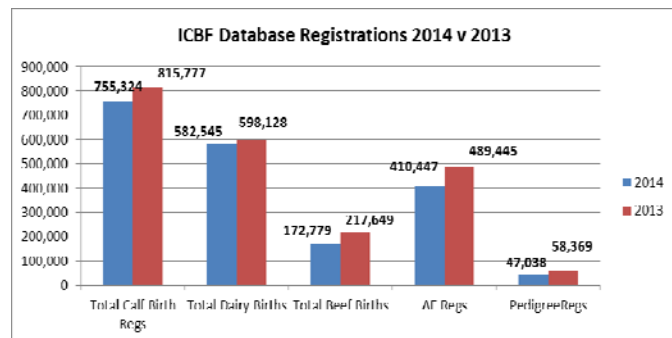
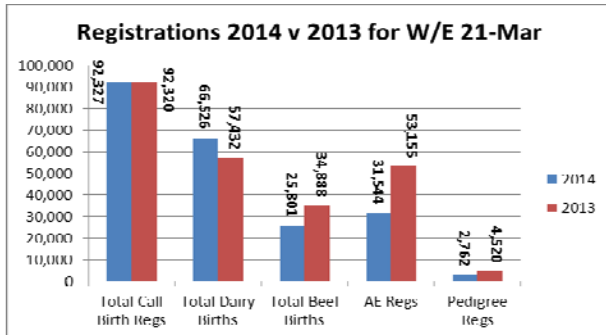


## ICBF Weekly Update 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014

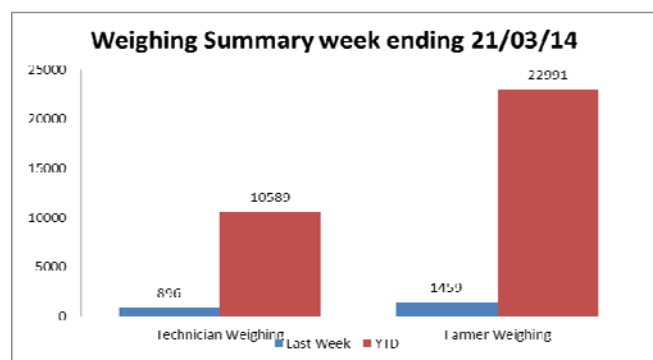
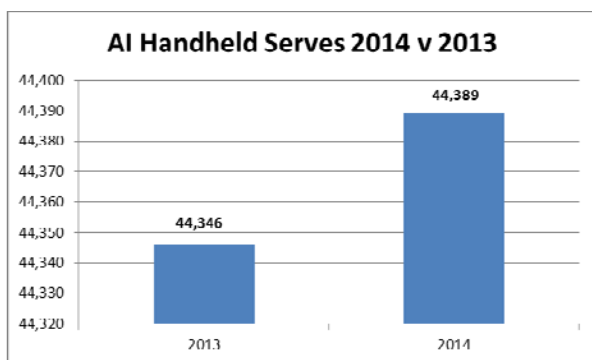
### 1 Important Dates

- ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014, 10:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ICBF Sheep Board Meeting** – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014, 14:00 to 17:00, 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 802,000 results received since January 1<sup>st</sup>, of which 85,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 3.46 million results have now been received.
- The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
- This week there were 896 weights received through the technician service and 1459 weights recorded by farmers.
- The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



### 3 GROW<sup>®</sup>

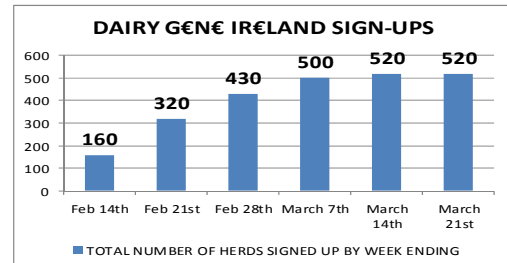
- 605 Pedigree animals were scored in February.
- This is up by 309 animals from February 2013.
- 1064 Pedigrees were weighed in February.

✚ This is up by 768 animals from February 2013.

