


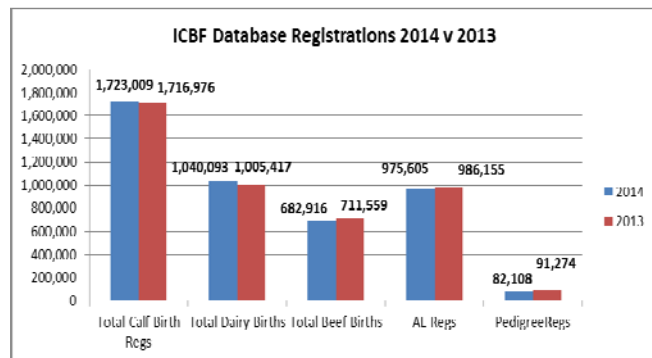
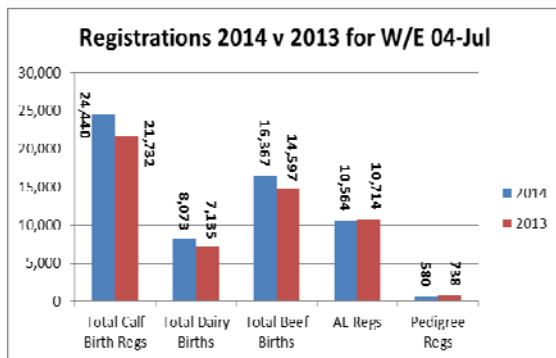






ICBF Weekly Update 4th July 2014

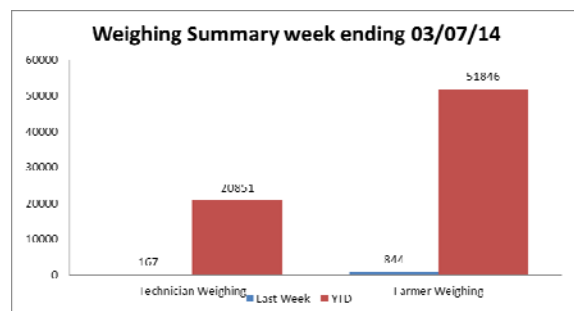
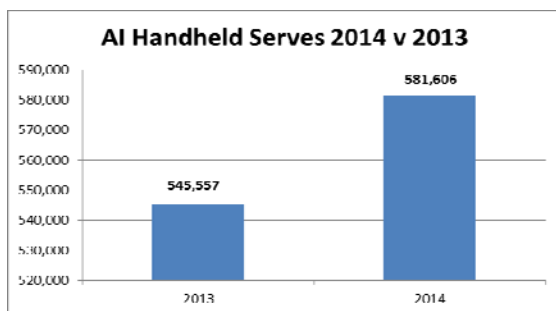
1 Important Dates

-  **Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** –Friday 11th July 2014, 10:00 to 10:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise
-  **ICBF Board Meeting** – Friday 11th July 2014, 10:30am to 13:30pm, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
-  **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Friday 11th July 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 1,815,000 results received since January 1st, of which 28,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 4.48 million results have now been received.
-  The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
-  This week there were 167 weights received through the technician service and 844 weights recorded by farmers. The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 Herd Plus®

-  Dairy farmers are reminded to generate their final fertility reports once breeding has finished. All serves need to be recorded for this report to work properly. Any stock bull serves can also be recorded in the record heat/serve screen. Prior to generating a report, ensure that you have marked for culling any animals which you intentionally did not breed. It is important to do this to ensure that your submission rates are accurate. See details on how to record serves in graphic 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 Heat / Serve	Last Bull	Num Serves	Date	Bull Used	Treatment
1	IE151310341001	3	18-FEB-14	01-MAY-14	PBZ	3			Select Treatment

To Record a Heat

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



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

To Record a Serve

1. Find the cow you wish to record.
2. Click in the date column. The calendar will appear. Select the date the cow was in heat.
3. 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.
4. 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.

