

ICBF Weekly Update 6th December 2013

1 Important Dates

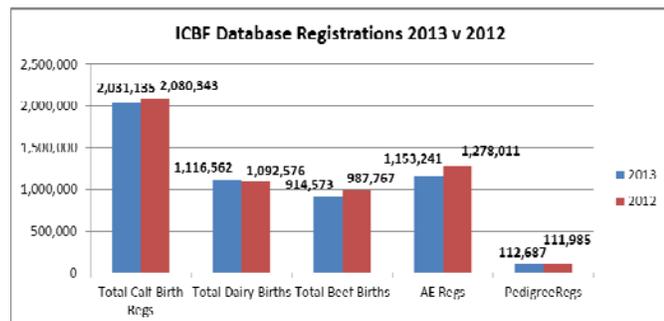
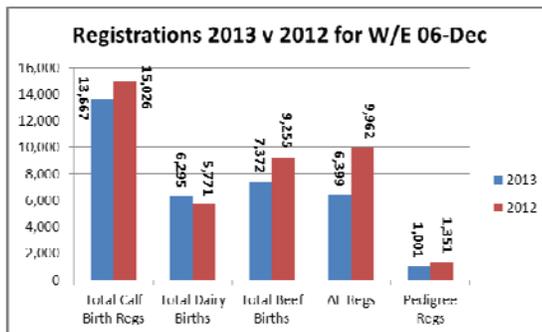
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 23rd January 2014, 10:30 to 13:30, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 23rd January 2014, 14:00 to 16:30, Portlaoise.

2 ICBF Board Meeting

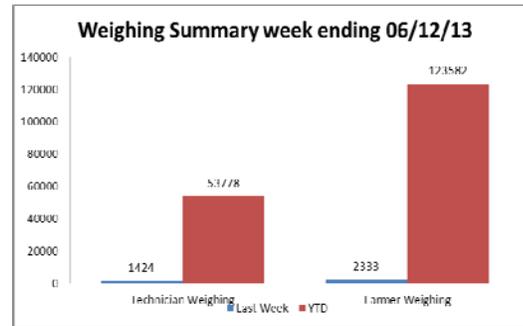
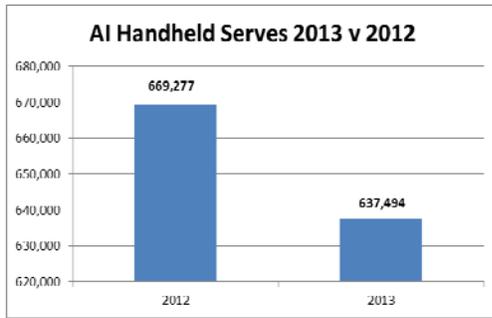
Topics covered at the ICBF board meeting last week included:

- ✚ The decision to hold on the implementation of the Test Day Model and the plans to resubmit to the Interbull test run in January.
- ✚ Adoption of the recommendations from the Audit and Finance Sub-Committee around the 2014 budget.
- ✚ A discussion on the new Beef Genomics Scheme and the implications for ICBF in its role within the scheme.
- ✚ A visit to the Tully Beef Performance Test Centre to see the progress made over the past 12 months, and the compelling performance results emerging from the testing process.

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 669,095 with the number of animals weaned at 629,717.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 2,132,000 results received since January 1st, of which 14,400 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 2.62 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- ✚ This week there were 1424 weights received through the technician service and 2333 weights recorded by farmers.
- ✚ The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



4 Genetic Evaluations

- All dairy breeding values are back from Interbull; loading of proofs is ongoing and genomic evaluations are currently processed.
- Work on the dairy robustness has started at Wageningen University in the Netherlands.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 06/12/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 06/12/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 06/12/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 06/12/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 06/12/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,686	1,069	29%	313,795	98,533	31%
Progressive	2,457	1,012	41%	238,860	99,754	42%
Tipperary	114	41	36%	10,174	3,883	38%
Total	6,257	2,122	34%	562,829	202,170	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 06/12/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 06/12/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	308,782	313,795	1.6%
Progressive	231,118	238,860	3.2%
Tipperary	10,323	10,174	-1.5%
Total	550,223	562,829	2.2%

Please see milk recording stats attached.

