



IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION

Rewarding Pedigree Breeders who Performance Record



Overview

- **Beef Gene Ireland has gone through a lot of positive changes over the last 3 years**
 - Purchased a large number of High Index Maternal Bulls
 - Established a group of 320 highly recorded pedigree herds
 - Structures setup around these developments:
 - Committees
 - Birthweight recording tape
 - HLO's
 - Gene Ireland Stamp
 - Recommended Bull Lists
 - Gained an understanding about the levels of performance recording in Irish Pedigree herds
- **We now want expand the program out to engage with more Pedigree Breeders.**

Overview

- **Building on discussion held at Beef Industry Meeting held on 29th January 2016 about ‘Performance Recording in Pedigree herds’.....**
- **Initiatives needed to reward those pedigree breeders that are performance recording (Perf-Rec).**
- **Setting a tangible reward for making an effort at performance recording your pedigree cattle.**
- **Thus bringing more Breeders into the fold:**
 - **Selling Bulls with ‘own data based’ Euro-Stars**
 - **Widen the pool of prospective young Gene Ireland Bulls**

Play to our strengths!

BULL SEARCH

Search By:

- Code, Tag, Herd Book
- Name or part of name

- **If you have something that is a winner – make good use of it!**

Usage Stats – www.icbf.com

ICBF Bull Search Statistics - 2014

Purpose	AI Sires	AI %	Stockbulls	Stockbulls %	Total Searches
Beef	491,474	51%	472,698	49%	964,172
Dairy	412,860	65%	218,286	35%	631,146
Total	904,334	57%	690,984	43%	1,595,318

ICBF Bull Search Statistics - 2015

Purpose	AI Sires	AI %	Stockbulls	Stockbulls %	Total Searches
Beef	729,592	49%	770,931	51%	1,500,523
Dairy	516,575	70%	223,725	30%	740,300
Total	1,246,167	56%	994,656	44%	2,240,823

- **Current Usage Stats of the ICBF Bull Search**
- **Huge increase in usage of the ‘Bull Search’**

Clearly Identify 'Perf-Rec' Bulls

- **'Perf-Rec'** = Animal was at least weighed by ICBF
 - Currently no difference between a 'Perf- Rec' bull and a 'non Perf-Rec' bull on the ICBF Bull Search.
1. **Current Bull Search**
 2. **New Proposed Bull Search**
 3. **Sale Catalogues**

Clearly Identify 'Perf-Rec' Bulls

Animal Details

AI Code:
 Animal Name:
 National ID:
 International ID:
 Breed: LM (100%)
 Owner:
 Date of Birth: 01-NOV-2015
 Date of Evaluation: Dec 2015

[Euro-star Index](#)
[Replacement Graphics](#)
[Terminal Graphics](#)
[Linear Type](#)
[Pedigree](#)
[Prev Eval](#)

Star Rating (within Limousin breed)	Economic Indexes	€uro value	Index reliability	Star Rating (across all beef breeds)
★★★★★	Replacement (per daughter lactation) Maternal Cow Traits Maternal Progeny Traits	€130 €35 €95	32% (Low) 33% 31%	★★★★★
★★★★★	Terminal (per progeny)	€143	31% (Low)	★★★★★
☆☆☆☆☆	Dairy Beef	€	% (N/A)	☆☆☆☆☆

Star Rating (within Limousin breed)	Key profit traits	Index value	Trait reliability	Star Rating (across all beef breeds)
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Expected progeny performance

	Calving difficulty (% 3 & 4) Breed ave: 4.95%, All breeds ave: 4.49%	4.85%	32% (Low)	
★★★★☆	Docility (1-5 scale) Breed ave: -0.06, All breeds ave: 0.00	-0.01 scale	39% (Low)	★★★★☆
★★★★★	Carcass weight (kg) Breed ave: 21.88kg, All breeds ave: 13.98kg	28.5kg	34% (Low)	★★★★★
★★★★★	Carcass conformation (1-15 scale) Breed ave: 1.99, All breeds ave: 1.23	2.45 scale	33% (Low)	★★★★★

