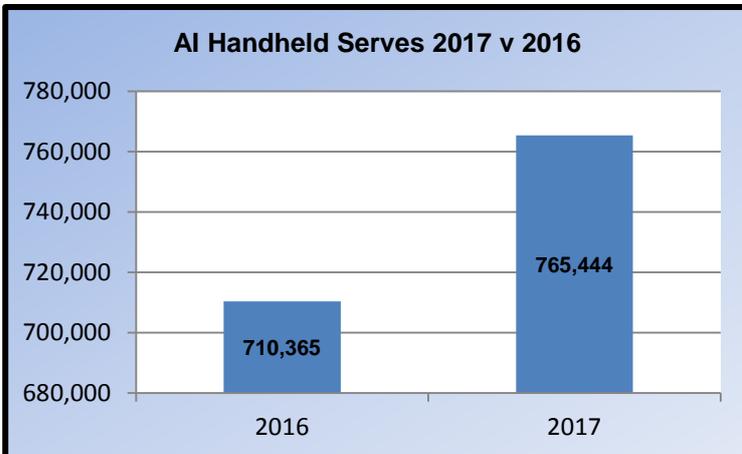
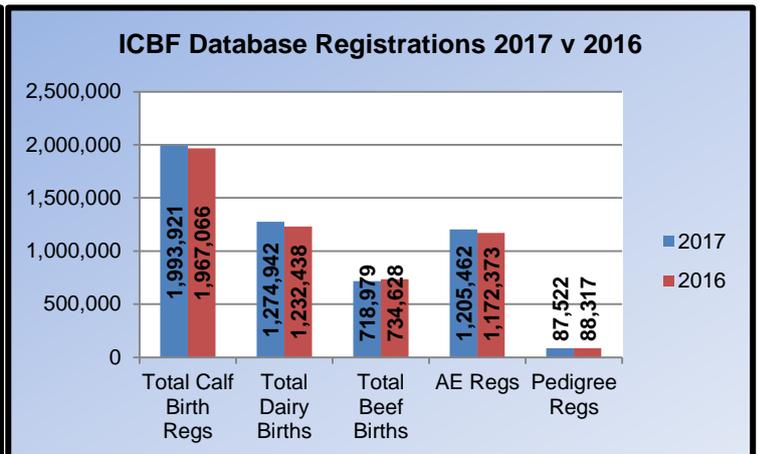
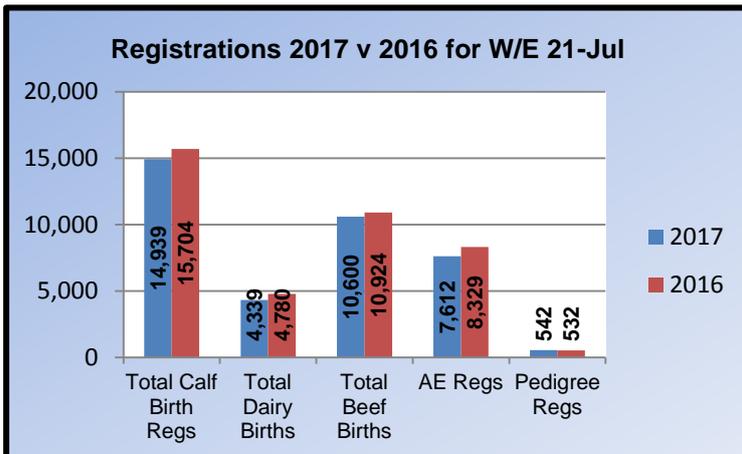


ICBF Weekly Update 21st July 2017

1 Important Dates

- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 7th September at 10:30am in Highfield House, Bandon.
- Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 7th September at 2:00pm in Highfield House, Bandon.
- Audit & Finance Sub-Committee Meeting** – Thursday 16th November at 10:30am, 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 2,052,290 results received since January 1st, of which 18,040 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 11,582,530 results have now been received.
- The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2017 compared with 2016.

