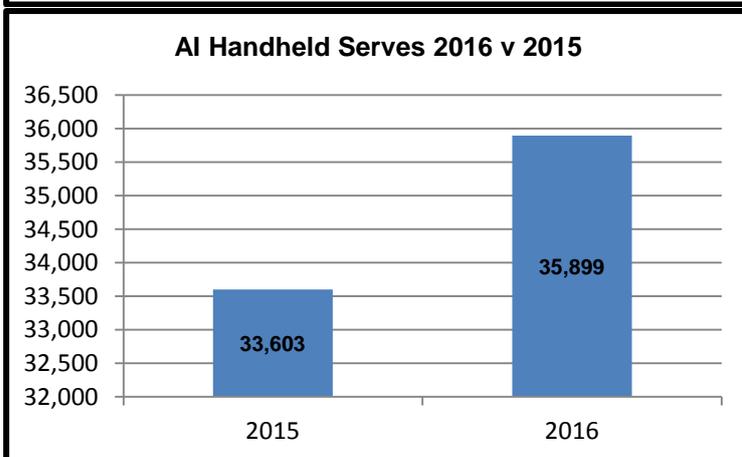
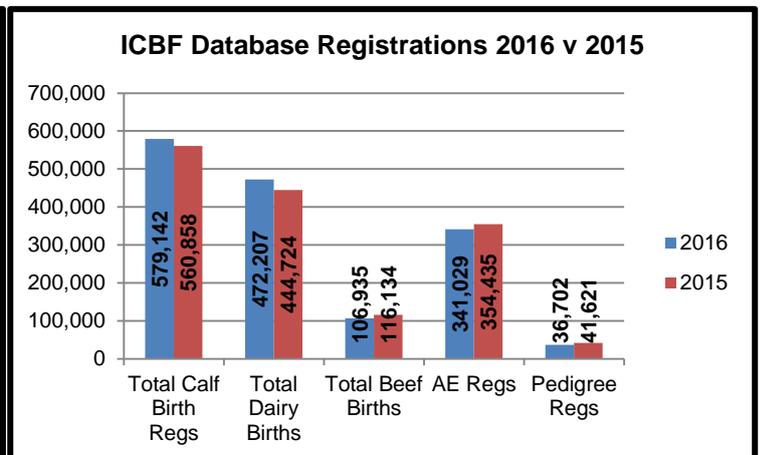
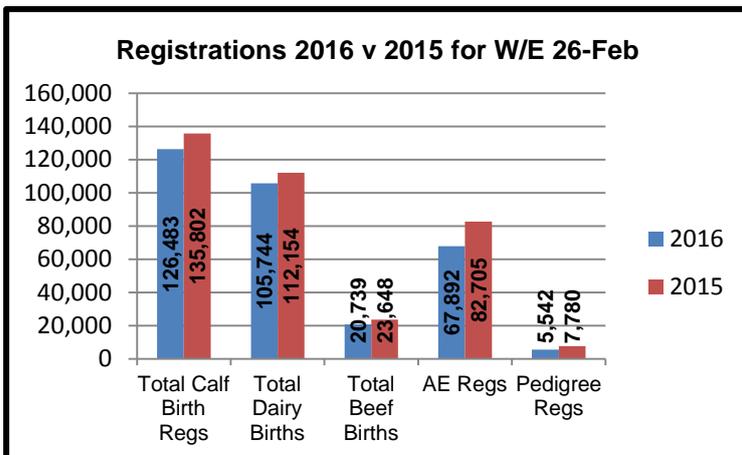


## ICBF Weekly Update 26th February 2016

### 1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Audit & Finance Meeting** – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Audit & Finance Meeting** – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 14:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 at 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016, at 14:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

