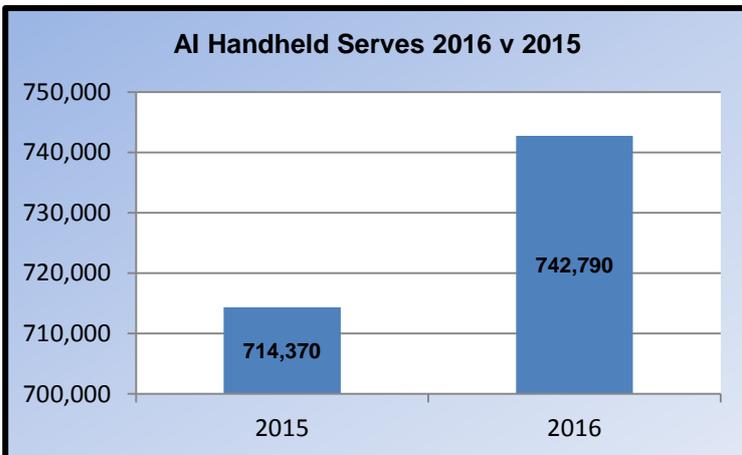
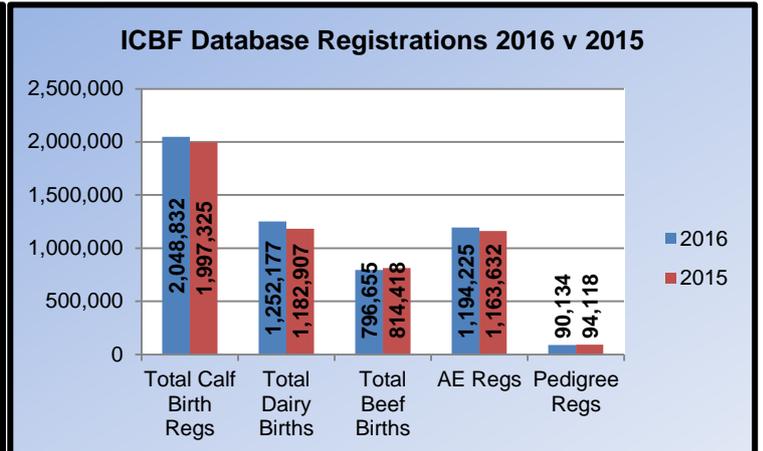
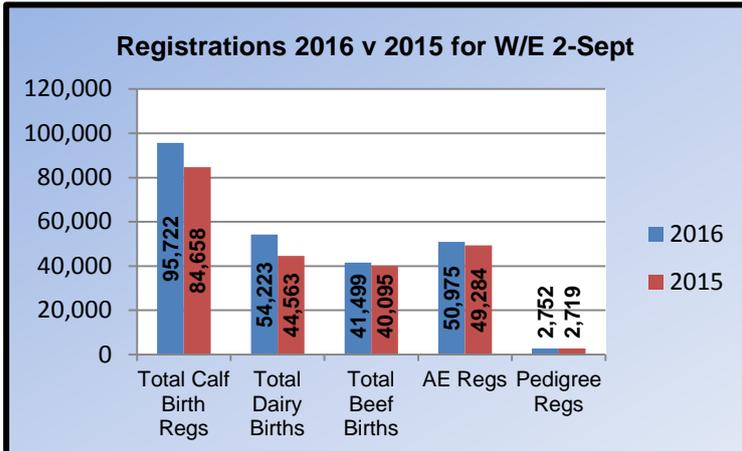


## ICBF Weekly Update 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

### 1 Important Dates

- Audit & Finance Meeting** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 08:30am in Highfield House, Bandon.
- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 10:00am in Highfield House, Bandon.
- Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 14:00pm in Highfield House, Bandon.

### 2 Database



- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 2,576,498. results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 19,898 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 9,904,938 results have now been received.
- The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2016 compared with 2015.

### Herd Plus®

- HerdPlus is ICBF's subscription service which provides herd-owners with performance data which can be used to increase on-farm profit. For the latest information on the HerdPlus service click [here](#)
- In September 2016, the EBI genetic base cow, which is the genetic reference point for all dairy cattle in Ireland, will become younger, as we move from a 1995 to a 2005 born genetic base cow. For more information on this check out this short video on the ICBF YouTube channel Click [here](#) to view.
- GZY and YKG are just some of the bulls which have been used heavily over the past 12 months but which sires have contributed the most to the genetic diversity in the Irish Dairy Population today? Click [here](#) to find out

