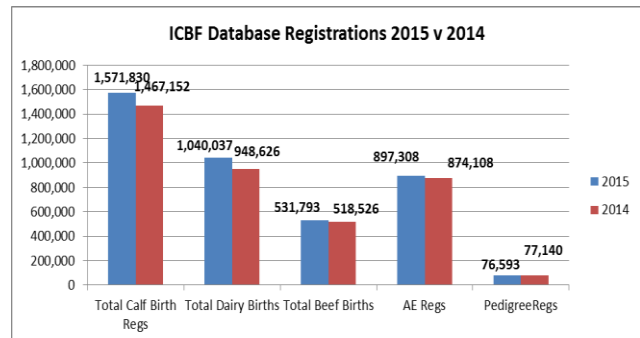
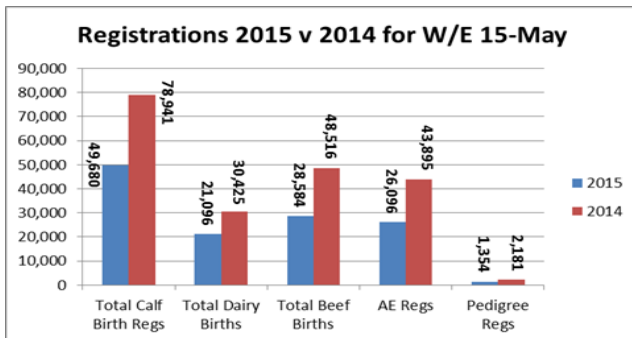


ICBF Weekly Update 15th May 2015

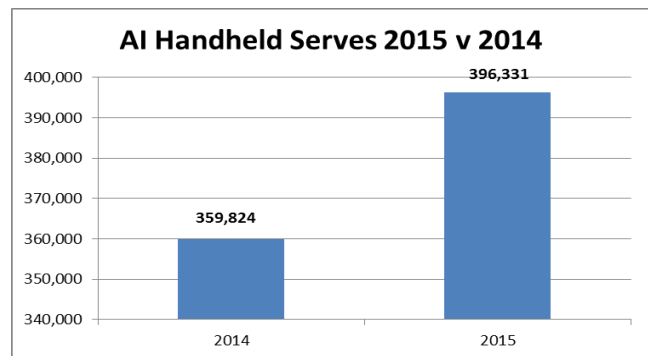
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** – 28th May 2015, 10:00 to 11:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 28th May 2015, 11:00, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **ICBF AGM** – Thursday 28th May 2015, 14:00, 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 1.63 million results received since January 1st, of which 77,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 6.57 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2014 compared with 2015.



3 Herd Plus®

Registering Calves

- ✚ We continue to remind farmers to ensure that they record the relevant breeding data (sires & calving ease) when registering calves. With the launch of the new Beef Data & Genomics Program (BDGP) this is more important than ever to ensure that as many 4 & 5 star replacement heifers as possible, can be identified.
- ✚ 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 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) 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	Last	Calving Date	Last Served	Last Bull	Num Serves	Date	Bull Used	Treatment	Sire Check
1105	IE161313331165	1	29-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!


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.
- 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!



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.

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.



HerdPlus
Profit through Science

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 calves born in November and December is 30th June 2015. 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.

Beef Data & Genomics Program (BDGP)

- ICBF has received a lot of queries in the last week in relation to the BDGP. A Questions & Answers document has been put together to answer the most common questions in relation to the breeding requirements of the scheme. Click [here](#) to read the document.

EBI & Euro-Star Updates

- EBI reports for the April 2015 evaluation are now available online for HerdPlus customers. Euro-Star reports will be generated next week.

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 Genetic evaluations

- Research continues in a number of areas especially beef Genomics. This research is progressing well and an update will be presented at next week's industry meeting. The meeting will also have updates in other areas of research.

