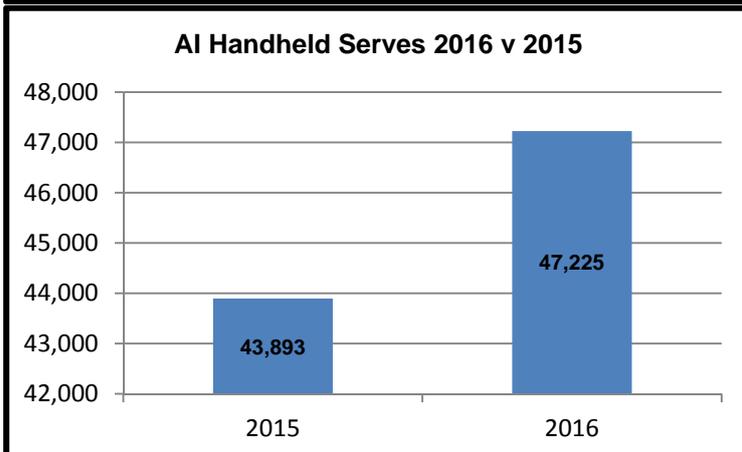
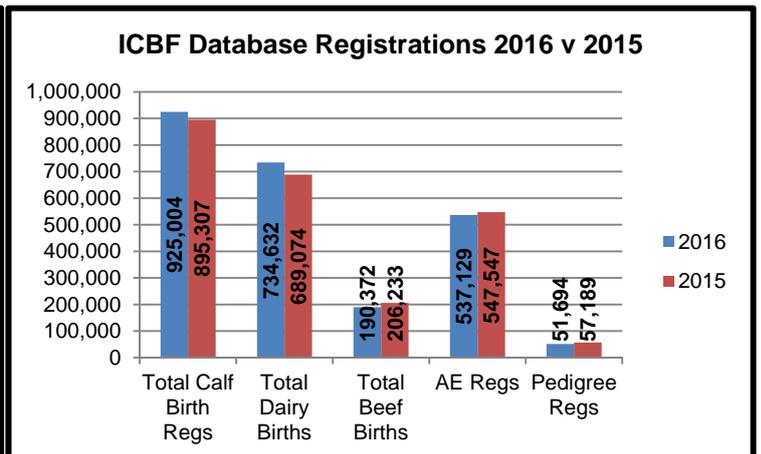
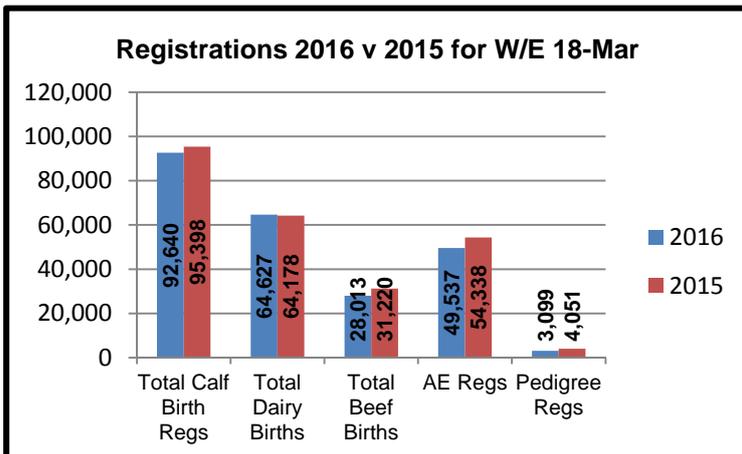


ICBF Weekly Update 18th March 2016

1 Important Dates

- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 31st March 2016 at 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 31st March 2016, at 14:00, 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 931,150 results received since January 1st, of which 88,190 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 8.26 million results have now been received.
- The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2016 compared with 2015.

3 Herd Plus®

- With breeding season fast approaching, please remember to fill out sire advice by April 3rd to have bulls printed on breeding charts.
- ICBF Spring 2016 Dairy Breeding brochure is now available to view – Click link to view https://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/spring_dairy_active_bull_list_2016
- HerdPlus Beef Output reports are now available online to view. All Beef output reports have now been posted to herd-owners.
- HerdPlus will be supporting the following event




