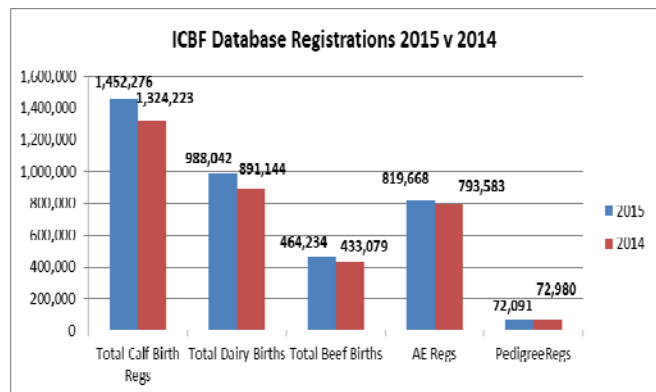
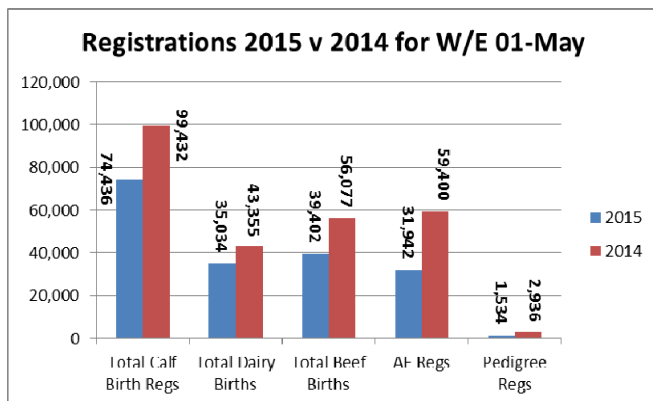


## ICBF Weekly Update 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015

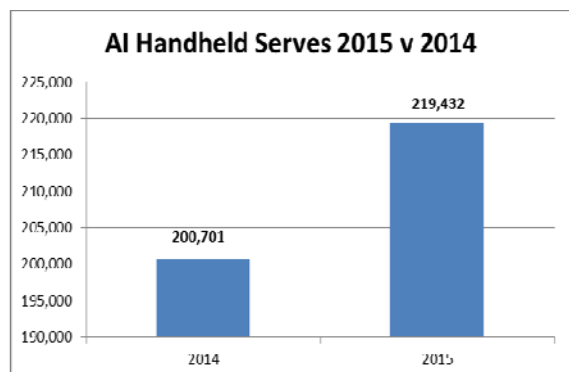
### 1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 10:30 to 12:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise
- ✚ **Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** – 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 12:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise
- ✚ **ICBF AGM** – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 14:30 to 15:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting & AGM** – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 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 1.49 million results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 86,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012 6.43 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2014 compared with 2015.



### 3 Herd Plus®

#### Registering Calves

- ✚ As peak spring calving has now passed on many dairy and beef farms around the country, it is important that farmers do not lose sight of the importance of recording important breeding data. ICBF acknowledges that spring can be a busy and stressful time for farmers with an endless list of tasks to be done. However, ensuring that data (namely sires and calving ease) is recorded comprehensively and accurately is vital, not only to the work that ICBF does, but also to the development of our Agri-food industry going forward.
- ✚ Better data recording leads to more accurate genetic indexes. This will in turn lead to more informed breeding decisions which will leave more profitable stock on farms and increase output at both farm and processor levels. For this reason, people across the industry that find themselves in regular contact with farmers e.g. agri advisors, breed society representatives, AI company reps & technicians etc. need to constantly stress the importance of recording basic breeding information when registering calves.

- Any farmers that still register calves on the white cards which come with the tags, should be encouraged to switch to an animal events book or, where possible, to register calves online through [www.agfood.ie](http://www.agfood.ie) or via farm software. The animal events book and online methods allow for much more comprehensive data recording at calf registration. Animal events books can be ordered by calling **1850 625 626**. Online registration can be set up by going to the Department of Agriculture & Food website ([www.agfood.ie](http://www.agfood.ie)) or by contacting your farm software provider.

## Breeding Season

- As the Spring AI season commences we remind farmers to ensure that serves are recorded and reach the ICBF database. Heats not served and stock bull serves can also be recorded. See help document on recording serves below.

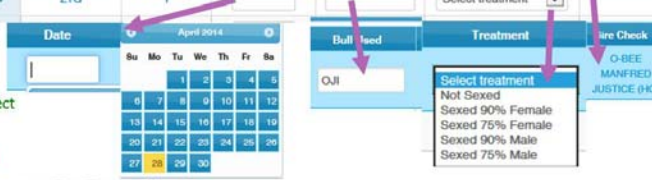
## Recording Heats & Serves on ICBF.com


*Use our new user friendly screens to record heats and serves*

Jumbo	Animal Number	Lact	Calving Date	Last Served	Last Bull	Num Serves	Date	Bull Used	Treatment	Sire Check
1105	IE151313331105	1	23-FEB-14	27-APR-14	ZTG	1			Select treatment	

### To Record a Heat

- Find the cow you wish to record.
- Click in the date column. The calendar will appear. Select the date the cow was in heat.
- Click Save. A heat event for the cow has been created!