✚ **These totals do not include animals scored as part of the Gene Ireland Maternal Bull Breeding Program.**

#### 4 GENEIRELAND® Dairy

- ✚ Allocations commenced today for the Holstein Friesian orders.
- ✚ There are 7 Friesians, 4 Jerseys and 9 Crossbred Jerseys on the panel to date.
- ✚ All packs will be dispatched as soon as straws are available.
- ✚ Call **1850 600 900** to order.



#### 5 Herd Plus®

- ✚ Application forms for the 2014 Beef Data Programme (BDP) and Beef Genomics Scheme (BGS) have been posted to some 70,000 suckler farmers in the past week. Farmers need to ensure that both boxes are ticked on the form if they wish to participate in both schemes. If you wish to sign up to the BGS you **must** also be in the BDP. The forms must also be signed on the back. The closing date for returning these forms is 4<sup>th</sup> April. ICBF encourages all suckler farmers to sign up to these schemes as strong participation will be hugely important to the continued improvement of Irish beef breeding.
- ✚ Farmers are again reminded to input any missing data that is required for the 2013 BDP scheme. This data can be recorded through the ICBF website, farm software packages or on paper forms.
- ✚ Dairy farmers should complete their sire advice in the next week. This can be done through HerdPlus. Breeding charts will be generated and posted to farmers in early April. Breeding charts with a completed sire advice are very useful as they match bulls to cows based on index. They also act as an inbreeding checker. If you have any queries on sire advice please call HerdPlus on **1850 600 900**.
- ✚ As the 2014 calving season is now in full swing farmers are again reminded of the importance of recording all relevant data on calves at registration. Recording sires and calving ease surveys are critically important to the genetic evaluation process and the continued development of genetic indices. These details can be recorded at registration through a farm software package, agfood.ie or the animal events (white) book.

#### 6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 21/03/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 21/03/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 21/03/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 21/03/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 21/03/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	1,523	127	8%	87,423	4,391	5%
Progressive	1,299	302	23%	87,653	7,114	8%
Tipperary	22	5	23%	1,135	220	19%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,844</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>176,211</b>	<b>11,725</b>	<b>7%</b>

#### Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 21/03/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 21/03/14	2014 vs. 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	102,384	87,423	-17.1%
Progressive	92,893	87,653	-6.0%
Tipperary	1,295	1,135	-14.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>195,277</b>	<b>176,211</b>	<b>-10.8%</b>

## 7 Sheep Ireland

- The number of 2014 born lambs entered on the Sheep Ireland database has now exceeded the 5,000 mark. Our paper recording breeders have now begun submitting their lambing records. These will all be manually entered in the Sheep Ireland office over the coming weeks. The deadline for submission of lambing data this year is April 30<sup>th</sup>, we have sent text messages to all breeders this week to remind them of this date and will continue to do so over the next number of weeks. The month of April will be the busiest in terms of data entry without doubt.
- CPT lambing has concluded today Friday. It has been an extremely busy period for Stephen Potterton and his team of recording technicians and things have gone extremely well. The capture and transfer of performance data from these CPT farms to the database is seamless and shows what can be achieved with EID and the right equipment. Over the past number of days we have spent a large amount of time rectifying issues with sheep identities. The majority of sheep on our database have multiple identities that all serve different purposes. This causes major issues from a data traceability point of view - depending on the source of the information the type of identity quoted can vary. Since 2010 and the introduction of EID and a single identity for life for all sheep in Ireland, it has been far easier to prevent problems arising, however we are still sorting out many of the problems associated with the previous identification systems.
- For 2014 we are insisting that all breeders enter the full NSIS (department tag number) for every lamb entered onto the database. No evaluations will be provided for lambs without this data. Some breeders are choosing to tag all lambs at birth and are finding it to be very useful from a management point of view. Others choose to tag lambs a little later in life which is also acceptable provided the NSIS is recorded promptly on the database. Sheep Ireland now has the capability to upload data files from private sheep software providers. TGM Software Solutions are currently the only such company which we have established links with. A growing number of commercial sheep farmers and pedigree breeders are starting to avail of the numerous management benefits associated with such software.