6 Sheep Ireland

- Sheep Ireland attended the Charollais Sheep Society and the Belclare Sheep Society AGM's over the last week. Both meetings were very constructive and had drawn a good crowd hence these opportunities were great for both pedigree breeders and Sheep Ireland to discuss the LambPlus scheme. Sheep Ireland's Eamon Wall gave

an update on the LambPlus scheme, including the new minimum requirements for receiving Euro-Star evaluations and the New Inbreeding Checker that is ready to be launched next year. It also gave breeders a chance to ask questions regarding the Euro-Star system and any other queries they may have had. Any suggestions made at these meetings regarding Sheep Ireland or LambPlus are always taken on board and will be considered, as Sheep Ireland recognises that industry feedback is vital to the continued progression of this scheme.

- ✚ Next week will see the last day for applying to and signing up to the LambPlus Scheme for the 2014 season with the closing date set for **December 15th**. Sheep Ireland has communicated this closing date through National media, the five LambPlus regional meetings and several AGM's, breed society representatives, and letters to pedigree breeders. Breeders that were recorded through LambPlus in 2013 also need to reapply unless they paid through Direct Debit. Any breeder that successfully paid using direct debit last year will have received a text on Thursday with next year's withdrawal date.

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, 27-NOV-2013 To 06-DEC-2013

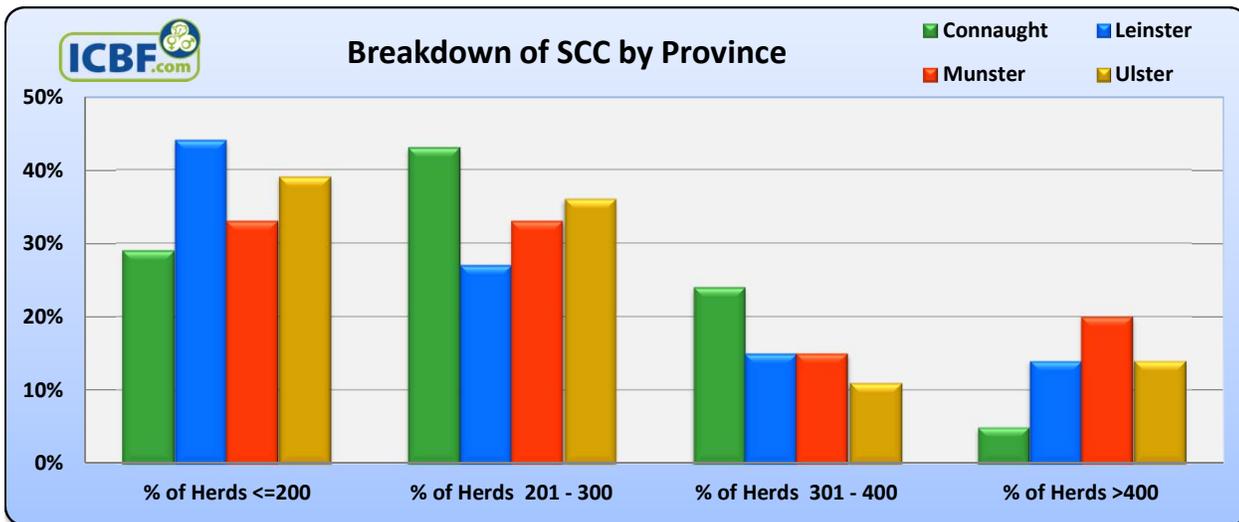
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	21	1,117	53	17.8	4.41	3.51	1.39	231
Leinster	115	8,183	71	18.6	4.20	3.53	1.43	223
Munster	251	14,387	57	15.6	4.46	3.72	1.25	255
Ulster	28	1,701	61	17.2	4.14	3.51	1.30	230
National Statistics	415	25,388	61	16.6	4.37	3.64	1.31	243

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 27-NOV-2013 To 06-DEC-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	21	1,117	53	29%	43%	24%	5%	231
Leinster	115	8,183	71	44%	27%	15%	14%	223
Munster	251	14,387	57	33%	33%	15%	20%	255
Ulster	28	1,701	61	39%	36%	11%	14%	230
National Statistics	415	25,388	61	36%	32%	15%	17%	243

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 27-NOV-2013 To 06-DEC-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	21	1,117	53	173	217	220	233	364
Leinster	115	8,183	71	142	190	222	256	334
Munster	251	14,387	57	162	222	244	279	398
Ulster	28	1,701	61	161	199	231	243	314
National Statistics	415	25,388	61	157	211	233	271	374

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

