

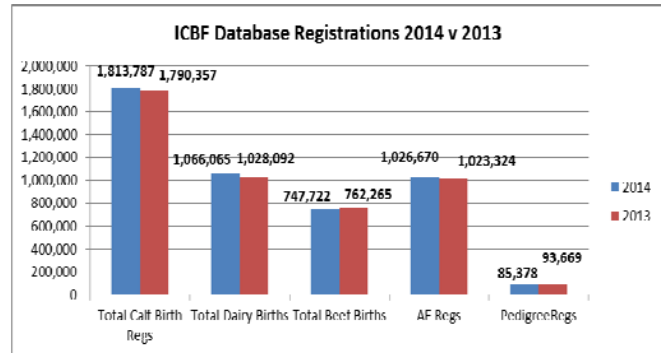
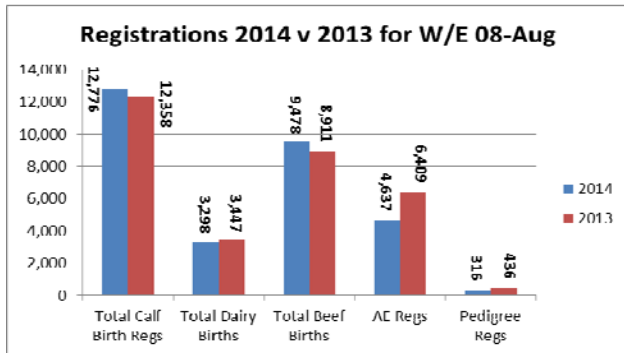






ICBF Weekly Update 8th August 2014

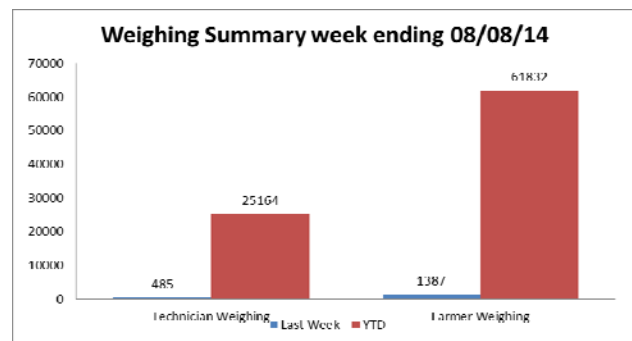
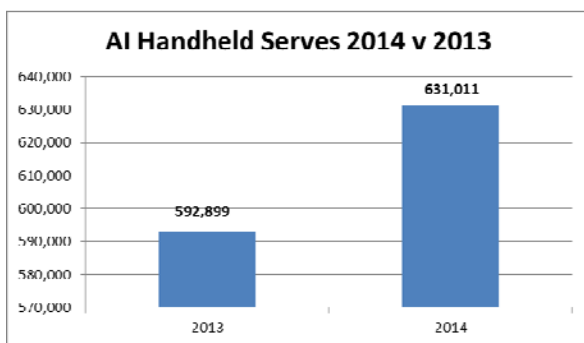
1 Important Dates

-  **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th September 2014, 10:30am to 13:30pm, Highfield House, Bandon.
-  **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 11th September 2014, 14:00 to 16:30, Highfield House, Bandon.




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 1,929,000 results received since January 1st, of which 14,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 4.59 million results have now been received.
-  The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
-  This week there were 485 weights received through the technician service and 1387 weights recorded by farmers. The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 Herd Plus®

-  Co-Op performance reports for quarter 2 of 2014 have now been posted to farmers. All reports are also available for farmers to view online. The Co-Op performance report is a useful tool for farmers to compare the performance of their own herd against other farmers supplying milk to the same Co-Op.
-  Dairy farmers are reminded to record any scanning data and to generate their final fertility report once this is done.
-  Bull Tracker reports have been printed and posted to all beef HerdPlus customers. The bull tracker report gives a detailed overview of the performance of bulls that were either bred in a farmers herd and went on to sire progeny in that herd and elsewhere, or were bought into a herd and sired progeny in that herd. It is a very

comprehensive report pulling in vast amounts of data and has proven to be of great interest to both pedigree and commercial farmers. The report is also available for viewing online through HerdPlus logins.

- Beef Calving Reports will be generated in the coming weeks. Some changes have been made to this report such as the addition of some extra key performance indicators.

4 Genetic Evaluations

- Work on the August routine evaluation is on-going. Files have been received back from INTERBULL for milk production, female fertility, longevity, calving and udder health. Genomic evaluations will commence next week.
- Research work being undertaken at the moment includes work on the Test day model for milk production, carcass cut traits and meat eating quality.

5 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 08/08/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 08/08/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 08/08/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 08/08/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 08/08/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,834	1,143	30%	325,811	103,105	32%
Progressive	2,492	1,075	43%	235,605	102,363	43%
Tipperary	115	44	38%	9,939	3,836	39%
Total	6,441	2,262	35%	571,355	209,304	37%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 08/08/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 08/08/14	2014 vs. 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	307,515	325,811	5.6%
Progressive	227,082	235,605	3.6%
Tipperary	9,750	9,939	1.9%
Total	544,347	571,355	4.7%

6 Sheep Ireland

Premier ram sales

- Over the course of the past week, the Suffolk and Belclare sheep societies held their Premier ram sales for 2014. Both of these sales were met with a strong trade from both pedigree breeders and commercial farmers. The trade for rams with high Euro-Star Indices in both sales was hugely noticeable. It was clear that rams with lower star rating values were not attractive to purchasers.
- Tomorrow (Saturday 9th) the Irish Texel society holds their premier sale in Blessington Mart. This year's sale boasts the highest number of entries ever, in association with this; there will be a huge number of performance recorded entries – again the highest number ever in this Premier sale. This demonstrates the solid commitment of Texel breeders to deliver high genetic merit sheep to ram buyers. A catalogue for this sale can be found on www.irishtexel.com.