*Happily tagged lambs on the CPT farm of John Large - EID identification from birth has provided huge benefits from a management and data recording point of view since the beginning of the CPT*

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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, 12-MAR-2014 To 21-MAR-2014

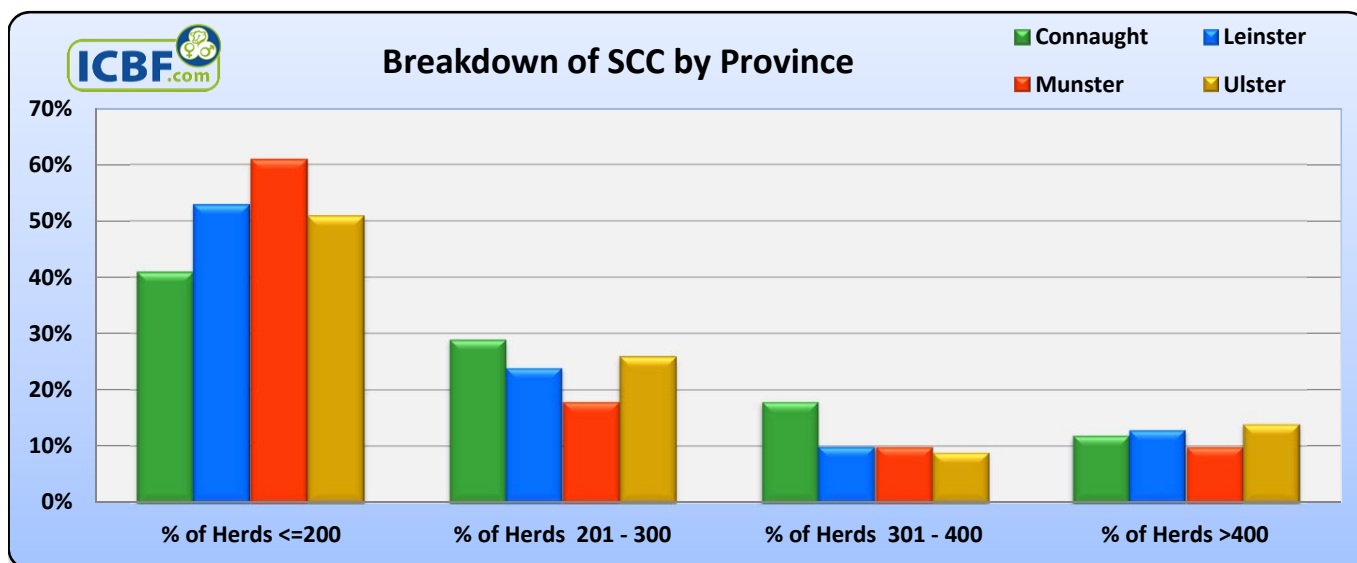
No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
<b>Connaught</b>	17	922	54	22.7	3.90	3.18	231
<b>Leinster</b>	127	9,721	77	24.8	4.06	3.30	193
<b>Munster</b>	282	17,324	61	25.1	4.09	3.22	172
<b>Ulster</b>	35	1,434	41	24.9	3.72	3.22	197
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>29,401</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>4.05</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>181</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

## SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 12-MAR-2014 To 21-MAR-2014

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*	
<b>Connaught</b>	17	922	54	41%	29%	18%	12%	231
<b>Leinster</b>	127	9,721	77	53%	24%	10%	13%	193
<b>Munster</b>	282	17,324	61	61%	18%	10%	10%	172
<b>Ulster</b>	35	1,434	41	51%	26%	9%	14%	197
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>29,401</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>181</b>

\* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 12-MAR-2014 To 21-MAR-2014								
No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Best 20% SCC	Best 40% SCC	Average SCC**	Worst 40% SCC	Worst 20% SCC	
<b>Connaught</b>	17	922	54	130	215	286	288	379
<b>Leinster</b>	127	9,721	77	121	166	192	232	303
<b>Munster</b>	282	17,324	61	95	142	165	194	302
<b>Ulster</b>	35	1,434	41	122	185	200	228	314
<b>National Statistics</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>29,401</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>312</b>

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