Expected daughter breeding performance

	Daughter calving difficulty (% 3 & 4) Breed ave: 5.55%, All breeds ave: 6.48%	7.5%	28% (Low)	
★★★★★	Daughter milk (kg) Breed ave: -1.69kg, All breeds ave: 2.97kg	2.46kg	41% (Average)	★★★★☆
★★★★☆	Daughter calving interval (days) Breed ave: 1.72 days, All breeds ave: -0.39 days	1.12days	32% (Low)	★★★★☆

He was scored and weighed

Animal Details

AI Code:
 Animal Name:
 National ID:
 International ID:
 Breed: LM (100%)
 Owner:
 Date of Birth: 04-MAY-2014
 Date of Evaluation: Dec 2015

[Euro-star Index](#)
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Star Rating (within Limousin breed)	Economic Indexes	€uro value	Index reliability	Star Rating (across all beef breeds)
★★★★★	Replacement (per daughter lactation) Maternal Cow Traits Maternal Progeny Traits	€114 €23 €91	17% (V Low) 16% 19%	★★★★★
★★★★★	Terminal (per progeny)	€134	20% (Low)	★★★★★
☆☆☆☆☆	Dairy Beef	€	% (N/A)	☆☆☆☆☆

Star Rating (within Limousin breed)	Key profit traits	Index value	Trait reliability	Star Rating (across all beef breeds)
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Expected progeny performance

	Calving difficulty (% 3 & 4) Breed ave: 4.95%, All breeds ave: 4.49%	4.40%	22% (Low)	
★★★★☆	Docility (1-5 scale) Breed ave: -0.06, All breeds ave: 0.00	-0.03 scale	19% (V Low)	★★★★☆
★★★★★	Carcass weight (kg) Breed ave: 21.88kg, All breeds ave: 13.98kg	28kg	22% (Low)	★★★★★
★★★★☆	Carcass conformation (1-15 scale) Breed ave: 1.99, All breeds ave: 1.23	2.16 scale	20% (Low)	★★★★☆

Expected daughter breeding performance

	Daughter calving difficulty (% 3 & 4) Breed ave: 5.55%, All breeds ave: 6.48%	4.8%	12% (V Low)	
★★★★☆	Daughter milk (kg) Breed ave: -1.69kg, All breeds ave: 2.97kg	-.62kg	19% (V Low)	★★★★☆
★★★★☆	Daughter calving interval (days) Breed ave: 1.72 days, All breeds ave: -0.39 days	1.61days	17% (V Low)	★★★★☆

He was'nt

1

Perf-Rec Bull

ICBF PERFORMANCE RECORDED

Animal Details

AI Code: XXXXXXXXXX Breed: LM (100%)
 Animal Name: XXXXXXXXXX Owner: **John Bloggs, Athy, Co.Kildare (Tel)**
 National ID: XXXXXXXXXX Date of Birth: 01-NOV-2015
 International ID: XXXXXXXXXX Date of Evaluation: Dec 2015

2

[Euro-star Index](#)
[Replacement Graphics](#)
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[Linear Type](#)
[Pedigree](#)
[Prev Eval](#)

Star Rating (within Limousin breed)	Economic Indexes	€uro value	Index reliability	Star Rating (across all beef breeds)
★★★★★	Replacement (per daughter lactation) Maternal Cow Traits Maternal Progeny Traits	€130 €35 €95	32% (Low) 33% 31%	★★★★★
★★★★★	Terminal (per progeny)	€143	31% (Low)	★★★★★
	Dairy Beef			

Star Rating (within Limousin breed)	Key profit traits	Index value	Trait reliability	Star Rating (across all beef breeds)
Expected Progeny Performance				
	Calving Difficulty (%3&4) Breed Ave:4.95%. All breeds ave:4.49%	4.85%	32% Low	

3

Embolden all Text

1

Non Perf-Rec Bull

NOT ICBF PERFORMANCE RECORDED

Animal Details

AI Code: XXXXXXXXXX Breed: LM (100%)
 Animal Name: XXXXXXXXXX Owner: XXXXXXXXXX
 National ID: XXXXXXXXXX Date of Birth: 04-MAY-2014
 International ID: XXXXXXXXXX Date of Evaluation: Dec 2015

€uro-star Index

Replacement Graphics

Terminal Graphics

Linear Type

Pedigree

Prev Eval

Star Rating

(within Limousin breed)