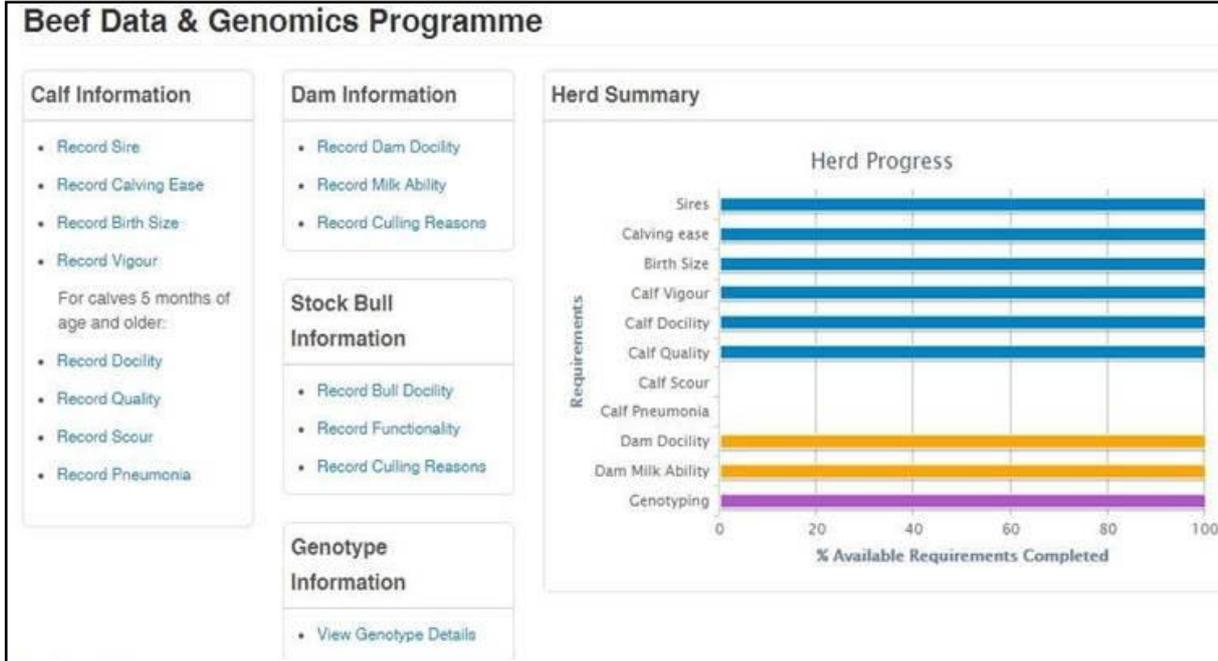
### 2 Database



- ✚ 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 580,495 results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 141,562, have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 7.9 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The chart shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2016 compared with 2015.

### 3 Beef Data and Genomics Programme (BDGP)

- ✚ Up-to-date 'BDGP Euro-star' reports have been generated for all BDGP participating herds. These are now available to view online under the reports section.
- ✚ Recording screens are now available on the ICBF website to record new traits for 2016.
- ✚ New Traits to be recorded for calves born from 1 January 2016 are:
  - Birth Size
  - Calf Vigour
  - Incidences or Scour & Pneumonia
  - Dam & Stock Bull Culling Reasons



#### 4 Herd Plus®

- ✚ HerdPlus Dairy Sire Advice – The Active bull list and HerdPlus Dairy Sire Advice forms are currently being posted to HerdPlus Postal customers and will arrive on farm early next week.
- ✚ With calving season in full swing, please remember to record sire details and calving ease scores.
- ✚ Please ensure that you have all dry-off dates recorded in order to receive your Milk Recording Annual report.
- ✚ ICBF will be publishing the ‘Top 20’ replacement index cows. This will be a 13 part listing. Each day we will add another 'Top 20' for the 12 most popular pedigree breeds. We will also be publishing a 'Top 20' listing of commercial beef cows to complete this listing. In order to make the list, animals must have been in a HerdPlus herd at time of data extraction. A new breed listing will be added at random everyday over the next fortnight. Make sure to stay tuned to see if your cows have made these listings.
- ✚ Breeds currently Published include:
  - Hereford
  - Angus
  - Blonde D’Aquitane



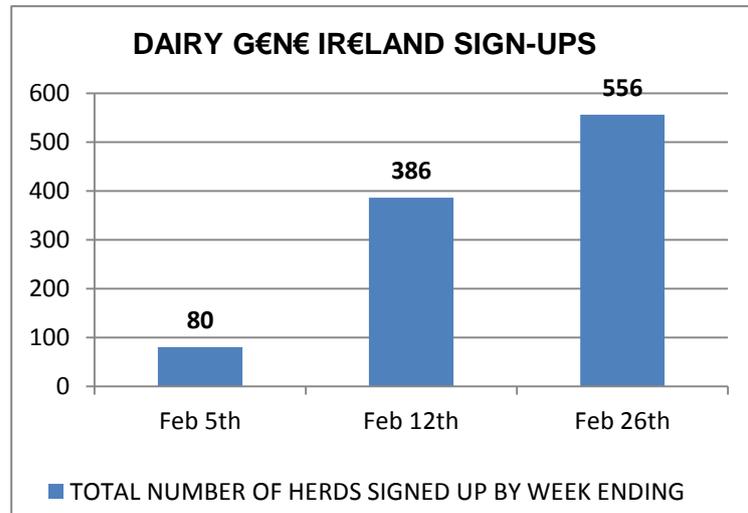
Sean Galvin, Sleaveen West,  
Macroom, Co. Cork.  
Owner of Top Replacement Index  
*Blonde D’Aquitane Cow*