Sheep Ireland ram sale 2014

- Plans continue to progress for the Sheep Ireland EuroStar ram sale which takes place in Tullamore on August 23rd. All entries are now in and the number of lots will be similar to our 2013 sale. Myles Lambert from Co. Wexford will be the auctioneer on the day of the sale. We hope to have the first draft of the catalogue on the Sheep Ireland website next week.

Irish Grassland Association event

- Yesterday (Thursday 7th), Sheep Ireland presented at the second and final IGA sheep farm walk for 2014. This event was jointly sponsored by Sheep Ireland. The event was another very successful one which took place on the farm of Anthony McShane in Carlingford, Co. Louth. Anthony's farm was a superb location for such an event, which illustrated to all those in attendance the benefits of an excellent grazing infrastructure. The layout and flexibility of the farms grazing areas was an example to all present. Anthony has been using performance recorded Texel and Charollais rams down through the years and these were on show on the day to help deliver the message on genetic improvement.

See photos below of the recent attended events Sheep Ireland attended.



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, **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. **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, 30-JUL-2014 To 08-AUG-2014

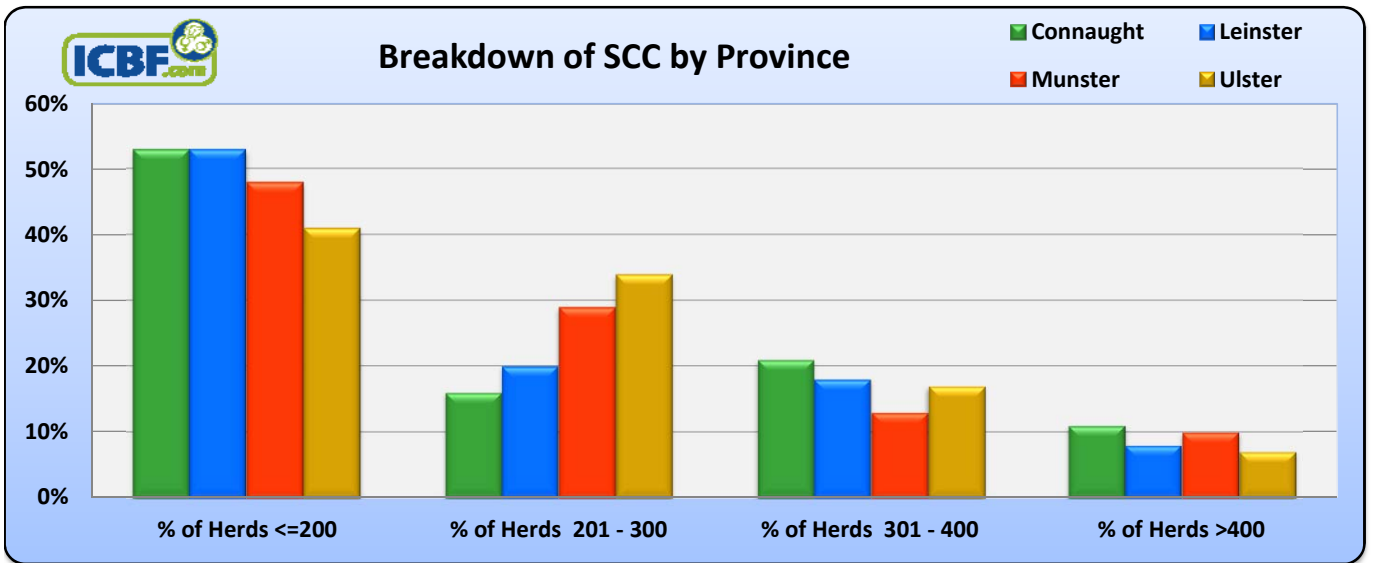
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	19	1,180	62	22.1	3.77	3.30	1.55	207
Leinster	98	9,125	93	21.2	3.87	3.43	1.54	192
Munster	544	44,643	82	21.3	3.85	3.44	1.55	198
Ulster	29	1,727	60	24.7	3.71	3.28	1.72	199
National Statistics	690	56,675	82	21.4	3.85	3.43	1.55	197

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 30-JUL-2014 To 08-AUG-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	19	1,180	62	53%	16%	21%	11%	207
Leinster	98	9,125	93	53%	20%	18%	8%	192
Munster	544	44,643	82	48%	29%	13%	10%	198
Ulster	29	1,727	60	41%	34%	17%	7%	199
National Statistics	690	56,675	82	49%	28%	14%	9%	197

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 30-JUL-2014 To 08-AUG-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	19	1,180	62	127	161	197	225	331
Leinster	98	9,125	93	122	173	191	224	326
Munster	544	44,643	82	124	175	207	231	318
Ulster	29	1,727	60	147	186	242	270	306
National Statistics	690	56,675	82	124	174	206	231	320

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