Economic Indexes

€uro value

Index reliability

Star Rating

(across all beef breeds)

★★★★★

Replacement (per daughter lactation)
 Maternal Cow Traits
 Maternal Progeny Traits

€114
 €23
 €91

17% (V Low)
 16%
 19%

★★★★★

★★★★★

Terminal (per progeny)

€134

20% (Low)

★★★★★

☆☆☆☆☆

Dairy Beef

€

% (N/A)

☆☆☆☆☆

Star Rating

(within Limousin breed)

Key profit traits

Index value

Trait reliability

Star Rating

(across all beef breeds)

Expected progeny performance

Calving difficulty (% 3 & 4)
 Breed ave: 4.95%, All breeds ave: 4.49%



4.40%

22%
 (Low)

Current Bull Search

BULL SEARCH

Search By:

- Code, Tag, Herd Book
- Name or part of name

- **Bull already has already been found when you use it.**
- **Searching for the Euro-Stars of an individual bull.**
- **Wont find you a list of bulls based on certain criteria.**

Usage Stats – Online Herdbooks

Brd	Total Searches	Searches by name or tag	Searches without name or tag	Searches with Maternal Stars	Searches with Terminal Stars	Searches with County
LM	50,537	46567	3970	1214	494	1761
CH	30,027	28753	1274	281	237	1298
SI	24,672	22000	2672	455	200	526
SH	5,138	4543	595	146	103	276
SA	1,984	1689	295	52	12	103
BB	775	577	198	11	13	29
Total	113,133	104129	9004	2159	1059	3993

- **@100,000 hits v 1.5 million at icbf.com**
- **Vast majority of Searches are on Name or Tag**
- **Little use being made of other options**
- **Even distribution of hits across the year**

Usage Stats – Online Herdbooks



Irish Limousin Cattle Society Ltd.

» Animal Enquiry

» Semen Catalogue



ANIMAL ENQUIRY

HELP ?

Select Search Criteria

Animal:	Number <input type="radio"/> Name <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
Date of Birth:	From: <input type="text"/>	To: <input type="text"/>
Animal Age:	<input type="text" value="All"/>	
Sex:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>	
Number of Progeny:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>	
ET Animal:	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Sire:	Number <input type="radio"/> Name <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mat. Grand Sire:	Number <input type="radio"/> Name <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
Mat. Great Grand Sire:	Number <input type="radio"/> Name <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
Dam:	Number <input type="radio"/> Name <input type="radio"/>	<input type="text"/>
Owner Location:	<input type="text" value="Carlow"/> <input type="text" value="Cavan"/> <input type="text" value="Clare"/> <input type="text" value="Cork"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Select All

Euro-Star Traits Within Breed

Trait and index percentiles

Economic Indexes:	Maternal:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Terminal:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Dairy Beef:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
Expected Progeny Performance:	Docility:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Carcass Weight:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Carcass Conformation:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
Expected Daughter Breeding Performance	Daughter Calving Difficulty:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Daughter Weaning Weight:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Daughter Calving Interval:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>

Genetic Evaluation of Linear Scored Traits

New Within Breed Linear Evaluation Implemented from Jan 1st 2010

New Composite Indexes:	Muscle:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Skeletal:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>
	Functional:	<input type="text" value="Select..."/>

Click Search to begin

SEARCH







CLEAR

- Is it a design or location issue?

New Proposed Bull Search

- BDGP asking farmers to have 4 & 5 Star Genotyped Bulls
- We need to help them find them safely.

1,195 ads for "5 star bull" in Ireland

 <p>5 star Belgium blue bull Laois No Price SPOTLIGHT</p>	 <p>5 Star Limousin Bull 40 days ago No Price Leitrim</p>	 <p>5 star parthenaise bull!!!! 55 days ago No Price Donegal</p>
 <p>5 star Limousin bull 19 days ago</p>	 <p>5 Star Charolais bull 34 days ago</p>	 <p>5 Star Charolais Bull 39 days ago</p>

New Proposed Bull Search

- Search by Criteria option available on most other cattle sites.

