

## ICBF Weekly Update 8<sup>th</sup> March 2013

### 1 Important Dates

- ICBF Audit & Finance Sub Committee meeting** – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 10:00 to 14:00, Horse & Jockey.
- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, 10:30 to 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March, at 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.

### 2 ICBF HerdPlus/G-EN-IR-ELAND dairy user day & Charity Auction of €200 EBI Heifer Calves – 20<sup>th</sup> March

FBD Trust, ICBF and the Bottom-Line Discussion Group, have joined forces to offer a unique event, which will include the annual ICBF HerdPlus/G-EN-IR-ELAND dairy user day, followed

**FBD Trust**

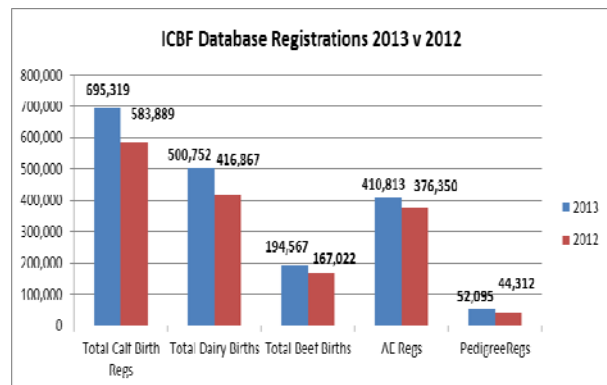
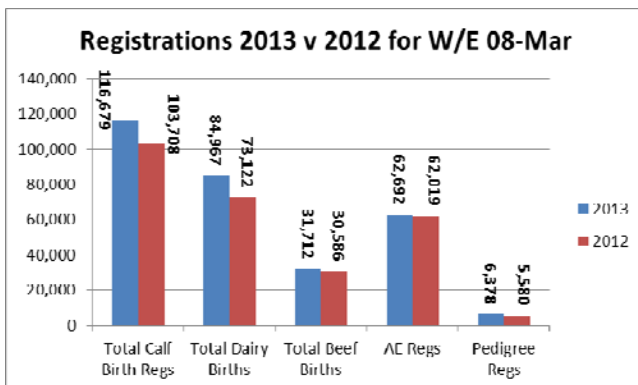
by a Charity Auction of €200 EBI Heifer Calves. The event will take place in Corrin mart, Fermoy on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March from 10 AM to 1 PM. Charities involved in the initiative will include; Barretstown, Irish Association of Suicidology, Fermoy Sub Aqua and Rescue Club and Simon Community. Already 12 heifer calves have been donated by members of the Bottom-Line discussion group. ICBF are currently taking entries for the remaining calves from dairy farmers. All calves will be promoted prior to the sale through the Irish Farmers Journals Toplink.ie webpage. If you are interested in donating a Heifer Calf and/or attending the event, please contact ICBF HerdPlus



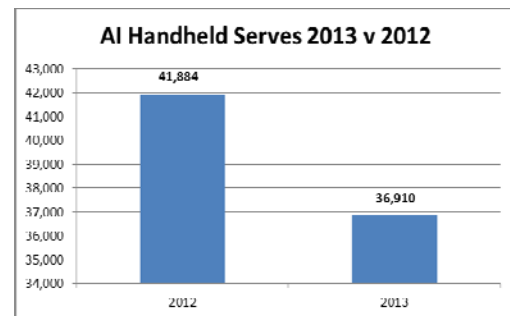
on 1850 600 900.

Pictured at the launch of the event are; Sean Coughlan, CEO ICBF, Jim Cleary FBD Insurance, Mary McCarthy, ICBF G-EN-IR-ELAND and Willie Kingston, member of the Bottom-Line Discussion Group.

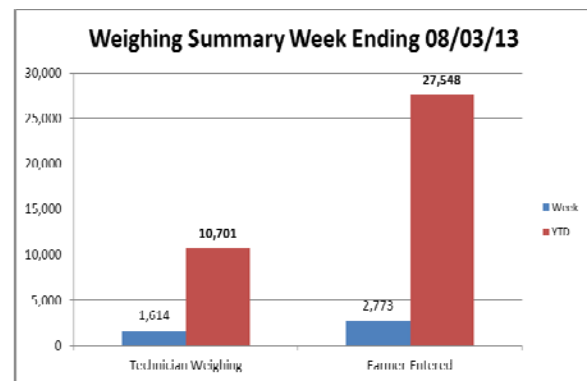
### 3 Database



- ✚ The stats above are compiled with the assistance of DAFM AIM systems.
- ✚ In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2012 born calves with meal introduced is 589,838 with the number of animals weaned at 513,638.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 670,000 results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 122,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012 over 1 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph above shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.