## 5 GENE IRELAND® Dairy

### BREED PACKS AND AVERAGE EBI'S

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

- ✚ 556 herds are signed up-to date, taking a total of 22,389 straws.
- ✚ Allocations will commence shortly based on semen availability
- ✚ The **Multi Breed** pack includes Jersey (and Jersey Cross bulls), together with Holstein-Friesian bulls for comparative purposes.
- ✚ To learn more or to order straws please phone **1850 600 900**.



## 6 GENE IRELAND® Beef

- ✚ Sign Ups are continuing for the Gene Ireland Beef programme.
- ✚ 183 herds taking a total of 2560 straws have joined so far.
- ✚ The average order is 14 straws per herd.
- ✚ AU2155 and SI2158 reached the 500 straws target this week.
- ✚ The catalogue is available to view at the link below  
[https://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/2016\\_spring\\_brochure](https://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/2016_spring_brochure)
- ✚ To learn more or to order straws please phone **1850 600 900**.
- ✚ Approximate total straws ordered to date for the bulls are detailed in the table to the right

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws Ordered
AA2063	Mogeely Evitas	AA	120
CH2159	Bondi Jacob	CH	330
CH2154	Polar Joe 2	CH	120
CH2221	Jarret	CH	75
HE2148	Ballyaville Hamlet	HE	330
LM2117	Tomschoice Imperial	LM	260
LM2151	Ballygarvan Stud Ike	LM	370
LM2242	Edakya	LM	65
LM2214	Idalgo PP	LM	145
ZKY	Kyle Herd Ivan	PT	405
PI2157	Kilree Leo	PI	130
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	270
SH2181	Coolvin Dominator	SH	65
PPA	Polar Edinson	SI	370
ETP	Curaheen Evolution P	SI	330

## 7 Sheep Ireland

### LambPlus

- ✚ A text has been circulated to all LambPlus breeders reminding them about the importance of recording any outstanding lambing information and in some cases weights. The sooner lambs are entered on the database after birth the better the DQI score will be. There is also a very useful link to [When to Weigh LambPlus Lambs](#) available on the website. We would encourage every breeder to consult this now and take note the dates they should be weighing their lambs for the rest of the year and mark them in your calendar. Again recording weights at the right time has a positive effect on your flock DQI.

## CPT Lambing Upon Us

- All preparations are now in place for the CPT lambing storm that will begin next week. John Large in Gortnahoe, Co. Tipperary was the first flock artificially inseminated last October and we expect the lambing period to kick off from Tues March 2<sup>nd</sup>. However as can sometimes be the case a very early set of lambs were born today – a gestation of 136 days. While there can be significant variation in ewe gestation lengths, 136 days would certainly be considered at the extreme end of the scale. Both lambs are hardy and healthy so a good start to the campaign. We don't expect many more lambs (if any) to follow this lead, with the next lambs expected to drop on Monday/Tuesday.

## UCD Agriculture and Food Careers Day

- This week Sheep Ireland and ICBF attended this very important day in the in the Irish agricultural calendar as it gives the soon to be graduates a chance to network with potential future employees, as well as giving future employees a chance to introduce themselves to some of the best candidates in the country for current/future positions. Mr Bill Callanan, Chief Inspector, DAFM opened the event which is organised by the students and spoke how Ireland needs to become a world leader in the agricultural and food sectors using all the science and technologies available in order to become more efficient, profitable and sustainable. There were a record number of 43 exhibitors attending the event.
- Both Sheep Ireland and ICBF received a great deal of interest and some excellent CV's. We would once again like to thank the committee for the invitation to the very well organised event.



