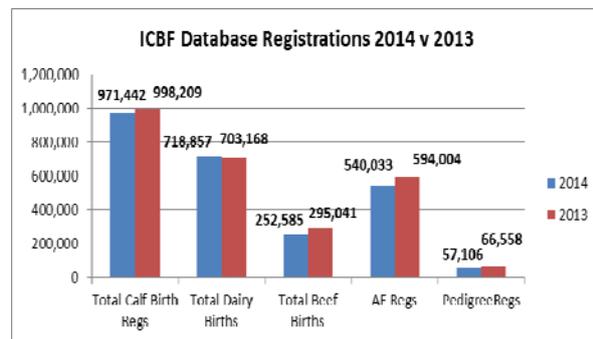
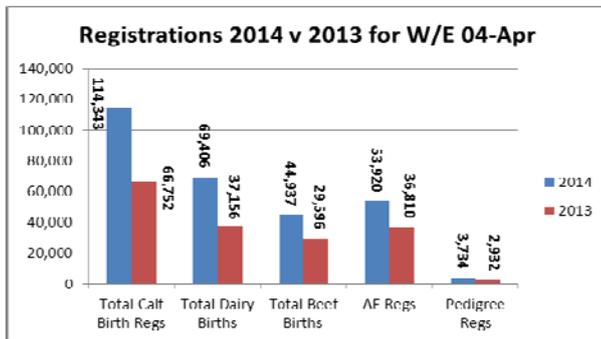


ICBF Weekly Update 4th April 2014

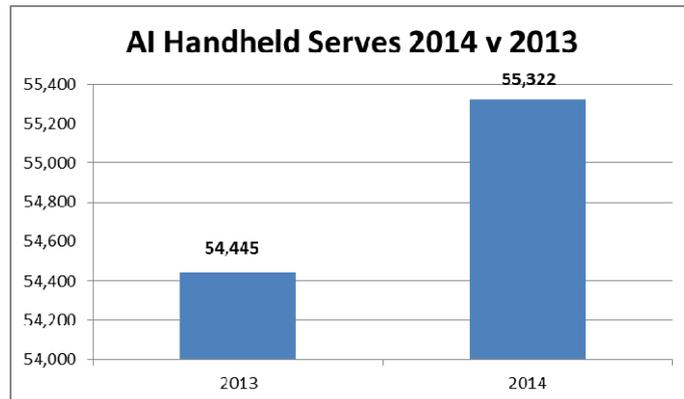
1 Important Dates

- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 1st May 2014, 10:30am to 12:30pm, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ICBF AGM** – Thursday 1st May 2014, 12:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Ireland Board / AGM Meeting** – Thursday 1st May 2014, 14:00 to 17:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

2 Database



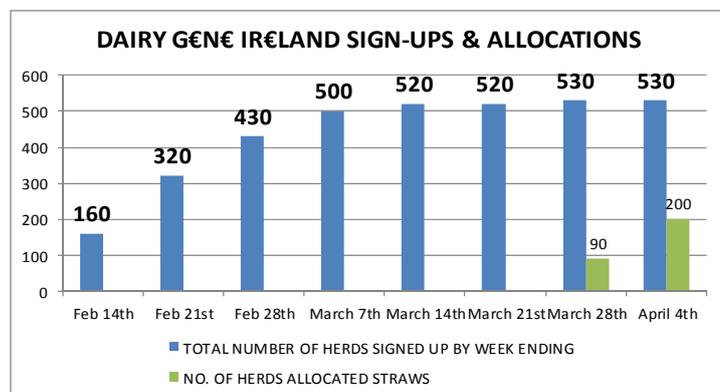
- The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,026,000 results received since January 1st, of which 102,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 3.69 million results have now been received.
- The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.



3 GENÉIRELAND[®]

Dairy

- Straws have been allocated to all herds that have an AI start date up to and including April 10th.
- The remainder of the herds will get straws as soon as they become available.
- Straws can be ordered for all breed packs currently.
- Call **1850 600 900** to order.



