

## ICBF Weekly Update 11<sup>th</sup> October 2013

### 1 Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF GENÉIRÉLAND Beef Open Day** – Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October, commencing 11:00, Tully Progeny Test Center, Kildare.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October, 10:30 to 14:00, Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Dairy Industry Consultation Meeting** – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October, 10:00 to 12:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.

### 2 ICBF Industry Consultation Meeting

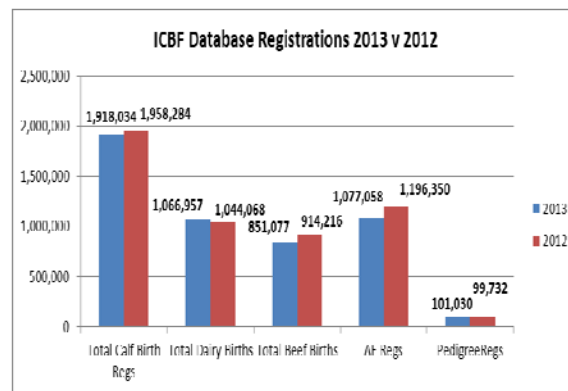
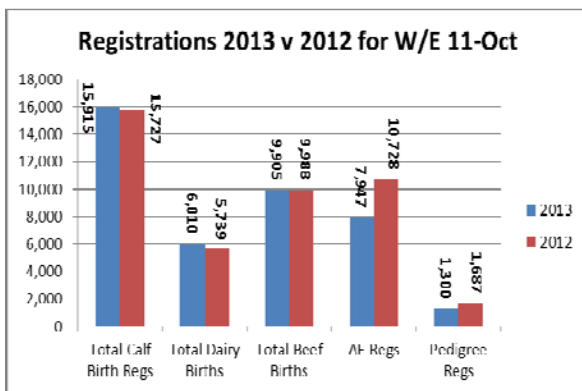
On Tuesday, we had a very well attended Dairy and Beef Industry consultation meeting in Portlaoise. Topics discussed at the meeting included:

- ✚ Test Day Model – John McCarthy gave a comprehensive update on the new Test Day Model for milk production evaluations. There was widespread support for proceeding with its implementation, subject to seeing some further test proofs of the bulls. There will be a further meeting on October 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Test Day model in particular.
- ✚ Economic Values in EBI - Laurence Shalloo (Teagasc) provided an update on the background to the economic values in the EBI. The Milk Processing Sector Model (MPSM) has been used to update the component values of milk, along with the integration of seasonal outputs from the model. The changes to the economic values are relatively minor.
- ✚ Base Change – The change of the base cow for the EBI values was presented by Francis Kearney. The proposed change will involve the setting of a common base for both Production and Fertility, and that base will be set using cows born in 2005. The previous base for milk production was a 1995 born cow.
- ✚ EBI Changes Roll-out Plan – Andrew Cromie gave an update in relation to communication plans for the rollout of the proposed EBI changes. A well coordinated industry effort will be required in order to ensure that farmers are well informed.
- ✚ SCC – Mastitis Association Study - Ross Evans gave an update on the SCC and Mastitis association study that ICBF are working with in association with others, including Roel Veerkamp.
- ✚ Sexed semen update – Andrew Cromie provided an update on the latest status of the Sexed Semen Project.
- ✚ Genetics of Health & Disease - Donagh Berry (Teagasc) provided some compelling evidence around the potential of genetics to play a key role in reducing disease incidence in the national herd.
- ✚ AI Codes – Pat Donnellan provided an update on proposed changes to the AI coding system that are required as a result of the current system running out of available codes.
- ✚ Genomics for parentage verification - Karl O’Connell provided an update on the ‘Genomics for parentage verification’ process. While there are some new challenges appearing, the system has broadly settled down. The challenge continues to be around encouraging breeders to return outstanding hair cards as soon as possible.
- ✚ Interbeef & international genetic evaluations – Thierry Pabiou provided a brief update on progress in relation to the use of international data to assist in generating more accurate Irish evaluations.
- ✚ GENÉIRÉLAND Update, including Tully progeny test. – Stephen Conroy gave a comprehensive update on the significant work on-going in relation to Beef Gene Ireland. Undoubtedly, there are still significant challenges to grow the uptake, and there were some very good suggestions about how this might be achieved.
- ✚ Overall, we had a very constructive meeting with lots of good feedback provided in relation to each of the presentations.