*If you make a mistake don't worry, click on the event or cow tag in blue font to delete any mistakes or to view further details.*

### To Record a Serve

- Find the cow you wish to record.
- Click in the date column. The calendar will appear. Select the date the cow was in heat.
- Click in the Treatment column A treatment must be selected.  
*Note: For stock bull serves and conventional straws (non sexed) the treatment selected will always be Non Sexed.  
The majority of sexed straws available will be sexed 90% female. Check with your AI company if you are in doubt.*
- Click in the bull used column. Enter an AI code or tag number (stock bull). The sire check column will confirm the bull code/tag is valid.
- Click Save. A serve event for the cow has been created!



**HerdPlus**  
Profit through Science

Remember: Heats and serves can also be recorded via farm software & animal events. If are on the AI technician service & your AI technician has a handheld, AI inseminations will be sent to ICBF automatically.

## Beef Data Programme 2014

- Farmers are reminded to input any missing data that is required for the 2014 BDP scheme. This data can be recorded through the ICBF website, farm software packages or on paper forms. The deadline for recording information for calves born before November is the 30<sup>th</sup> April. The deadline for calves born in November and December is when the calf reaches 6 months of age. Calves born in December will be hitting 5 months of age during the month of May and will be old enough to record quality, docility and any scour or pneumonia events. It is important that farmers do not forget any of these calves.

## EBI & Euro-Star Updates

- All herd profiles have now been updated with the April evaluations. Reports will be generated in the coming weeks.

## Fertility Reports

- Dairy farmers can run their weekly fertility reports to monitor submission rates during the breeding season.

## Contract Rearing Herds

- A facility is now in place for contract reared animals to be made available to the owners herd profiles and reports. The person whose herd the animals are being contract reared in must login to their HerdPlus profile and give the owner access to the animals. The facility is available under the admin dropdown of the HerdPlus login screen.

## 4 GENIreland® Beef

- Sign Ups are continuing for the Spring 2015 Beef programme.
- 371 herds taking a total of 5680 straws have joined so far.
- The average order is 15 straws per herd.
- The catalogue is available to view on the ICBF website.
- To learn more or to order straws please phone 1850 600 900.
- Approx total straws ordered to date for the remaining bulls are in the table below.

Table 1. List of Bulls currently on-test

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws Ordered
JJC	Cairnmor John	AA	415
JBS	Steil Jacob	AA	450
VEZ	Balinclea Iveco	AU	475
SGA	Scaughmolin G Mail	BA	405
LJE	Lislea Hermes	BA	175
OZR	Rosemount Gar	BB	205
CH2000	Coom Indurain	CH	300
PDR	Dereskit Improver	CH	200
HHJ	Heracles	CH	275
DBF	Dereskit Invincible	CH	250
LM2014	Ewdenvale Ivor	LM	190
LM2010	Raffertys Immanuel	LM	335
ZYH	Alamira Harry	PT	425
ZKY	Kyle Herd Ivan	PT	210
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	190
EMS	Doon Erasmus	SH	300
PPA	Polar Edinson	SI	335
KJG	Knoackane Dag	SI	305
ETP	Curaheen Evolution P	SI	190
AHC	Auroch Deuter PP	SI	250

## 5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 01/05/15						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 01/05/15	No. EDIY Herds YTD 01/05/15	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 01/05/15	No. EDIY Cows YTD 01/05/15	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,415	989	29%	266,198	83,967	32%
Progressive	2,029	749	37%	174,564	65,230	37%
Tipperary	94	29	31%	7,626	2,394	31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,538</b>	<b>1,767</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>448,388</b>	<b>151,591</b>	<b>34%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 01/05/14	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15 - 01/05/15	2015 vs 2014 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	231,017	266,198	13.2%
Progressive	165,629	174,564	5.1%
Tipperary	6,741	7,626	11.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>403,387</b>	<b>448,388</b>	<b>10.0%</b>

## 6 Sheep Ireland

### LambPlus data entry

- The deadline for entry of LambPlus data has passed as of yesterday April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Irish Texel society deadline for birth notifying their pedigree lambs was also April 30<sup>th</sup>. LambPlus breeders can continue to add lambs to the system, but these lambs will not receive EuroStar evaluations in 2015. Texel breeders are the exception to this rule, the Sheep Ireland recording screens will not allow these breeders to enter any 2015 lambs. Texel breeders that have failed to record their lambing data before the April 30<sup>th</sup> should contact the society directly.
- As mentioned above, sheep breeds apart from Texel partaking in LambPlus can continue to enter lambing data and these lambs will receive EuroStars in 2016. Over 3,000 individual lambs were entered onto the Sheep Ireland database on the day of the deadline. We will be contacting breeders over the coming number of weeks to address any issues that may exist with the data. We also encourage breeders to contact us, should they need help rectifying any problems.