5. Click Save. A serve event for the cow has been created!

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

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As the breeding season is now either finished or coming to a close on many beef and dairy farms, farmers will be turning their attention to pregnancy scanning. The results can be recorded on the ICBF website through the record pregnancy diagnosis screen. This is important data for expected calving details next spring. See details on how to record scanning results in the graphic below:

Recording Pregnancy Scanning ICBF.com

Record pregnancy scanning results for cows & heifers

FB Jumbo	Animal Number	Lact Number	Last Calved Date	Last Served Date	Last Served Bull	Num Serves	Status	Date Of Last Scan	Preg Checked	No. Days Pregnant
1	IE151313341001	3	18-FEB-14	15-MAY-14	PBM	2	SERVED			

Please Enter Scan Date Here:

To Record a Pregnancy Diagnosis

1. Click into the green box & select the date the cows & heifers were scanned.
2. Select from the drop down menu the result of the pregnancy diagnosis:
In calf, Empty or In calf with Twins
3. If in calf; record the number of days in calf if known. Where serves are recorded, the number of days will fill automatically.
4. If the number of days differs from the scanning results, insert the correct number of days. A pop-up box will appear to record the sire of the serve. Press save when complete.
5. When all results have been recorded, scroll to the bottom of the page and press SAVE!

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

Every Herd Owner has access to online services with their username and password.
If you don't know your password text the word PASS to 089 4577663 or call 1850 600 900

BTAP
Approved Task
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ICBF has launched a new initiative around health and disease recording. Follow this link to find out more http://www.icbf.com/?page_id=2170

4 Genetic Evaluations

- All extracts have been completed and genetic evaluations have commenced.

Genomics

- A further 4000 tags were sent out this week for the Beef Genomics Scheme, bringing the total to 117,000. Samples continue to be received in the lab with over 101,000 now back. DNA and genotyping quality continues to be very high ensuring the maximum amount of genotypes available for research. Research using the genotypes and the existing genetic information has commenced in collaboration with Teagasc.
- Genotypes are now being received daily from the herds involved in the dairy female genomics project. These herds have undertaken to genotype all animals born from 2013 onwards regardless of breed. This will provide very valuable information and increase the number of animals in the reference population thereby increasing the reliability of genomic evaluations. By doing all cows, the potential bias introduced into evaluations from selective genotyping is greatly reduced.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 04/07/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 04/07/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 04/07/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 04/07/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 04/07/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,819	1,134	30%	320,345	100,964	32%
Progressive	2,470	1,056	43%	229,179	98,028	43%
Tipperary	115	44	38%	9,798	3,777	39%
Total	6,404	2,234	35%	559,322	202,769	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 04/07/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 04/07/14	2014 vs 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	301,730	320,345	5.8%
Progressive	220,387	229,179	3.8%
Tipperary	9,643	9,798	1.6%
Total	522,117	559,322	6.7%

6 Sheep Ireland

Genetic evaluation reports

- This week the most recent genetic evaluations for all paper recording Suffolk breeders were circulated by post. The genetic evaluations continue to run on a weekly basis. As Ultrasound scanning data continues to be recorded and as breeders continue to submit their final lamb weights onto the system, our evaluations are continuously updating. We acknowledge that this can cause some frustration for breeders who see some lamb Euro-Stars slightly changing from one week to the next. However the critical thing from Sheep Ireland's point of view is that the purchasers of these rams are being provided with the most up to date and accurate information that we can possibly provide.

STAP event in Carnaross

- We attended an excellent STAP event in Carnaross mart outside Kells this week. Teagasc advisor Edward Egan assembled all his STAP groups for the event and kindly invited Sheep Ireland to discuss the EuroStar evaluations. There was some great discussion on the EuroStars at the event. Charollais breeders Michael & Ann Reilly presented performance ram lambs for the event. These ram lambs had a mix of EuroStar evaluations and this created a great focal point for discussion.

- ✚ The accuracy% of the evaluations was one aspect of the EuroStars that was questioned strongly. There is no doubt that improving accuracy is our biggest challenge, but commercial farmers will be critical to driving this improvement. If commercial farmers demand high EuroStar evaluations with high accuracy, then we have no doubt Pedigree ram breeders will deliver this.

STAP facilitator training

- ✚ On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, we were invited to address Teagasc sheep advisors on the Teagasc Better sheep farm of John Doyle in Co. Wexford. The objective of this was to explain the changes that we have made to the way we display our EuroStar indices this year. 2014 will be a very important year from a STAP point of view. Task 1 of STAP requires that all STAP participants use a performance recorded ram in either year 1 (2013) or year 2 (2014) of the programme - unless they avail of an exemption to the Task, which are available in certain circumstances. It is critical that all STAP farmers are clear on what is required of them under this task and the facilitator training days should help to ensure that their STAP farmers are covered in this regard.