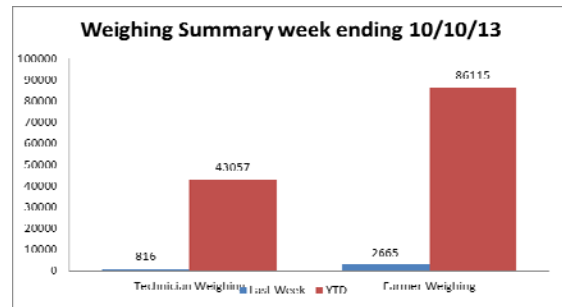
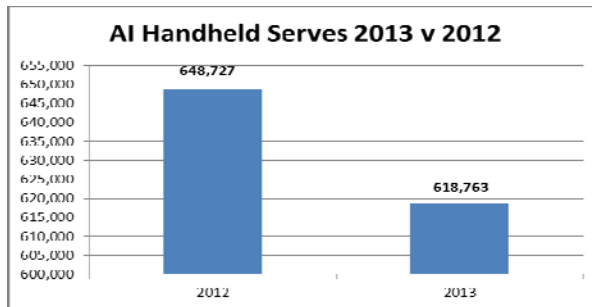
### 3 Sheep Industry Consultation Meeting

- The sheep Industry consultation meeting took place this week in Tullamore and was very well attended by all stakeholders. Those that travelled to Tullamore were given an in depth explanation of the proposed changes to the Euro-Star indexes that are being considered by Sheep Ireland and Teagasc.
- Noirin McHugh (Teagasc) and Thierry Pabiou (Sheep Ireland) delivered excellent presentations explaining the current intention to move the current Overall Sheep Value Index to a split Index, which will display a Terminal and Replacement Index. This will hopefully result in far more understandable and useable information for everyone involved in the industry.
- Donagh Berry (Teagasc) was also on hand to discuss the future role that genomics can play in the Irish sheep Industry. Genomics can undoubtedly deliver major gains to genetic improvement in Ireland, but those involved in the sheep industry should be warned that genomics will not be a 'silver bullet' for genetic progress. There is a huge amount of hard work still to be done to lay the foundations for genomics to happen here. We need to continue to build on the amount of performance recording currently taking place across all our sheep breeds, both the volume and quality of this performance data needs to improve substantially if genomics is to become a realistic option for the Irish sheep industry. Achieving this will be a major objective of Sheep Ireland for the 2014 season.
- The presentations delivered at the Industry meeting will be available on the Sheep Ireland website ([www.sheep.ie](http://www.sheep.ie)) in the coming days.

### 4 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 663,557 with the number of animals weaned at 616,292.
- BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 2,011,000 results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 17,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012 2.5 million results have now been received.
- The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- This week there were 816 weights received through the technician service and 2665 weights recorded by farmers. The graph shows the week and year to date totals.



## 5 Genetic Evaluations

- InterBeef pilot proofs for direct and maternal weaning weights in the Irish scale have been received from InterBeef for Charolais and Limousin breeds - Their analysis will follow shortly.
- Conversion of carcass images into cut yields has started for data collected from Nov 2012 to June 2013 in 15 factories - This new batch of cut data will be included in the end of the year genetic evaluation
- Initial results from new test day evaluations for dairy production traits (milk/fat/protein) were discussed at this week's industry meeting. Work continues on these evaluations. Results from Interbull test run which the model was submitted to in September, have come back showing the model has passed this test for milk/fat/protein and for each of the breeds submitted.