**KERRY AGRIBUSINESS/TEAGASC
“FOCUS ON PROFIT” PROGRAMME
DAIRY BREEDING EVENTS 2016**

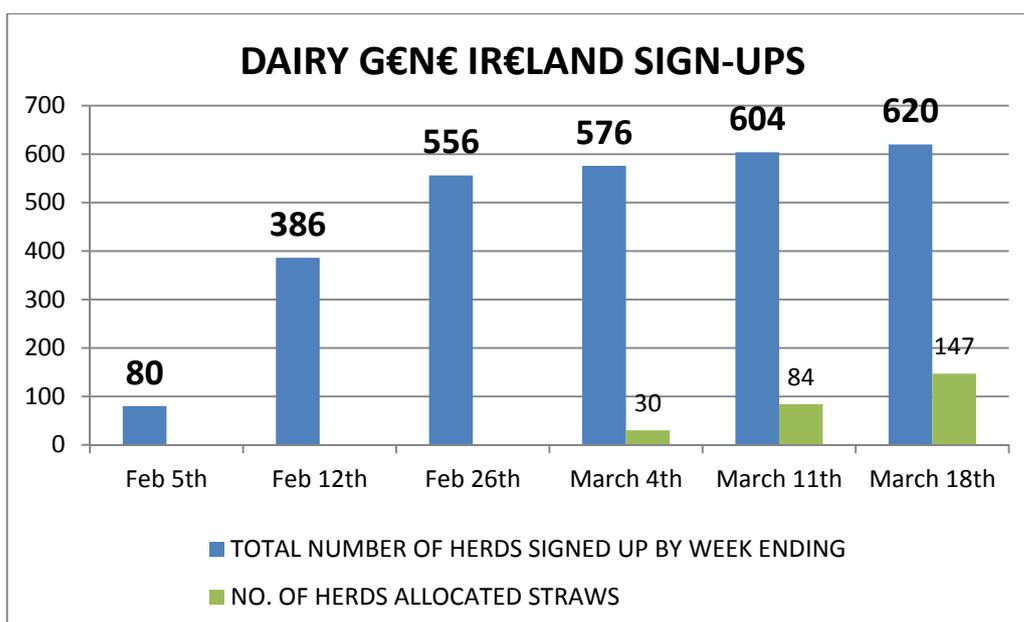
DATE	VENUE	TIME
Tue 15th March	Farm of Tom Kelleher Roxboro, Firies, Killarney, Co. Kerry Bus @ 10.30am from Church Car Park, Firies	11am
Wed 16th March	Farm of John Carroll, Rathmorrell, Causeway, Co. Kerry Bus @ 10.30am from the rear of The Stretford End Bar, Causeway	11am
Wed 23rd March	Farm of John Finucane, Ballyengland, Askeaton, Co. Limerick	11am
Thurs 24th March	Farm of Patrick O'Neill, Clonreddan, Cooraclare, Co. Clare	11am
Thurs 31st March	Farm of Murt F. O'Keeffe, Knockavilling, Lismire, Newmarket, Co. Cork	11am

4 GEN€IRELAND® Dairy

BREED PACKS AND AVERAGE EBI'S

- **Holstein-Friesian:** €374
- **Pure Friesian :** €269
- **Multi Breed:** €290

- ✚ The **Multi Breed** pack includes Jersey (and Jersey Cross bulls), together with Holstein-Friesian bulls for comparative purposes.
- ✚ 620 herds are signed up to date, taking a total of 25,090 straws.
- ✚ Allocations are ongoing for the next number of weeks dependent on semen availability.
- ✚ Participants will receive inbreeding reports and details of bulls allocated.
- ✚ To learn more or to order straws please phone **1850 600 900**.



5 GENEIRELAND® Beef

✚ Sign Ups are continuing for the Gene Ireland Beef programme.

✚ 303 herds taking a total of 3880 straws have joined so far.

✚ The average order is 13 straws per herd.

✚ The catalogue is available to view at the link below

https://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/2016_spring_brochure

✚ To learn more or to order straws please phone **023 8820452**.

✚ Approximate total straws ordered to date for the remaining bulls are detailed in the graph.

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws Ordered
AA2063	Mogeely Evitas	AA	345
CH2154	Polar Joe 2	CH	195
CH2221	Jarret	CH	225
HE2148	Ballyaville Hamlet	HE	440
LM2242	Edakkya	LM	265
ZKY	Kyle Herd Ivan	PT	440
PI2157	Kilree Leo	PI	135
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	330
SH2181	Coolvin Dominator	SH	90
ETP	Curaheen Evolution P	SI	440

6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 18/03/16

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 18/03/16	No. EDIY Herds YTD 18/03/16	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 18/03/16	No. EDIY Cows YTD 18/03/16	% Cows EDIY
Munster	1,395	130	9%	92,684	10,806	12%
Progressive	1,031	216	21%	76,471	15,397	20%
Tipperary	13	2	15%	561	62	11%
Total	2,439	348	14%	169,716	26,265	15%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15- 18/03/15	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16- 18/03/16	2016 vs 2015 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	88,395	92,684	4.9%
Progressive	78,571	76,471	-2.7%
Tipperary	1,265	561	-55.7%
Total	168,231	169,716	0.9%

7 Sheep Ireland

CPT Lambing almost finished

✚ The final AI'd ewes are now lambing down on the flocks of UCD (Lyons Estate) and Brian Nicholson (Johnstown, Co. Kilkenny). The other CPT flocks have all concluded the lambing of their CPT ewes and are now lambing down ewes that repeated to AI. Lambing went well across all flocks and was helped hugely by the timely improvement in weather conditions which enables farmers to release lambs soon after birth, keeping individual lambing pens free. The level of supervision required on each farm over the lambing period is extremely high with a 24 hour presence required across all flocks to ensure that all necessary records are captured. Events such as lamb fostering can be very difficult to record accurately, especially when there are up to 15/20 fostering's taking place on a flock in the peak of lambing. The best way we have

found to track these events is to use whiteboards on each individual lambing pen and to record all the relevant movement data at the point of the ewes and lambs entering the lambing pen. If the data is not recorded by the person placing the ewe into the lambing pen, it is all but lost. Trying to remember events afterwards is simply not possible given the level of lambing activity taking place.