- If you would like to submit an upcoming event for consideration that our readers would be interested in, please let us know by emailing [query@icbf.com](mailto:query@icbf.com). For a full list of upcoming events please check out our upcoming events page anytime located in the 'Publications' menu.
- Farmers can now genotype all their female calves which will allow them to make a more informed decision around breeding and culling potential replacements. This service could cost herd-owners as little as €22/head. Please contact HerdPlus on **1850 600 900** or **023 8820452** for further details. Alternatively when logged into HerdPlus, herd-owners can make orders online by selecting 'Services' – 'Genomic Services' – 'Place Order'
- Scanned your cows recently? You can now record 'Pregnancy Diagnosis' on ICBF.com. This screen is now available on the new platform and it allows users to record 'Pregnancy Diagnosis' for each breeding female in the herd.

### 3 GENE IRELAND®

- ICBF and the programme partners are now selling 6 GENE IRELAND AI bulls that have met their target semen requirement. If you are interested in purchasing one of these bulls, please contact Ciarán Costello on **045 521573** to arrange a viewing. Purchasing will be by a tender process, with all tenders to be submitted in writing to Francis Kearney, ICBF, Highfield House, Bandon, Co. Cork by Friday, 9th September at 5pm. For further details please click [here](#)
- The first calves from the autumn 2015 Gene Ireland beef bulls are currently being born on farms. Pictured below are two of the first calves to be born by the Simmental Gene Ireland bull Seepa Fionn (SI2158).



### 4 Milk Recording

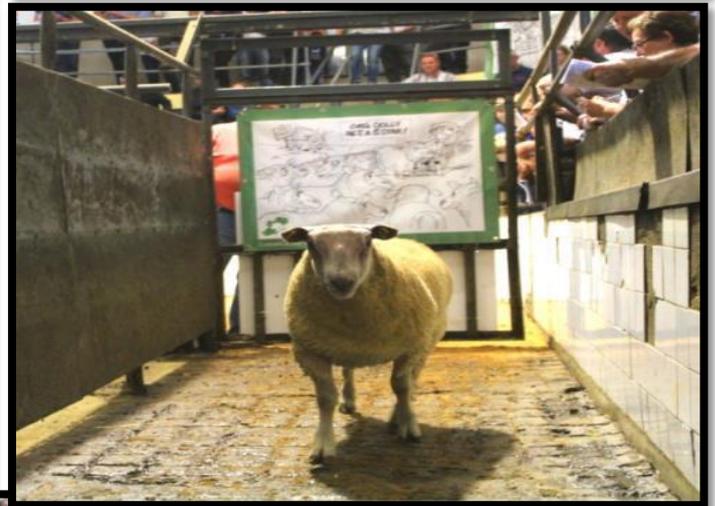
National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 02/09/16						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 02/09/16	No. EDIY Herds YTD 02/09/16	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 02/09/16	No. EDIY Cows YTD 02/09/16	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,642	1,119	31%	353,839	118,772	34%
Progressive	2,304	930	40%	248,247	100,669	41%
Tipperary	116	52	45%	11,129	4,864	44%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,062</b>	<b>2,101</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>613,215</b>	<b>224,305</b>	<b>37%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15- 02/09/15	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 02/09/16	2016 vs 2015 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	363,003	353,839	-2.5%
Progressive	252,739	248,247	-1.8%
Tipperary	11,729	11,129	-5.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>627,471</b>	<b>613,215</b>	<b>-2.3%</b>

## 5 Sheep Ireland

### Sheep Ireland Elite Euro-Star Ram Sale Report

✚ Our annual **Euro-Star** ram sale took place last Saturday in Tullamore Mart and it went very well. A full sale report is available from our website or by clicking [here](#). We had our largest ever ram entry which made us fearful about finding homes for all rams, but the attendance at the sale was the largest yet. This large buyer attendance was particularly encouraging given that the incentive to use Euro-Star rams as part of the DAFM discussion group programmes is no longer in place. This sale improves year on year and we will strive to make it an even better sale in 2017.



✚ We would like to thank the mart, the breeders that entered rams and the commercial farmers that came to buy rams at the sale



## Ram Progress

- ✚ High Index Texel frozen semen is now available to all LambPlus breeders. Some breeders have been carrying out AI this week and orders for this semen are increasing daily. To place an order for this semen, just call our office on **1850 601 901**. Click [here](#) for some more information on the programme and a summary of the Texel rams which are available.