Beef

- ✚ Sign-ups have commenced for the GEN€IR€LAND Summer program.
- ✚ 6500 catalogues have been sent out to suckler farmers that use AI.
- ✚ To learn more or to order straws please phone **1850 600 900**.
- ✚ Details of the 18 bulls available are in the table below.
- ✚ To see the full catalogue please go to the ICBF Website, herdplus/docs/icbf_spring_2014_gi_catalogue_final

Beef Gene Ireland Young Bull Panel

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Replacement Index
JZJ	Cairnmor Jameson	AA	€163
YBH	Ballym Henri	CH	€131
YCM	Clewboy High-Master	CH	€97
KCH	Clenagh Hank	CH	€71
GKA	Inverlochy Gurkha	CH	€64
GGM	Gageboro Morgan	HE	€139
KZH	Kilskeagh Hitler	LM	€251
ZAG	Castleview Gazelle	LM	€251
YHB	Drombanny Hero	LM	€208
OHT	Roundhill Hunter	LM	€199
AYH	Lisnagranchy Hulio	PT	€254
ZGH	Hurricane Gonzo	PT	€162
ZYH	Alamira Harry	PT	€157
KTM	Knottown Michael	SA	€318
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	€213
XDM	Celtic Diceman	SI	€214
LZZ	Lisnacran Demertios	SI	€213
KDZ	Curaheen Dickens	SI	€187
Average			€183

4 Tully – GEN€IR€LAND® - The future of beef breeding

GEN€IR€LAND AI bulls available to purchase

- ✚ ICBF have just launched the new GEN€IR€LAND Maternal Bull Breeding Program. As part of this new program, ICBF and the program partners (AI companies, herdbooks and farmers) are now selling a number of high index bulls that have met their target semen requirement for the program of 1000 straws (with 500 straws being used for the commercial progeny test and 500 for elite matings). All bulls have been selected on the basis of combined replacement value (i.e. calf quality and cow milk/fertility). See pictures attached and details of the bulls below (table 1). Full €uro-star details can be found on each of these bulls on the ICBF website (www.icbf.com).
- ✚ If you are interested in purchasing one of these bulls, please contact Stephen Conroy on **086 3895415** or Niall Kilrane on **045 521573**. 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 11th April at 5pm**. A minimum of

€2,500 reserve price has been placed on each bull. Please note that viewing of the bulls can be arranged but **by appointment only**. Please adhere to this request.

Table1. GENÉ IRELAND AI bulls available for tender

Code	Name of Bull	Brd	Owner	Replacement Index	Breeder	Available for Tender
YBH	Ballym Henri	CH	Gene Ireland	€131	Louise Quinn, Co Offaly	Yes
YCM	Clewbay High-Master	CH	Gene Ireland	€97	Charles Hughes, Co Mayo	Yes
KCH	Clenagh Hank	CH	Gene Ireland	€71	Michael Quinn, Co Clare	Yes
YHB	Drombanny Hero	LM	Gene Ireland	€208	Patrick Sheahan, Co Limerick	Yes
OHT	Roundhill Hunter	LM	Gene Ireland	€199	Timothy Corridan, Co Limerick	Yes
AYH	Lisnagranchy Hulio	PT	Gene Ireland	€254	Gerald Harney, Co Galway	Yes
ZYH	Alamira Harry	PT	Gene Ireland	€157	Liam Fitzgerald, Co Cork	Yes
KTM	Knottown Michael	SA	Gene Ireland	€318	Joseph Fortune, Co Wexford	Yes
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	Gene Ireland	€213	Fernand Crowe, Co Cavan	Yes
LZZ	Lisnacran Demertios	SI	Gene Ireland	€213	Michael Oliver, Co Mayo	Yes

5 Herd Plus®

Teagasc Open Day

- All Dairy Farmers are encouraged to attend the Teagasc Open Day at the Moorepark Dairygold Research Farm (Kilworth) on Wednesday 9th of April 2014. Members of the HerdPlus team will be in attendance to answer queries and will be running a Sire Advice Demonstration on the day in conjunction with Teagasc.

Sire Advice

- HerdPlus Dairy farmers must ensure they have used the Sire Advice Tool to select bulls if they wish them to appear on their breeding chart. The final batch of breeding charts will be printed Monday 7th April. All bulls must be entered before this date.

Beef Genomics Scheme (BGS)

- A list of frequently asked questions has been prepared with regard to this new scheme. They can be found at the following link: <http://www.icbf.com/?p=1758>

Sexed Suckler Beef Trial

- Over 120 herds are participating in the trial using over 2000 straws. The trial is now closed for participants as all bulls have met their quota. Herd-owners participating in the trial have until the end of May to use the straws. Results of this trial are expected in April 2015. Herd owners interested in using sexed semen in the suckler herd outside of the trial should contact Dovea Genetics, Munster AI or Progressive Genetics.