- ✚ This week there were 1,614 weights received through the technician service and 2,773 weights recorded by farmers. The graph shows the week and year to date totals.



## 4 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ This week we travelled to Tullamore on Wednesday evening to meet with the National Sheep Breeders Association. There was some very good discussion centering mainly around STAP and the potential demand that will exist for performance recorded rams in 2013.
- ✚ There is no doubt that STAP applicants in certain areas of the country will have a large selection of LambPlus breeders and ram sale opportunities to source Euro-Star rams for STAP purposes. However, there are certainly other areas that are not well served in this regard. It will be of huge importance that all STAP applicants have a positive experience sourcing recorded rams over the next two years.
- ✚ Sheep Ireland have been present at many Pedigree ram breeder meetings in recent years and we are all too aware of the challenges facing these ram breeders. Many commercial sheep farmers have turned away from the traditional ram sale structure, for many different reasons. Task 1 of STAP provides all pedigree ram breeders with an opportunity to attract these farmers back to the sales ring, there is no doubt that pedigree rams have the potential to add huge value to the sheep industry, it is important that farmers attending these sales have a positive experience over the next two years. Otherwise this valuable opportunity will be lost.
- ✚ The greatest risk facing Task 1 of STAP is that commercial farmers will have difficulty sourcing performance recorded pedigree rams. It is the responsibility of all our breed societies to ensure that this does not happen. Sheep Ireland will do everything in our power to help breeders maximise this great opportunity.

## 5 GENEIRELAND®

### Beef

**Table 1. List of Maternal Bulls currently on-test**

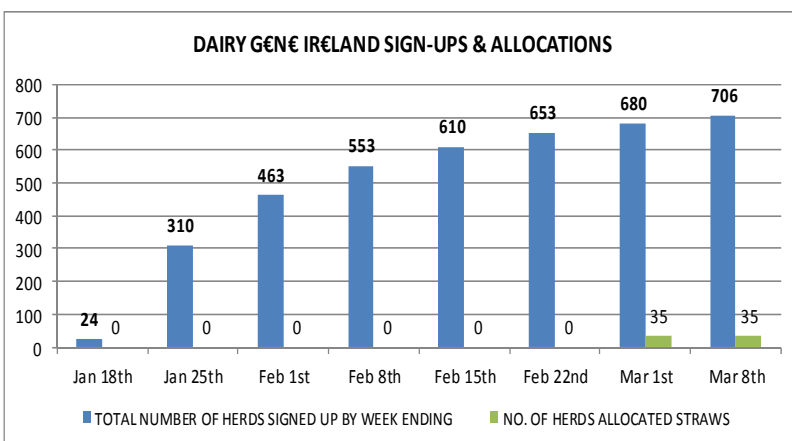
Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws
GJB	Goulding Jumbo King	AA	190
TQL	Templequain Lord Jake	AA	130
VMP	Villablues Empire ET	BB	274
RWM	Rosemount Emlyn	BB	165
FWO	Fleetwood	CH	264
FSZ	Fiston	CH	255
LZF	Cavelands Fenian	CH	467
FYB	Ballylannon Frankey ET	CH	368
GRF	Gerard	CH	30
GPD	Guepard	CH	30
GZS	Gouldingpoll Superduty	HE	157
WLZ	Wilodge Enrico	LM	492
FTH	Elite Fred ET	LM	356
CJH	Filou	LM	153
FQR	Ballygarvan Stud Fernando	LM	160
GWO	Castleview Gringo ET	LM	90
FTY	Lennon Frosty	LM	90
EBY	Elderberry Galahad	LM	50
PZB	Bonaparte	SA	50
QCD	Cloondroon Calling	SI	50

- ✚ Sign-ups are continuing for the GENEIRELAND spring program.
- ✚ 75 herds taking a total of 1500 straws have signed up so far.
- ✚ There is a piece on the program in the Farmers Journal this week.
- ✚ To learn more or to sign up please phone **1850 600 900** or **045 521573**.
- ✚ The approximate total straws ordered per bull so far are detailed in the tables 1 & 2.

**Table 2. List of Terminal Bulls currently on-test**

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws
ZSD	Serpentin	BB	20
FSN	Folon	BB	20
GLP	Galopeur	BB	20
FFK	Conval Frank	CH	20
FGG	Leagaun Figaro	CH	40
FZM	Lenagh Equaliser	LM	30

### Dairy



- ✚ 706 herds are signed up taking a total of 24,487 straws.
- ✚ The average EBI of the Holstein-Friesian panel is **€75**.
- ✚ Allocations will increase in the coming weeks as straws become available.