Name:	<input type="text"/>			
	<i>Enter the start of an animal's name (including prefix)</i>			
HerdBook No(s):	<input type="text"/>			
	<i>Enter one or more HerdBook Nos. separated by commas</i>			
EarTag (UKxxxx.):	<input type="text"/>			
Calving Year(s):	<input type="text"/>			
	<i>Enter one or more calving years separated by commas. or Enter Range as eg. 1999-2002</i>			
Age Selection:	<input type="radio"/> Any <input type="radio"/> Under 1yo <input type="radio"/> Under 2yo <input type="radio"/> Under 3yo <input type="radio"/> Under 4yo			
Registration Status:	<input type="radio"/> Registered <input type="radio"/> Not Registered <input type="radio"/> Any			
Animal Type:	<input type="radio"/> All <input type="radio"/> Published Sire <input type="radio"/> Royalty Sire <input type="radio"/> AI Sire <input type="radio"/> Sire			
Select if:	<input type="text"/>			
Select if:	<input type="text"/>			
Select if:	<input type="text"/>			
Herd Completeness of Performance Rating:	All <input type="text"/>			
Sire Name:	<input type="text"/>			
	<i>Enter sire name to view his progeny</i>			
Dam Name:	<input type="text"/>			
	<i>Enter dam name to view her progeny</i>			
Owner Located in Region:	Anywhere <input type="text"/>			
Trait Description	Min	Max	Min. Accuracy (%)	Breed Avg *
Calving Ease DIR (%)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	-0.4
Calving Ease DTRS (%)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	-0.5
Gestation Length (days)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+0.1
Birth Wt. (kg)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+2.2
200 Day Wt (kg)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+30
400 Day Wt (kg)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+56
600 Day Wt (kg)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+60
Mat Cow Wt (kg)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+59
Milk (kg)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+5
Scrotal Size (cm)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+0.4
Carcase Wt (kg)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+39
Eye Muscle Area (sq cm)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+3.1
Fat Depth (mm)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+0.0
Retail Beef Yield (%)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+0.5
IMF (%)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	-0.1
Terminal Production Index (GBP)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+66
Self Replacing Index (GBP)	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	+72
Sort By <input type="text"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Default <input type="radio"/> Ascending <input type="radio"/> Descending			

New Proposed Bull Search

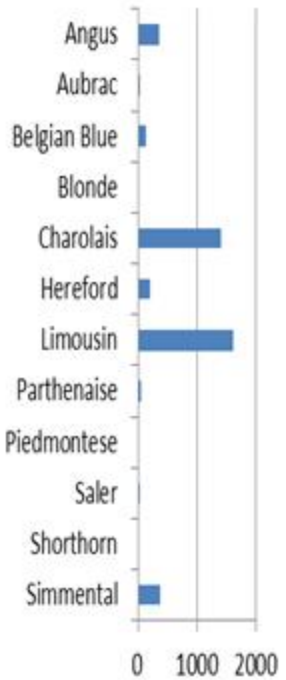
Search by Tag Number

Region

Click on counties to limit your search to those counties



Breed



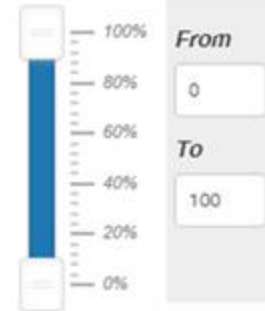
Age

Under 1 Year
 1 - 2 Years old
 >2 Years old
 Weighed at Birth

Search by Traits

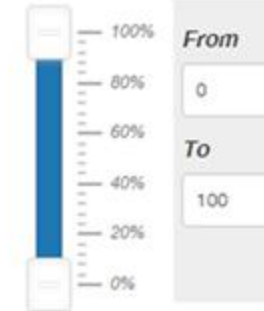
Replacement Index

(percentile)



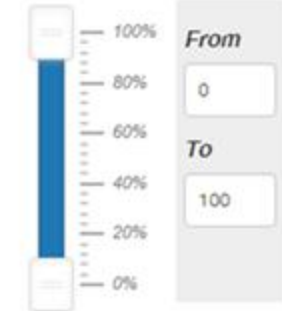
Terminal Index

(percentile)



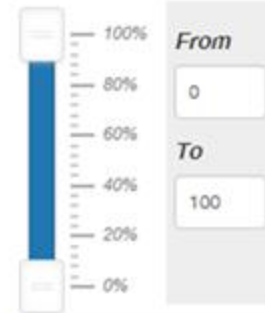
Calving Difficulty (%3&4)