### Hill sheep performance recording

- Many of the hill farmers that signed up to record parentage data on their lambs in 2015 are just finishing up their lambing season now. Over 85 Blackface Mountain flocks have identified a nucleus of purebred ewes upon which to build this parentage recording. Each of these breeders have been provided with individual access to their respective flocks on [www.sheep.ie](http://www.sheep.ie). In the past week we have also circulated paper lambing sheets to each of these breeders, which provides a second option to record this valuable parentage. This data will form the basis of future performance recording and breed improvement within the Blackface Mountain breed.

**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](mailto: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](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, 22-APR-2015 To 01-MAY-2015

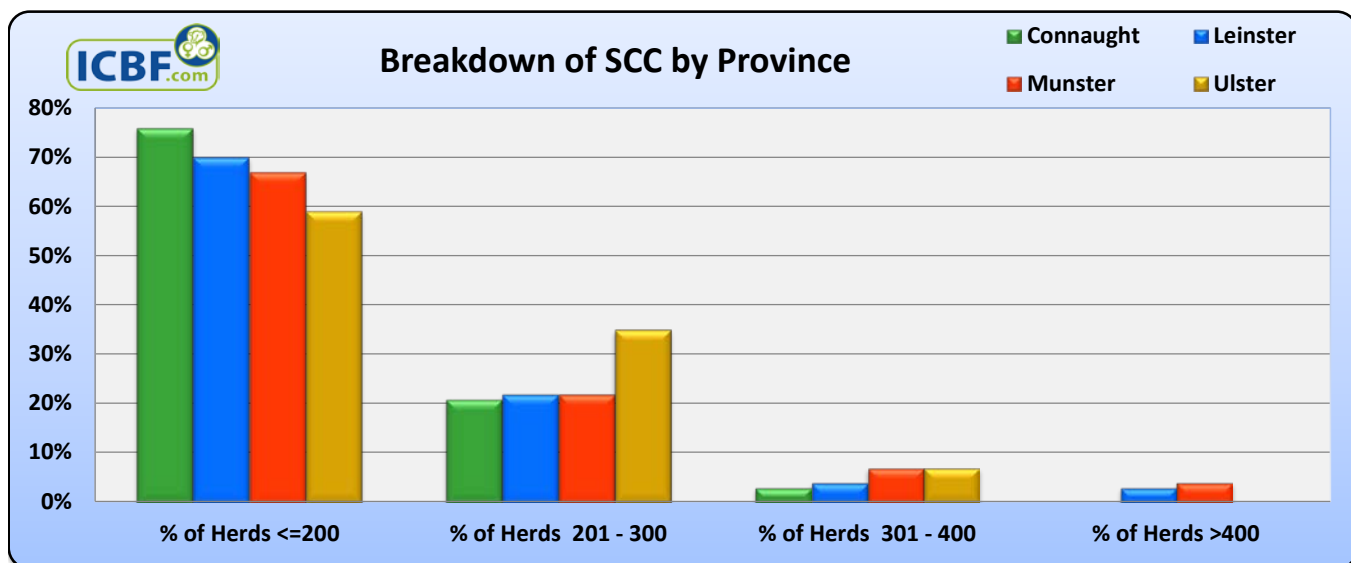
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	33	2,019	61	27.7	3.51	3.36	1.90	136
Leinster	152	14,092	93	27.9	3.66	3.45	1.97	144
Munster	492	40,387	82	28.4	3.68	3.41	2.01	153
Ulster	46	3,526	77	28.9	3.46	3.34	1.96	162
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>60,024</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>28.3</b>	<b>3.65</b>	<b>3.41</b>	<b>1.99</b>	<b>151</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 22-APR-2015 To 01-MAY-2015

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	33	2,019	61	76%	21%	3%	0%	136
Leinster	152	14,092	93	70%	22%	4%	3%	144
Munster	492	40,387	82	67%	22%	7%	4%	153
Ulster	46	3,526	77	59%	35%	7%	0%	162
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>60,024</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>6%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>151</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



## % Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 22-APR-2015 To 01-MAY-2015

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	33	2,019	61	90	136	143	162	202
Leinster	152	14,092	93	92	125	145	163	226
Munster	492	40,387	82	93	130	155	181	241
Ulster	46	3,526	77	101	162	186	202	260
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>723</b>	<b>60,024</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>239</b>

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