What is next for the CPT lambs

- ✚ 40 day weights will be collected from all CPT lambs from Mid-April. This will give us a great indicator of ewe milk. Given the current spell of good weather, lamb loses should be low, but any cases of mortality between now and the 40 day weight will be recorded by each CPT farmer via their Sheep Ireland handheld.

OVIGEN Pilot Project update

- ✚ We hope to post out the first of our DNA sampling tags as part of the OVIGEN pilot project to provide parentage verification ahead of the 2016 ram sale season. It will be critical that the breeders involved in this project return these tags as soon as possible to facilitate the genotyping and reporting of results in advance of the ram sale season. The first sales take place in mid-July, so the window is tight. Our hope is that this pilot project will help us to establish the infrastructure to allow all performance recording breeders in 2017 to genotype any of their lambs using a user-friendly online system via the Sheep Ireland web screens.

- ✚ Some images of CPT ewes and lambs enjoying the good weather across a number of our CPT flocks in order of appearance – B.Nicholson, J.Large, A.Moloney and J.Naper.



Sean Coughlan Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland , Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Email info@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, 09-MAR-2016 To 18-MAR-2016

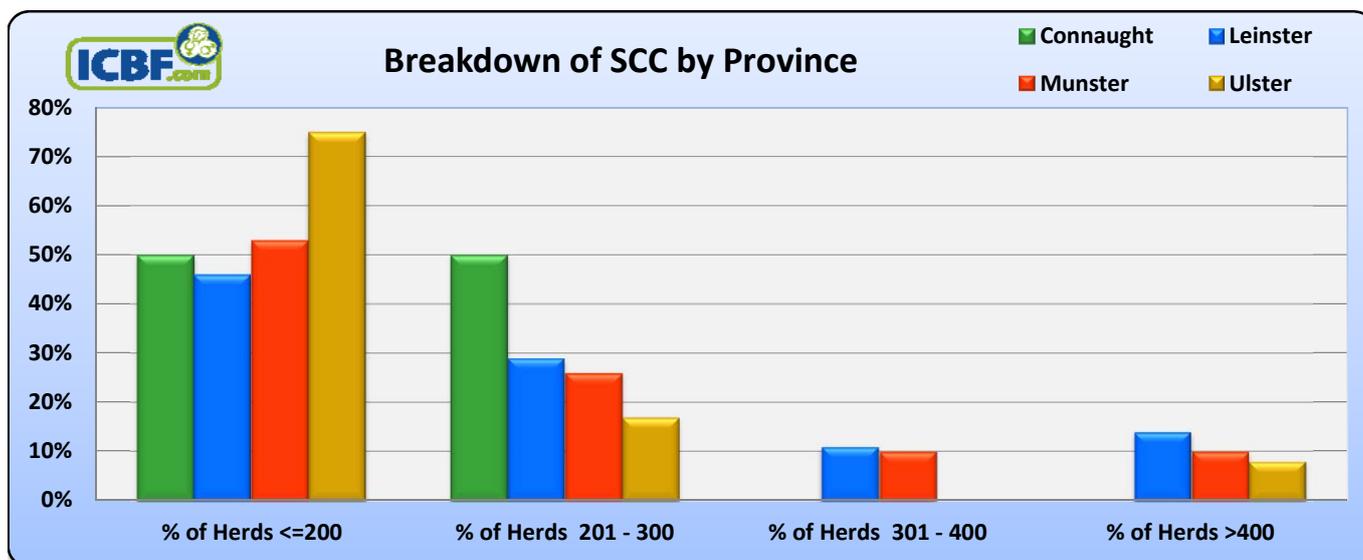
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	4	235	59	24.3	4.05	3.12	1.74	167
Leinster	65	5,649	87	24.8	4.36	3.32	1.91	185
Munster	305	22,074	72	24.6	4.18	3.17	1.81	191
Ulster	12	616	51	25.7	3.86	3.17	1.81	157
National Statistics	386	28,574	74	24.7	4.20	3.20	1.83	189

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 09-MAR-2016 To 18-MAR-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	4	235	59	50%	50%	0%	0%	167
Leinster	65	5,649	87	46%	29%	11%	14%	185
Munster	305	22,074	72	53%	26%	10%	10%	191
Ulster	12	616	51	75%	17%	0%	8%	157
National Statistics	386	28,574	74	53%	27%	10%	11%	189

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 09-MAR-2016 To 18-MAR-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	4	235	59	138	164	179	194	209
Leinster	65	5,649	87	102	157	211	228	341
Munster	305	22,074	72	117	165	191	214	304
Ulster	12	616	51	90	136	174	191	223
National Statistics	386	28,574	74	114	163	193	215	306

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