(percentile)



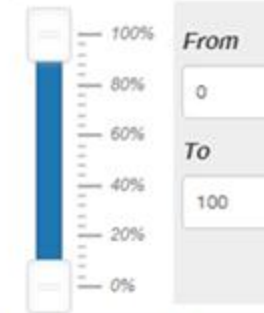
Daughters Milk

(percentile)



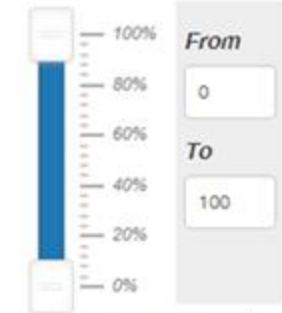
Carcass Weight

(percentile)



Docility

(percentile)



Only Bulls that have either been performance recorded themselves by ICBF and are alive, or are currently in a herd that routinely performance records with ICBF will be returned in the 'Search by Traits' section.

Please click on a breed or use the Animal ID search

Results will then appear here

Sales Catalogue

- Difference between 'Perf-Rec' bull and a 'non Perf-Rec' as per Bull Search has to be also followed through with to the Sales Catalogue.

1 BRIDANE VALLEY JB

Breed: Limousin
DOB: 04-May-2014

Sex: Male
Owner: John P. Burns - Bridane Valley, Co. Waterford

Not Performance Recorded

Text in Italics

Sire: Lough Conn Familyguy Et
618670181

Dam: Bridane Valley Faith
270910498

Star Rating (Within Limousin breed)	Economic Indexes	€uro value per progeny	Index Reliability	Star rating (across all beef breeds)
★★★★★	Terminal Index	€ 134	20% (Low)	★★★★★
★★★★★	Replacement Index Maternal Cow Traits : Maternal Progeny Traits :	€ 114 € 23 € 91	17% (V Low) 16% 19%	★★★★★
	Dairy Beef			

Star Rating (Within Limousin breed)	Key profit traits	Index Value	Trait Reliability	Star rating (across all beef breeds)
	Expected progeny performance			
	Calving difficulty (% 3 & 4)	+1.4%	22%	
★★★★★	Carcass weight (kg) Breed ave: 21.88kg, All breeds ave: 13.98kg	+28kg	22% (Low)	★★★★★
★★★★★	Carcass conformation (1-15 scale) Breed ave: 1.99, All breeds ave: 1.23	+2.16 scale	20% (Low)	★★★★★
	Expected daughter breeding performance			
	Daughter calving diff (% 3 & 4) Breed ave: 5.55%, All breeds ave: 6.48%	+4.8%	12% (V Low)	
★★★★	Daughter Milk (kg) Breed ave: -1.69kg, All breeds ave: 2.97kg	-0.6kg	19% (V Low)	★★
★★	Daughter calving interval (days) Breed ave: 1.72days, All breeds ave: -0.39days	+1.61days	17% (V Low)	★

• **Not Scored or Weighed**

Lot 2 G

Breed: Limousin
DOB: 01-Nov-2015

Sex: Male
Owner: John P. Burns - Bridane Valley, Co. Waterford

Performance Recorded

Sire: Ronick Hawk RKH

Dam: Gleannari Destiny (Et)
IE211336470565

Star Rating (Within Limousin breed)	Economic Indexes	€uro value per progeny	Index Reliability	Star rating (across all beef breeds)
★★★★★	Terminal Index	€ 143	31% (Low)	★★★★★
★★★★★	Replacement Index Maternal Cow Traits : Maternal Progeny Traits :	€ 130 € 35 € 95	32% (Low) 33% 31%	★★★★★
	Dairy Beef			

Star Rating (Within Limousin breed)	Key profit traits	Index Value	Trait Reliability	Star rating (across all beef breeds)
	Expected progeny performance			
	Calving difficulty (% 3 & 4)	+1.95%	22%	
★★★★	Carcass weight (kg) Breed ave: 21.88kg, All breeds ave: 13.98kg	+28kg	22% (Low)	★★
★★★★	Carcass conformation (1-15 scale) Breed ave: 1.99, All breeds ave: 1.23	+2.16 scale	20% (Low)	★★
	Expected daughter breeding performance			
	Daughter calving diff (% 3 & 4) Breed ave: 5.55%, All breeds ave: 6.48%	+7.5%	28% (Low)	
★★★★★	Daughter Milk (kg) Breed ave: -1.69kg, All breeds ave: 2.97kg	+2.5kg	41% (Average)	★★★
★★★★	Daughter calving interval (days) Breed ave: 1.72days, All breeds ave: -0.39days	+1.12days	32% (Low)	★★