## CPT AI 2017

- ✚ Another year has passed and we are back selecting rams which we would like to enter the CPT programme for AI this coming October. The selection objectives will differ slightly for some breeds. For the breeds that are most established performance recording breeds, the objective will be to identify the highest Replacement Index rams possible. The objective of this approach is to allow us to increase the accuracy % of these rams. We would then hope to invite a number of this high index, high accuracy rams to take part in RamPlus 2017. High accuracy, high index rams can only benefit the wider industry if they are used by breeders, and in turn commercial farmers.
- ✚ For some smaller breeds and/or breeds which are in the early stages of performance recording the objective of the CPT will be slightly different, in that improving genetic linkage will be the number one focus. Linkage is critical to providing good genetic evaluations – click [here](#) to see why.

## CPT Ram Selection

- ✚ There are many criteria to consider when selecting our CPT rams. Replacement Index is the first selection consideration. We want to select rams that are 100% physically correct also. For this reason we want to identify high Index rams which are currently being used by pedigree ram breeders. This means two things; that the ram is good physically and that there is a good chance that other pedigree breeders will use the ram, should he be invited into RamPlus next season.
- ✚ Over the coming weeks we will be contacting all breed societies to get help in selecting these rams.

## National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 24-AUG-2016 To 02-SEP-2016

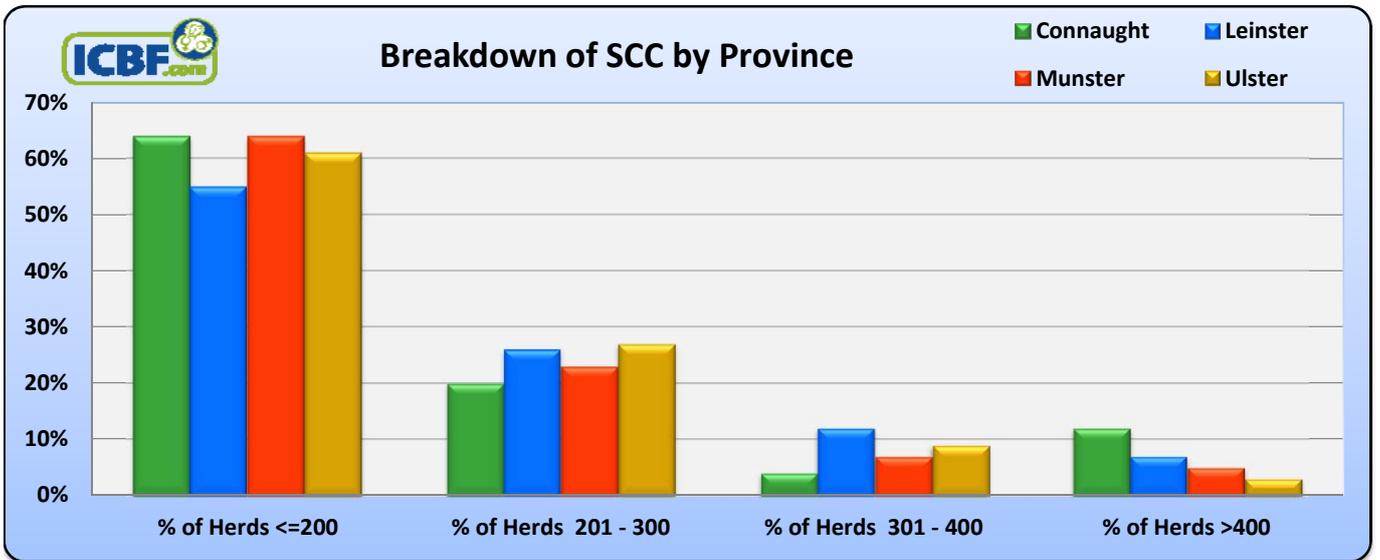
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	25	2,164	87	19.1	4.19	3.52	1.47	187
Leinster	139	14,685	106	19.9	4.04	3.49	1.49	188
Munster	602	55,402	92	19.6	4.20	3.59	1.52	173
Ulster	33	2,918	88	20.4	3.85	3.34	1.46	184
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>75,169</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>4.16</b>	<b>3.56</b>	<b>1.51</b>	<b>176</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 24-AUG-2016 To 02-SEP-2016

ICBF	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	25	2,164	87	64%	20%	4%	12%	187
Leinster	139	14,685	106	55%	26%	12%	7%	188
Munster	602	55,402	92	64%	23%	7%	5%	173
Ulster	33	2,918	88	61%	27%	9%	3%	184
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>75,169</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>24%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>176</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 24-AUG-2016 To 02-SEP-2016								
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC
Connaught	25	2,164	87	121	146	169	198	283
Leinster	139	14,685	106	118	169	190	214	296
Munster	602	55,402	92	118	148	165	189	261
Ulster	33	2,918	88	130	172	181	204	242
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>75,169</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>266</b>

\*\* Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