3 Herd Plus®

The first daughters of beef Gene Ireland sires are calving down this year on farms. Semen was first distributed from these bulls in Spring 2014, with heifer calves being born in Spring 2015 and subsequently calving down themselves in Spring 2017. Check out the first of these heifers to calve in Spring 2017 [here](#).



Check out the latest statistics for most used AI sires in 2016 for both beef and dairy [here](#). These statistics were compiled through AI handheld recorded serves.



✚ Late Summer is an ideal time for farmers to weight record stock. Spring born suckler calves will be entering the optimum timeframe for weight recording (150-250 days old). There is also an increasing emphasis on weight recording suckler cows so as to be able to better measure cow efficiency (calf weight as % of cow weight).

Dairy farmers are also increasingly weighing young stock to help ensure that they meet target weights. Find out more about the ICBF weighing service [here](#).



✚ Next Tuesday 25th July, the Irish Farmers Journal will host the first open day on the new Tullamore suckler and sheep farm in Screggan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly. This will be an excellent opportunity to see a high Euro-Star Replacement Index herd in action. ICBF will be present on the day with a HerdPlus information stand for farmers and a demo on using the Replacement Index as a breeding tool.

There will be farm tours and demos taking place from 1-7pm. See this week's Farmers Journal for more information.



4 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 21/07/17						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 21/07/17	No. EDIY Herds YTD 21/07/17	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 21/07/17	No. EDIY Cows YTD 21/07/17	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,846	1,261	33%	387,324	138,758	36%
Progressive	2,285	944	41%	258,568	108,207	42%
Tipperary	111	50	45%	11,402	5,074	45%
Total	6,242	2,255	36%	657,294	252,039	38%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2016 Cows Recorded 01/01/16 - 21/07/16	YTD 2017 Cows Recorded 01/01/17 - 21/07/17	2017 vs 2016 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	350,585	387,324	10.5%
Progressive	242,278	258,568	6.7%
Tipperary	10,721	11,402	6.4%
Total	603,584	657,294	8.9%

5 Sheep Ireland

Teagasc BETTER Farm Open Day Brian Nicholson – Wednesday 26th July at 2pm

- ✚ Sheep Ireland would like to invite all LambPlus sheep breeders to the farm of Brian Nicholson next Wednesday 26th July. There will be a strong breeding aspect to this open day and Sheep Ireland personnel will be on hand to answer any queries from LambPlus members.
- ✚ Brian's farm is located just 3km from the village of Johnstown in Co. Kilkenny. Johnstown itself is just off the M8 (Dublin to Cork) motorway, so the event will be very accessible.

Sheep Ireland Multibreed LambPlus Ram Sale 2017

- Once again our ram sale will take place in Tullamore Mart on the fourth Saturday of August (26th August). The sale will commence at 12 noon and we expect a large sale entry. Sale entry letters have been circulated to all LambPlus breeders this week. The deadline for entries is Monday 14th August – this is to allow sufficient time to advertise the sale catalogue.

Sale entry criteria

- As has been the case each year since the beginning of this sale, various entry requirements are increasing year on year. The minimum accuracy% requirement has been increased from 30% to 35% and the minimum flock DQI (Data Quality Index) requirement is 60% (up from 50% in 2016). This increased entry criteria reflects the progress being made by performance recording breeders and also demonstrates Sheep Ireland commitment to offering the best possible genetic evaluations to ram buyers on the day of this sale.

Full entry criteria

- Ultrasound scanning** - All rams must have been born in a flock that has ultrasonically scanned a proportion of their lambs for muscle and fat depth in 2017.
- Euro-Star Index & Accuracy %** - All rams must have five Euro-Stars for either the Replacement or Terminal index and in conjunction with this five Euro-Stars requirement, the adjoining accuracy (Acc) % is required to be 35% or greater.
- Data Quality Index (DQI)** – Breeders wishing to enter sheep in the sale must have a flock DQI of 60% or greater.
- Ram Inspection** – All rams must be physically inspected, similar to any breed society sale. Sheep Ireland will carry out a thorough ram inspection on the day and will inspect all rams upon entry to the sale. Any sheep which in our opinion are unfit for breeding will be rejected immediately.