5 GENE IRELAND® Beef

- ✚ Sign Ups are continuing for the Spring 2015 Beef programme.
- ✚ 380 herds taking a total of 5838 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**.
- ✚ Approximate total straws ordered to date for the remaining bulls are in *Table 1*.

Table 1. List of Bulls currently on-test

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws Ordered
JJC	Cairnmor John	AA	430
JBS	Steil Jacob	AA	450
VEZ	Balinclea Iveco	AU	475
SGA	Scaughmolin G Mail	BA	440
LJE	Lislea Hermes	BA	175
OZR	Rosemount Gar	BB	215
CH2000	Coom Indurain	CH	335
PDR	Dereskit Improver	CH	210
HHJ	Heracles	CH	280
DBF	Dereskit Invincible	CH	270
LM2014	Ewdenvale Ivor	LM	190
LM2010	Raffertys Immanuel	LM	345
ZYH	Alamira Harry	PT	425
ZKY	Kyle Herd Ivan	PT	210
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	200
EMS	Doon Erasmus	SH	300
PPA	Polar Edinson	SI	355
KJG	Knoackane Dag	SI	335
ETP	Curaheen Evolution P	SI	190
AHC	Auroch Deuter PP	SI	250

6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 15/05/15						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 15/05/15	No. EDIY Herds YTD 15/05/15	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 15/05/15	No. EDIY Cows YTD 15/05/15	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,758	1,175	31%	307,216	103,285	34%
Progressive	2,225	877	39%	200,508	79,741	40%
Tipperary	112	42	38%	9,174	3,546	39%
Total	6,095	2,094	34%	516,898	186,572	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 15/05/14	YTD 2015 Cows Recorded 01/01/15 - 15/05/15	2015 vs. 2014 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	274,158	307,216	10.8%
Progressive	193,909	200,508	3.3%
Tipperary	8,623	9,174	6.0%
Total	476,690	516,898	7.8%

7 Sheep Ireland

2015 Euro-Star Evaluations

In recent weeks a number of breeders have been requesting that Sheep Ireland publicise an early run of genetic evaluations for 2015 born sheep. While we have been running a number of test evaluations in house for a number of weeks now, we are now in a position to publish an evaluation on our website. However this evaluation needs to be viewed with caution. While we have passed the deadline for entry of 2015 lambing data, there is a substantial amount of data that has yet to be uploaded to the Sheep Ireland database. This data will without doubt have a substantial impact on some animal's genetic evaluations.

A summary of the data yet to be included in our 2015 genetic evaluations include:

- A significant amount of lamb weight data from the 5,000 + commercial ewes involved in our CPT and MALP recording projects.
- Commercial data from other sources – Teagasc flocks, performance recording commercial farmers, flocks participating in Task 2 of STAP.
- LambPlus breeders lambing data – We continue to key the lambing data submitted by paper recording LambPlus breeders.
- LambPlus weight data – Lamb weights continue to be collected and entered on the Sheep Ireland database weekly.
- Ovigen data – A huge volume of data is being collected from ewes and lambs through the Ovigen research project and this data will continue to be collected for a number of weeks.
- Muscle and Backfat scanning data – Our Ultrasound scanning season is about to begin again. This is another significant source of data which can influence the Euro-Star evaluations.

A combination of all the above illustrates the importance of breeders viewing the first run of genetic evaluations in context. Culling decisions SHOULD NOT be made solely based on these early Euro-Star evaluations. Breeders should cull at this stage of the year based on physical incorrectness etc. As we approach ram sale season, the vast majority of 2015 performance data will be included in the Sheep Ireland evaluations at this point. Low accuracy values continue to pose the greatest challenge to the sheep Euro-Star evaluations. With this in mind breeders must remain aware of the importance of waiting until all sources of data are utilised annually.



Sheep 2015

This event is taking place on Saturday 20th June in the Teagasc Campus, Athenry, Co. Galway and without doubt promises to be the biggest sheep themed event in the 2015 calendar. All interests in the sheep industry will be catered for on the day and Sheep Ireland will have a strong presence. For more information on this major showcase go to the Teagasc website and search under 'events'. This is an occasion not to be missed by anyone involved in the industry. We will carry more detail on the event in this update as we get closer to the event.