Beef Active Bull Lists

- This week we launched the Beef Active Bull Lists. There are two lists to view; the replacement and the terminal list.
- These lists will allow users to sort and filter bulls for the traits they desire.
- Details can be found on the ICBF Web site: <http://webapp.icbf.com/active-bull-list/beef-maternal>, Terminal List: <http://webapp.icbf.com/active-bull-list/beef-terminal>

6 Genetic Evaluations

- Routine evaluations have been processed and genomic evaluations are currently underway. Proofs are expected to be available on Tuesday evening.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 04/04/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 04/04/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 04/04/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 04/04/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 04/04/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	2,182	312	14%	136,799	23,738	17%
Progressive	1,532	415	27%	112,264	32,188	29%
Tipperary	38	9	24%	2,548	700	27%
Total	3,752	736	20%	251,611	56,626	23%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 04/04/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 04/04/14	2014 vs. 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	135,887	136,799	0.7%
Progressive	115,197	112,264	-2.6%
Tipperary	1,836	2,548	27.9%
Total	251,084	251,611	0.2%

8 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ Lambing data has been coming in fast in the past number of days. Text messages have been circulated to all breeders to remind them of our deadline for the submission of their 2014 lambing data which is April 30th. Text messages have also been used to remind breeders to collect their lamb 40 day weights.
- ✚ There will be a certain number of lambs born after the 30th April, we want to assure LambPlus breeders that an exception will be made for these lambs to enter the database and we most definitely want breeders to performance record these lambs. The deadline applies to all early born lambs and is not designed to discourage breeders to lamb their ewes later in the year. We need breeders to record as much data as they possibly can and this includes late born lambs. Breeders in this situation can just call, text or email the Sheep Ireland office in advance of the April deadline.
- ✚ Our paper recording breeders are now submitting their records and this is being keyed by Sheep Ireland staff. While this is a time consuming process it allows us to identify any issues or abnormalities extremely quickly and these issues can be rectified with the relevant breeder immediately. The online data being submitted by breeders is monitored on a daily basis and where we spot issues we contact breeders straight away. We would ask breeders to contact us when they are unsure about any aspect of the online recording. This time of year is most definitely the best period to take care of any data issues that may arise, if these issues are not addressed they will be forgotten and may not arise again until an animal is presented for sale later this year, at which point it may be too late to rectify. Many breeders choose to enter their data in the evening time or late at night and if this is the case, simply drop us an email at query@sheep.ie and we will respond at the first opportunity.

Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland , Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 872903121, Email scoughlan@icbf.com.

Registered Office: Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Society Ltd trading as "ICBF", Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon, Co Cork. Registered Dublin, Ireland. Registration Number 4914R, Industrial and Provident Societies Acts, 1893 to 1978. Web: www.icbf.com.

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, 26-MAR-2014 To 04-APR-2014

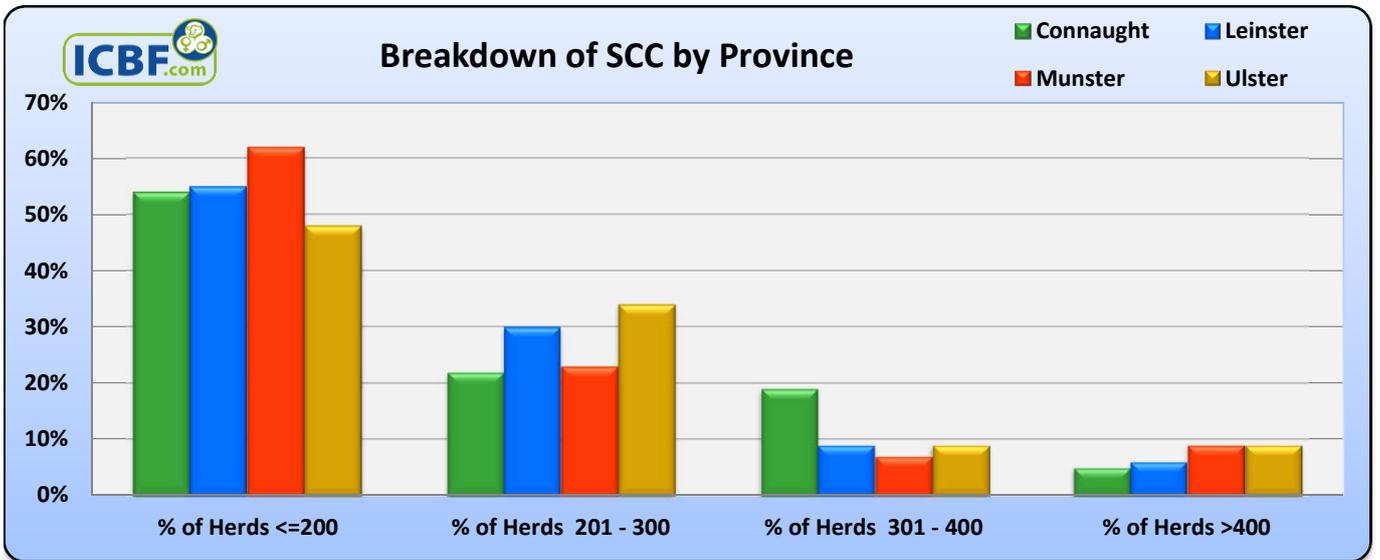
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	37	2,463	67	24.5	3.95	3.24	1.76	189
Leinster	153	12,177	80	26.4	3.90	3.35	1.91	171
Munster	515	35,334	69	26.2	3.95	3.27	1.89	164
Ulster	44	2,503	57	26.2	3.86	3.22	1.85	181
National Statistics	749	52,477	70	26.1	3.93	3.28	1.89	167