Premier Sale Catalogues

- A number of sheep breeds are now preparing their ram sale catalogues for their annual Premier sales. These will be available on each breed society website in the coming days for each of the relevant breeds. The next major Premier sale taking place will be the Charollais Premier sale on Saturday 29th July. This catalogue can be viewed by clicking [here](#). A sale of Hampshire Down sheep also takes place in Tullow on Tuesday 25th July – Euro-Star indexes for a number of Hampshire breeders will be available on the day of this sale.

National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 12-JUL-2017 To 21-JUL-2017

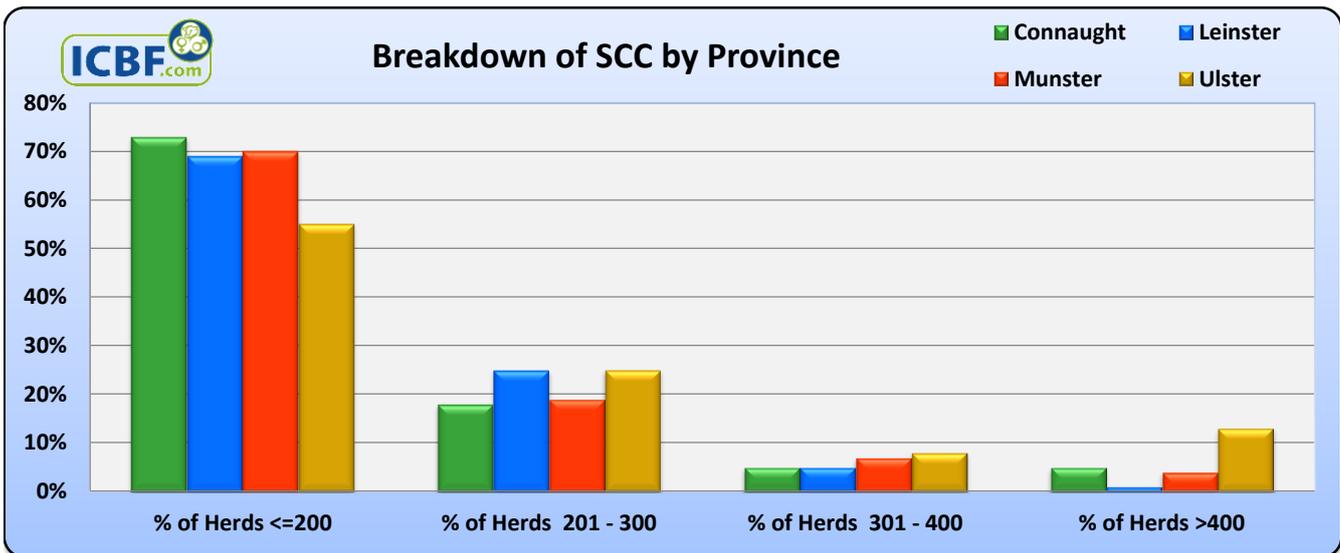
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	22	1,764	80	23.4	3.70	3.36	1.65	149
Leinster	141	17,181	122	23.0	3.93	3.45	1.69	149
Munster	578	54,304	94	23.6	3.88	3.45	1.73	152
Ulster	40	2,957	74	23.9	3.80	3.33	1.70	182
National Statistics	782	76,226	97	23.5	3.88	3.45	1.72	153

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 12-JUL-2017 To 21-JUL-2017

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	22	1,764	80	73%	18%	5%	5%	149
Leinster	141	17,181	122	69%	25%	5%	1%	149
Munster	578	54,304	94	70%	19%	7%	4%	152
Ulster	40	2,957	74	55%	25%	8%	13%	182
National Statistics	782	76,226	97	69%	20%	7%	4%	153

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 12-JUL-2017 To 21-JUL-2017

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	22	1,764	80	93	139	155	165	258
Leinster	141	17,181	122	94	141	158	180	233
Munster	578	54,304	94	93	132	149	174	245
Ulster	40	2,957	74	115	161	180	220	302
National Statistics	782	76,226	97	93	135	152	176	246

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