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, 06-MAY-2015 To 15-MAY-2015

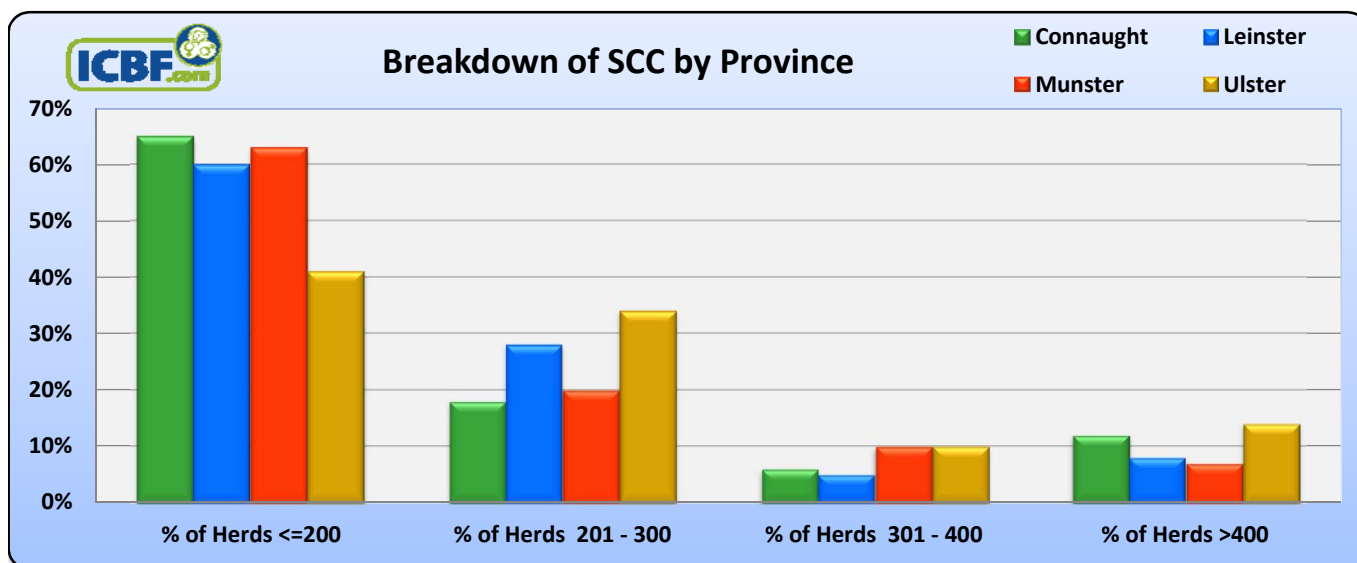
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	17	1,180	69	26.5	3.93	3.42	1.92	141
Leinster	160	14,774	92	27.7	3.73	3.45	1.99	172
Munster	425	36,846	87	28.4	3.79	3.46	2.06	171
Ulster	29	1,662	57	27.4	3.57	3.31	1.88	187
National Statistics	631	54,462	86	28.1	3.77	3.45	2.03	171

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 06-MAY-2015 To 15-MAY-2015

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	17	1,180	69	65%	18%	6%	12%	141
Leinster	160	14,774	92	60%	28%	5%	8%	172
Munster	425	36,846	87	63%	20%	10%	7%	171
Ulster	29	1,662	57	41%	34%	10%	14%	187
National Statistics	631	54,462	86	61%	23%	8%	8%	171

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 06-MAY-2015 To 15-MAY-2015								
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	17	1,180	69	74	108	121	169	233
Leinster	160	14,774	92	115	154	177	200	269
Munster	425	36,846	87	106	145	168	191	281
Ulster	29	1,662	57	109	180	224	237	316
National Statistics	631	54,462	86	106	146	169	198	276

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