• **Scored**

• **Weaning Weight**

• **Insemination Data**

Lot 3

Breed: Charolais
DOB: 05-Feb-2014

Sex: Male
Owner: Elizabeth Lynch - Kilkeaveagh, Co. Wick

Elite Performance Recorded

Sire: Burradon Talisman TLI

Dam: Polar Daffodil
IE191821440467

Star Rating (Within Charolais breed)	Economic Indexes	€uro value per progeny	Index Reliability	Star rating (across all beef breeds)
★★	Terminal Index	€ 103	32% (Low)	★★★
★★★★★	Replacement Index Maternal Cow Traits : Maternal Progeny Traits :	€ 117 € 59 € 58	27% (Low) 25% 33%	★★★★★
	Dairy Beef			

Star Rating (Within Charolais breed)	Key profit traits	Index Value	Trait Reliability	Star rating (across all beef breeds)
	Expected progeny performance			
	Calving difficulty (% 3 & 4)	+9.5%	33%	
★★	Birthweight (kg) Breed ave: 3.5kg, All breeds ave: 3.5kg	+0.5kg	33% (Low)	★★
★★	Scoring Breed ave: 1.5, All breeds ave: 1.5	+0.5	33% (Low)	★★
★★	Weaning Weight (kg) Breed ave: 100kg, All breeds ave: 100kg	+10kg	33% (Low)	★★
★★	Insemination Data Breed ave: 1.5, All breeds ave: 1.5	+0.5	33% (Low)	★★
★★	Adult Females Scored Breed ave: 1.5, All breeds ave: 1.5	+0.5	33% (Low)	★★

• **Birthweights recorded**

• **Scored**

• **Weaning Weight**

• **Insemination Data**

• **Adult Females Scored**

Summary

- Important that good momentum built in the program so far is increased.
- No changes will be perfect or suit everybody
- Important that consistency is maintained across all of the various points of data output:
 - Bull Search, Catalogues & Online Herdbook
- Crucial that once new designs put in place that widespread and sustained promotion occurs so as to increase the numbers of pedigree breeders performance recording.

G€N€ IR€LAND committee meetings

- ❖ Each of the 12 committee's consist of representatives from ICBF, NCBC, Dovea Genetics, Herdbooks along with commercial and pedigree farmer representation.

- ❖ Key roles:
 1. Produce and approve information that is disseminated to GI participants e.g. mating advice list
 2. Select bulls for the G€N€ IR€LAND program
 3. Promote the program and ensure the goals of the program are met
 4. Propose new initiatives that will further improve the program

Selecting bulls

- ❖ 20-25 bulls selected annually across 13 breeds

- ❖ Based on survey feedback some proposed areas for improvement are as follows:
 - i. Anonymous scoring by committee members.
 - ii. Committee members who own bulls that are selected are not to be present when their bull is being scored.
 - iii. Automate on-farm visual inspection reports to ensure consistency of comments i.e. (1=Very Poor, 2=Poor, 3=Average, 4= Good, 5=Excellent).
 - iv. Equal weighting in relation to scoring of bulls for committee partners.
 - i. Herdbook secretary & 2 nominated pedigree farmers (25%)
 - ii. 2 nominated commercial farmers (25%)
 - iii. 2 AI companies signed up to the program (25%)
 - iv. 1 representative from ICBF (25%)

Additional proposed changes?

- i. Change pedigree and commercial farmers on each committee every three years.
- ii. Set the number of meeting per annum for each breed based on:
 - a. Percentage of herds signed-up to the program
 - b. Demand for semen through the GI.
- iii. In order to be eligible to score bulls, a pedigree breeder on the committee must be signed up to the gene Ireland maternal program; whilst a commercial farmer on the committee must be a gene Ireland user i.e. use gene Ireland progeny test semen in their herds.