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 26-MAR-2014 To 04-APR-2014

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	2,463	67	54%	22%	19%	5%	189
Leinster	153	12,177	80	55%	30%	9%	6%	171
Munster	515	35,334	69	62%	23%	7%	9%	164
Ulster	44	2,503	57	48%	34%	9%	9%	181
National Statistics	749	52,477	70	59%	25%	8%	8%	167

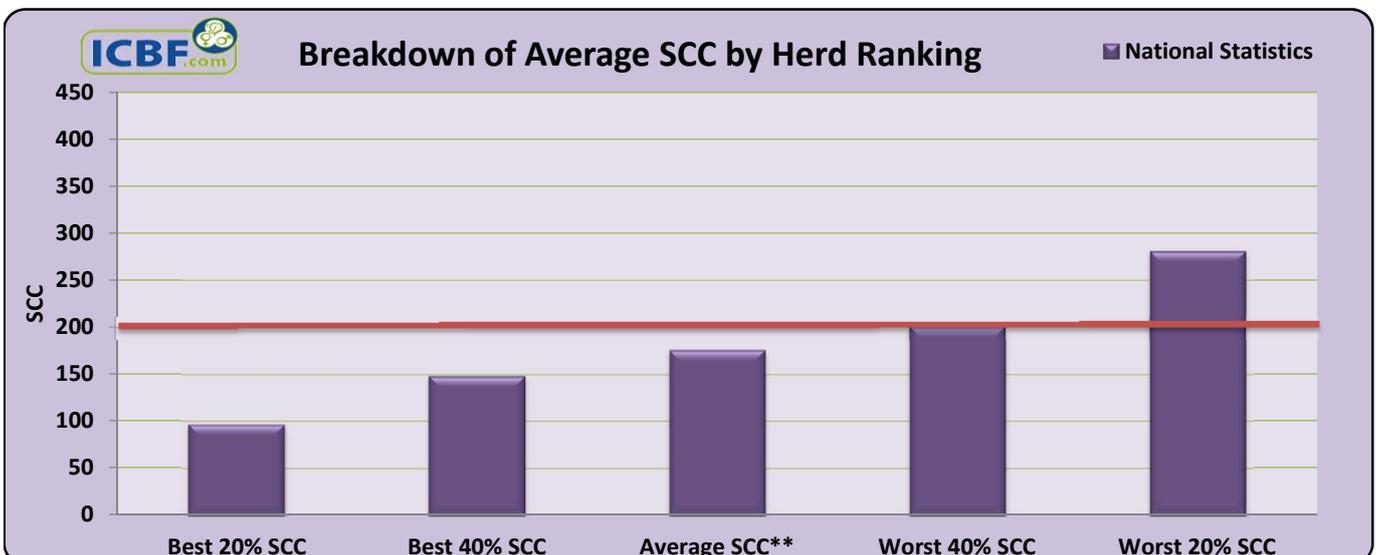
* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 26-MAR-2014 To 04-APR-2014

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	2,463	67	115	182	189	218	310
Leinster	153	12,177	80	106	154	183	213	275
Munster	515	35,334	69	94	141	169	196	272
Ulster	44	2,503	57	105	174	204	243	293
National Statistics	749	52,477	70	97	148	176	201	281

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)





YCM



YBH



YHB



ZYH



KCH



OHT



AYH



KTM



ZBZ



LZZ