## 6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 11/10/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 11/10/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 11/10/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 11/10/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 11/10/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,684	1,069	29%	310,901	97,792	31%
Progressive	2,442	999	41%	232,401	97,288	42%
Tipperary	114	41	36%	10,052	3,759	37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,240</b>	<b>2,109</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>553,354</b>	<b>198,839</b>	<b>36%</b>

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 11/10/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 11/10/13	2013 vs 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	305,477	310,901	1.7%
Progressive	224,503	232,401	3.4%
Tipperary	10,127	10,052	-0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>540,107</b>	<b>553,354</b>	<b>2.4%</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, 02-OCT-2013 To 11-OCT-2013

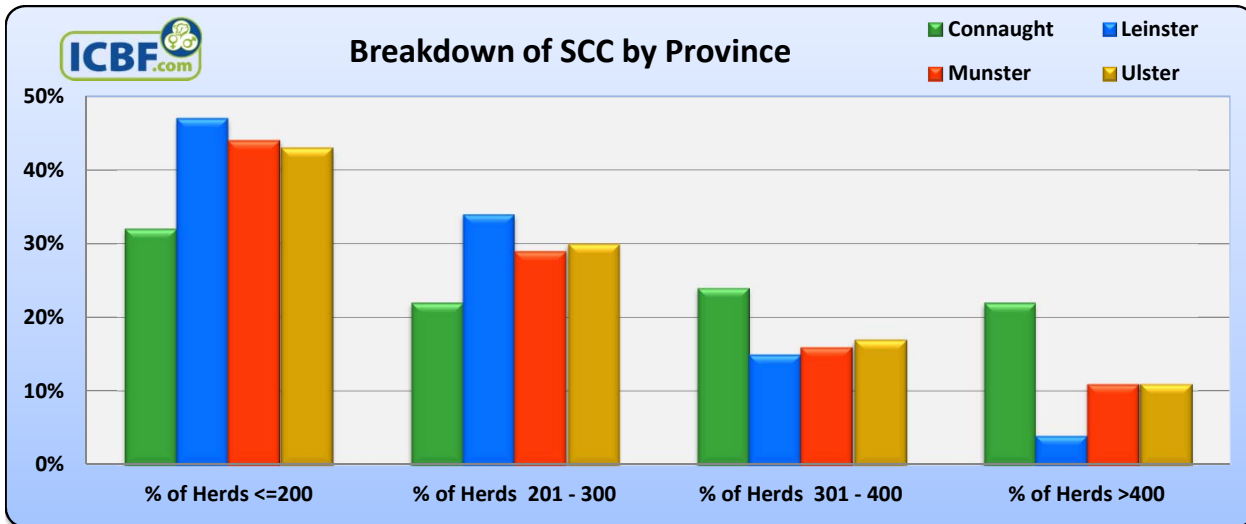
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	37	2,475	67	18.0	4.21	3.68	1.41	258
Leinster	164	12,782	78	17.3	4.28	3.69	1.37	197
Munster	563	43,199	77	16.4	4.35	3.77	1.32	221
Ulster	54	3,311	61	19.0	4.00	3.53	1.42	210
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>61,767</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>16.8</b>	<b>4.31</b>	<b>3.73</b>	<b>1.34</b>	<b>216</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 02-OCT-2013 To 11-OCT-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	37	2,475	67	32%	22%	24%	22%	258
Leinster	164	12,782	78	47%	34%	15%	4%	197
Munster	563	43,199	77	44%	29%	16%	11%	221
Ulster	54	3,311	61	43%	30%	17%	11%	210
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>61,767</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>216</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



## % Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 02-OCT-2013 To 11-OCT-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	37	2,475	67	153	255	285	327	414
Leinster	164	12,782	78	128	185	205	223	288
Munster	563	43,199	77	148	190	216	241	332
Ulster	54	3,311	61	140	185	211	263	337
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>61,767</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>329</b>

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

