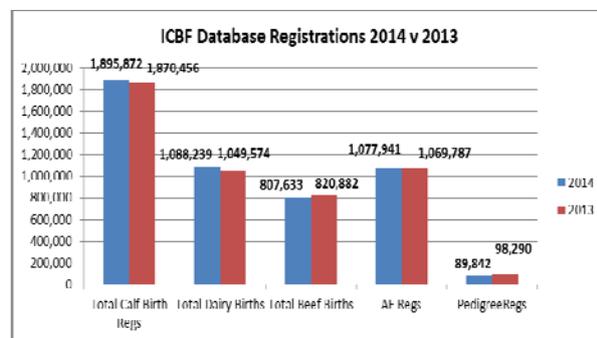
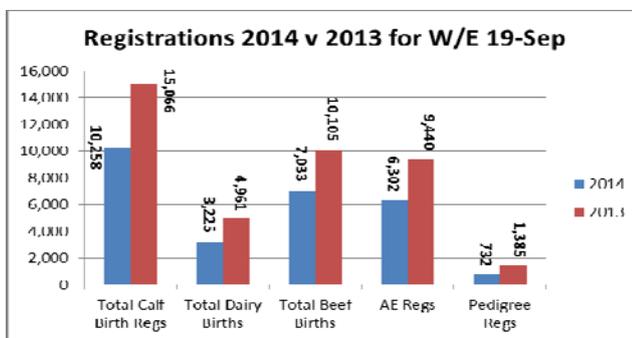


ICBF Weekly Update 19th September 2014

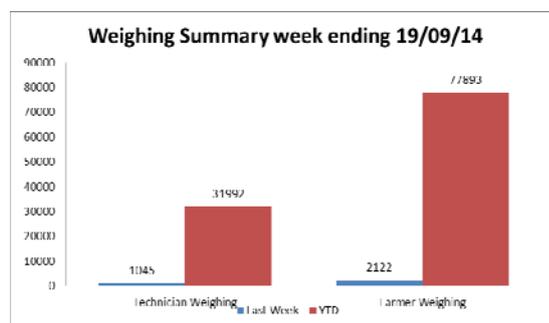
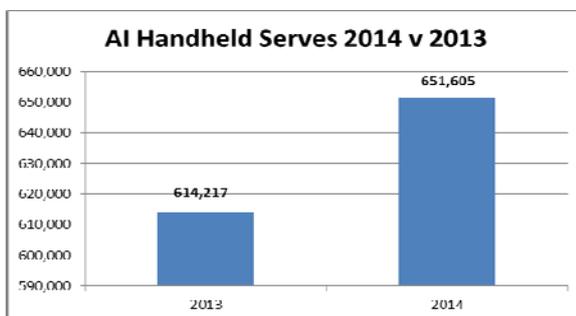
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Dairy & Beef Industry Meetings** – Tuesday 14th October 2014, 10:00 to 16:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** – Thursday 4th December 2014, 10:30 to 13:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 18th December 2014, 10:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 18th December 2014, 14:00 to 16:30, 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 2,020,000 results received since January 1st, of which 13,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 4.68 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
- ✚ This week there were 1045 weights received through the technician service and 2122 weights recorded by farmers. The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 Herd Plus®

- ✚ Dairy Calving Reports are now available online for all Dairy HerdPlus customers to view. This report allows farmers to assess the calving performance of their herd through some Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) such as calving interval and six week calving rate. It is important that farmers take note of their own figures and compare them to national averages as well as the top herds.

- ICBF will be present at the National Ploughing Championships this year as part of the Irish Farmers Journal/ICBF/Bord Bia Livestock Demo. The use of Euro-Star Indexes to select stock will be covered on the beef side while the benefits of high EBI cows will be covered on the dairy side. The demos will take place on each of the three days at 10am, 12pm and 2pm. It should be a very comprehensive and informative demonstration. We look forward to seeing you there.
- A beef breeding seminar took place in Kilmallock mart on Thursday night 18th September. The event was organised by Pat Blackwell of Teagasc in conjunction with ICBF, Bova AI, Dovea Genetics and Munster AI. It proved a huge success with a large crowd in attendance. Presentations were given by Dr Donagh Berry of Teagasc (Genetics & Genomics), Chris Daly of ICBF (Euro-Star Indexes) and Dr Doreen Corridan of Munster AI (Bull Management & Functionality). Some high Replacement & Terminal Index bulls were demonstrated to the crowd. John Lynch of Dovea Genetics and Michael Clohessy of Munster AI had selections of livestock from various maternal AI bulls.



Two high Terminal Index Charolais bulls belonging to Michael Quin, Clare



A high Replacement Index Simmental bull, Celtic Benny, belonging to Seamus Aherne, Limerick.