Teagasc Better farm sheep open day - Tuesday 8th July

- ✚ John Doyle's farm in Co. Wexford will be the venue for a public open day on Tuesday next week (8th July). The event is not to be missed and will kick-off at 11.00am. This will qualify as a 'national event' for STAP purposes. For more information on the event, go to the Teagasc website and click on 'Events'.



Some images from the STAP facilitator training on the Teagasc Better sheep farm of John Doyle, Co. Wexford

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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, 25-JUN-2014 To 04-JUL-2014

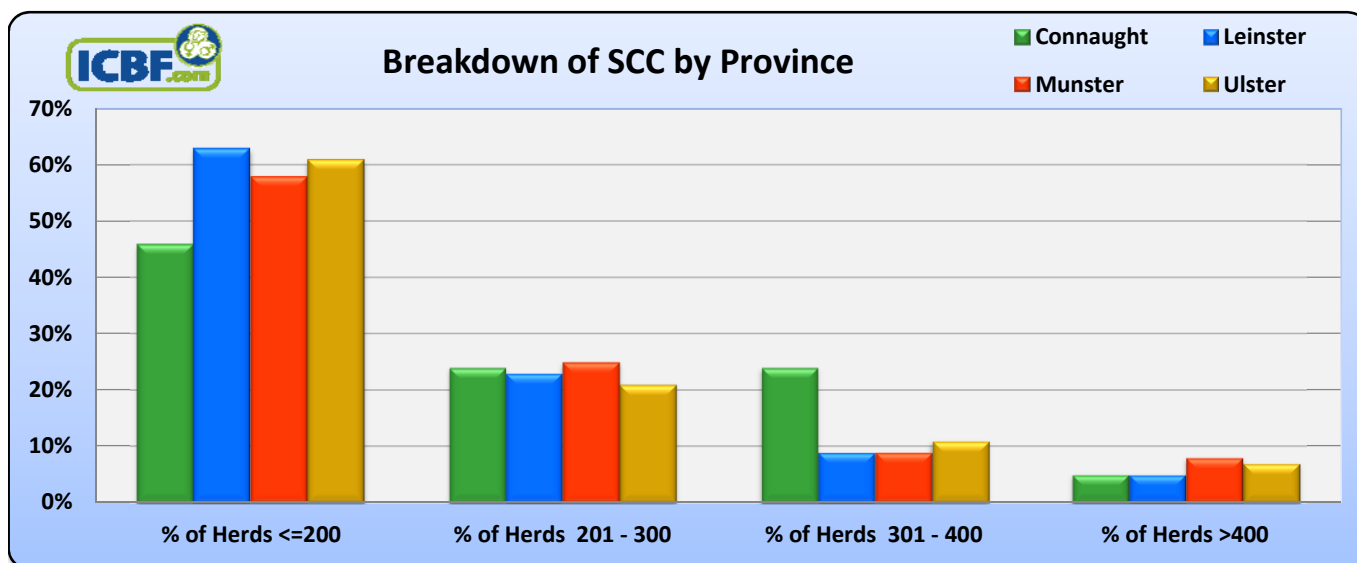
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	37	2,450	66	25.1	3.51	3.30	1.70	200
Leinster	187	16,678	89	23.5	3.67	3.37	1.65	167
Munster	627	49,036	78	24.2	3.73	3.40	1.72	181
Ulster	56	3,778	67	26.2	3.45	3.32	1.77	175
National Statistics	907	71,942	79	24.2	3.69	3.38	1.71	178

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 25-JUN-2014 To 04-JUL-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	37	2,450	66	46%	24%	24%	5%	200
Leinster	187	16,678	89	63%	23%	9%	5%	167
Munster	627	49,036	78	58%	25%	9%	8%	181
Ulster	56	3,778	67	61%	21%	11%	7%	175
National Statistics	907	71,942	79	59%	24%	10%	7%	178

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 25-JUN-2014 To 04-JUL-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	37	2,450	66	125	181	214	227	338
Leinster	187	16,678	89	110	146	162	194	266
Munster	627	49,036	78	113	153	180	206	282
Ulster	56	3,778	67	116	146	159	194	270
National Statistics	907	71,942	79	114	151	178	205	279

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