## Upcoming Board Elections

- This week a courtesy letter was circulated to all sheep breed society representatives to inform them of some upcoming reappointments necessary to the Sheep Ireland Board. The term for board seats is 4 years and this term is near an end for a number of seats, which will soon need to be reappointed. These include the representatives of:
  - LambPlus performance recording breeders - 1 seat.
  - Breed societies using the Sheep Ireland system to administer their flockbooks (Texel, Belclare & Galway) – 1 seat.
  - Lamb producer groups – 1 seat.
  - CPT & flocks involved in the Teagasc Better farm programme (Commercial farmers) – 1 seat.
- The secretary of Sheep Ireland, John Carty (DAFM) will be coordinating the election processes for all of the seats above and will make contact with all relevant parties in due course.

**Sean Coughlan** Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Email [info@icbf.com](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.sheep.ie).

## National Milk Recording Results for the 10 day period, 17-FEB-2016 To 26-FEB-2016

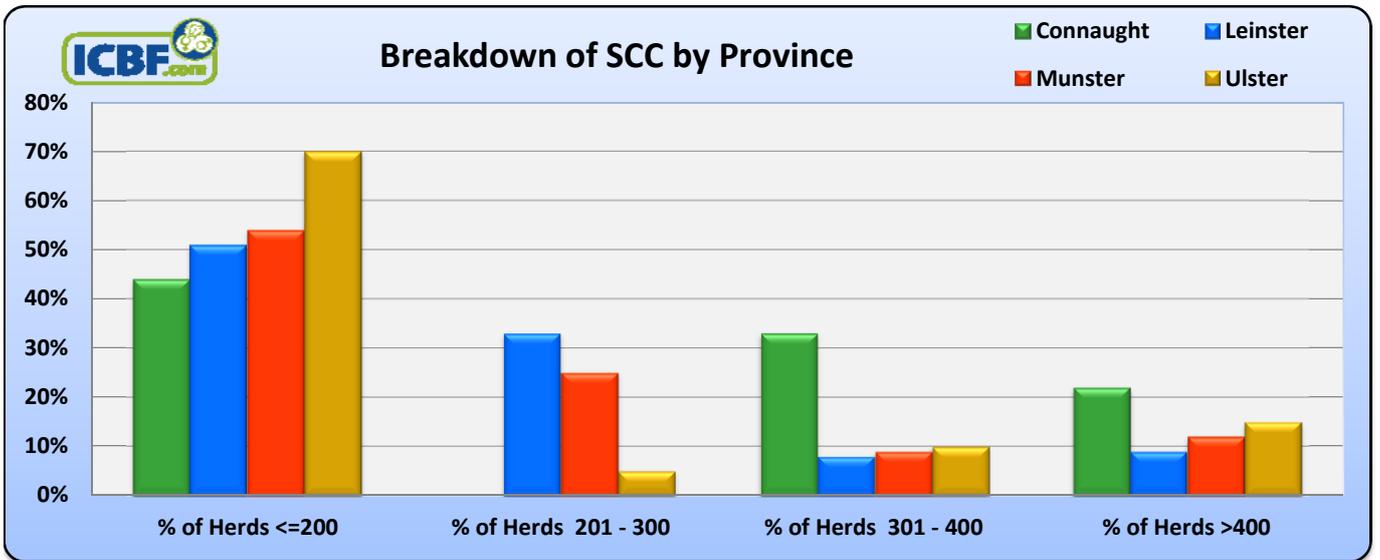
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	9	502	56	24.6	4.16	3.34	1.85	254
Leinster	92	6,414	70	24.0	4.32	3.34	1.83	186
Munster	270	16,157	60	24.7	4.34	3.29	1.88	191
Ulster	20	1,035	52	23.7	4.24	3.23	1.77	170
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>24,108</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>24.4</b>	<b>4.32</b>	<b>3.30</b>	<b>1.86</b>	<b>190</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 17-FEB-2016 To 26-FEB-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	9	502	56	44%	0%	33%	22%	254
Leinster	92	6,414	70	51%	33%	8%	9%	186
Munster	270	16,157	60	54%	25%	9%	12%	191
Ulster	20	1,035	52	70%	5%	10%	15%	170
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>24,108</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>12%</b>	<b>190</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



### % Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 17-FEB-2016 To 26-FEB-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	9	502	56	143	183	301	334	424
Leinster	92	6,414	70	115	157	198	241	290
Munster	270	16,157	60	112	159	187	221	312
Ulster	20	1,035	52	96	135	178	190	326
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>24,108</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>311</b>

\*\* Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