The top Replacement Index AI bull on the ICBF active bull list at €402. ZLL, a red Angus, is now a stock bull in Pat Meehan's Dalriada Angus herd. Semen is available from Bova AI



Chris Daly of ICBF giving a presentation on the genetic trends of the national suckler herd and the Euro-Star Index

4 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 19/09/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 19/09/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 19/09/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 19/09/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 19/09/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,847	1,147	30%	329,182	104,557	32%
Progressive	2,512	1,094	44%	239,604	104,987	44%
Tipperary	115	44	38%	9,980	3,859	39%
Total	6,474	2,285	35%	578,766	213,403	37%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2010 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 19/09/13	YTD 2011 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 19/09/14	2011 vs. 2010 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	309,222	329,182	6.1%
Progressive	230,241	239,604	3.9%
Tipperary	10,029	9,980	-0.5%
Total	549,492	578,766	5.1%

5 Sheep Ireland

STAP

- At present the administration of the Sheep Ireland tasks within the Sheep Technology Adoption Programme is our main focus. STAP participants are currently submitting evidence of purchase for their EuroStar rams which they are required to use in Year 1 or Year 2 of the discussion group programme.
- The deadline for completion of all STAP tasks is October 3rd which means all facilitators are working at full capacity to ensure that all their group members have met the various requirements of the schemes tasks. STAP participants continue to purchase STAP eligible rams at breed society sales around the country. Demand for rams this year varies depending on the part of the country, with intense demand for EuroStar rams in some areas, and less demand in others. We are already receiving a significant number of queries from non-recording breeders who are interested in joining the programme for 2015, which is very encouraging.

LambPlus

- Once the 2014 ram sale season begins to wind down we will be making contact with all Irish pedigree ram breeders (currently recording & non recording), to detail requirements for the 2015 season. Our LambPlus service continues to develop and there are many exciting plans for next year. These new plans along with the minimum recording criteria for breeders to receive EuroStar Indices for their lambs will be outlined in this upcoming communication.

National Ploughing Championships 2014

- Sheep Ireland will be attending the National Ploughing Championships again this year from the 23rd to the 25th September in Stradbally, Co. Laois. You will find us in the Sheep Tunnel run by the National Sheep Breeders Association and all the breed societies. You will also find us on the Irish Farmers Journal live demonstration stand where for the first time sheep will also be on display. The demos will happen at 10am 12pm and 2pm every day where dairy, beef & sheep will be discussed. Some of the topics covered will include markets, production systems and breeding.

Hope to see you there!!

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, 10-SEP-2014 To 19-SEP-2014

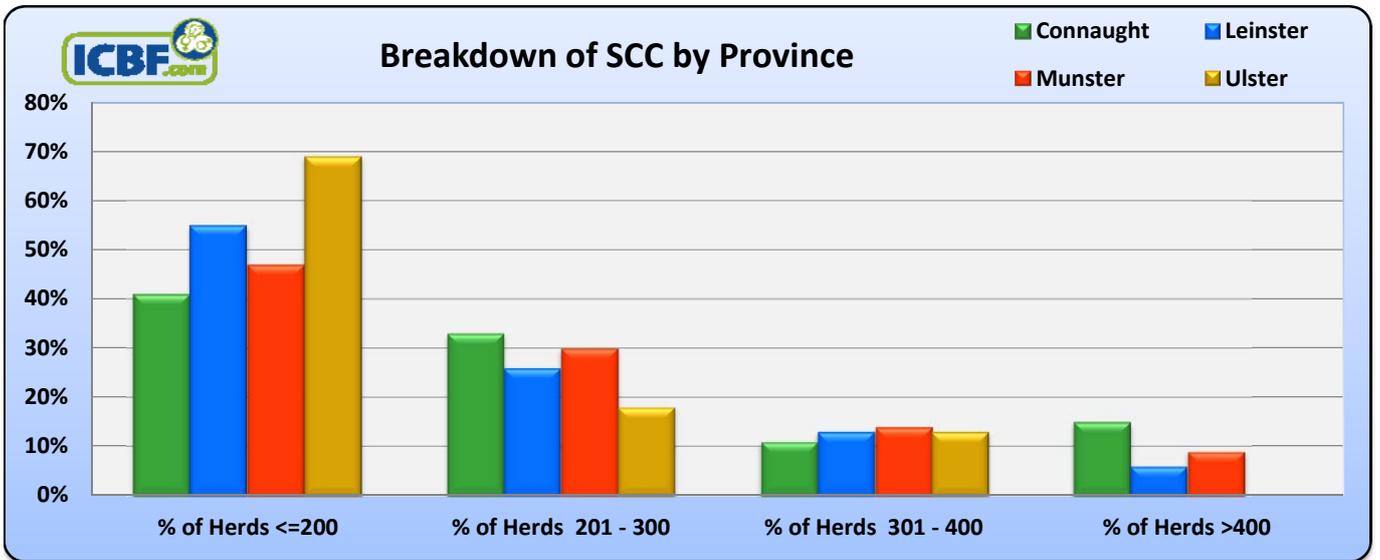
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	27	1,741	64	20.7	3.92	3.66	1.56	235
Leinster	180	15,280	85	19.3	4.13	3.72	1.50	189
Munster	608	47,216	78	18.8	4.11	3.69	1.46	215
Ulster	39	2,119	54	20.3	3.95	3.62	1.52	169
National Statistics	854	66,356	78	19.0	4.10	3.69	1.47	207

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 10-SEP-2014 To 19-SEP-2014

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	27	1,741	64	41%	33%	11%	15%	235
Leinster	180	15,280	85	55%	26%	13%	6%	189
Munster	608	47,216	78	47%	30%	14%	9%	215
Ulster	39	2,119	54	69%	18%	13%	0%	169
National Statistics	854	66,356	78	50%	29%	14%	8%	207

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 10-SEP-2014 To 19-SEP-2014

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	27	1,741	64	144	198	220	232	336
Leinster	180	15,280	85	121	174	194	218	293
Munster	608	47,216	78	145	184	208	236	316
Ulster	39	2,119	54	117	145	166	195	239
National Statistics	854	66,356	78	140	180	201	230	309

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