## 6 Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ Extraction files for the April evaluation are on-going. Dairy female fertility and milk production evaluations will commence next week ahead of submission for the routine Interbull evaluations.
- ✚ A request for updated foreign breeding values for beef sires has been made to the relevant organisations in France, UK and Belgium ahead of the upcoming April update of beef indexes.

- The results of the mini-run for beef animals linear scored up to 19th January were loaded to the database on Wednesday of this week. A new run will now commence with an update for animals scored up to 15th March. This run will see the introduction of the new rules where all eligible pedigree animals on the farm in the age range (250-350 days) must be presented for scoring.

## 7 HerdPlus®



- Work on discussion group reports is on-going.
- €uro-Star reports will be printed and packed next week.
- Letters were sent to dairy farmers this week regarding the charity auction of high EBI heifer calves at Corrin mart on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March.
- Farmers are being asked to donate heifer calves for a worthy cause.
- A new discussion group deal for weight recording is now available.

## 8 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 08/03/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 08/03/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 08/03/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 08/03/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 08/03/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	284	96	34%	69,842	5,712	8%
Progressive	1,180	245	21%	77,091	16,856	22%
Tipperary	17	3	18%	846	193	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,481</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>147,779</b>	<b>22,761</b>	<b>15%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 08/03/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 08/03/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	62,978	69,842	9.8%
Progressive	74,529	77,091	3.3%
Tipperary	776	846	8.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>138,283</b>	<b>147,779</b>	<b>6.4%</b>

*Please see milk recording stats attached*

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**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, 27-FEB-2013 To 08-MAR-2013

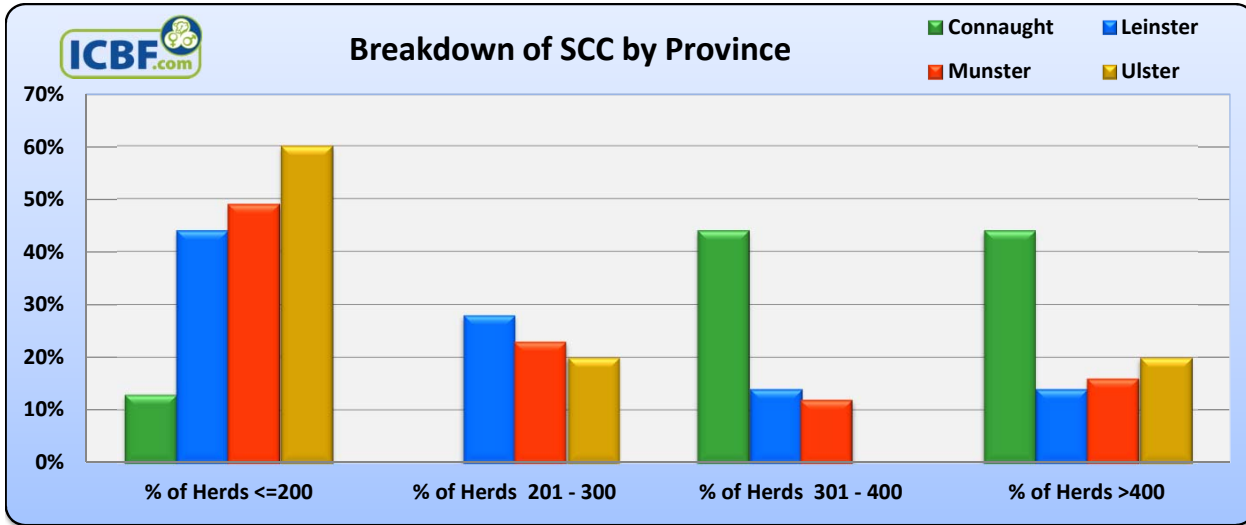
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	16	743	46	24.3	3.90	3.22	1.73	424
Leinster	98	6,840	70	23.6	3.96	3.27	1.71	215
Munster	459	24,586	54	24.8	4.05	3.32	1.83	201
Ulster	20	901	45	24.9	3.87	3.23	1.77	189
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>33,070</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>4.02</b>	<b>3.31</b>	<b>1.80</b>	<b>207</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 27-FEB-2013 To 08-MAR-2013

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	16	743	46	13%	0%	44%	44%	424
Leinster	98	6,840	70	44%	28%	14%	14%	215
Munster	459	24,586	54	49%	23%	12%	16%	201
Ulster	20	901	45	60%	20%	0%	20%	189
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>33,070</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>23%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>207</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 27-FEB-2013 To 08-MAR-2013								
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	16	743	46	333	373	391	409	773
Leinster	98	6,840	70	120	190	225	252	356
Munster	459	24,586	54	117	165	205	240	345
Ulster	20	901	45	130	163	173	192	284
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>33,070</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>245</b>	<b>361</b>

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

