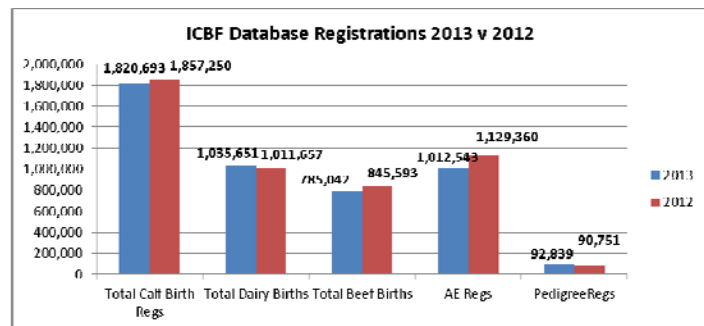
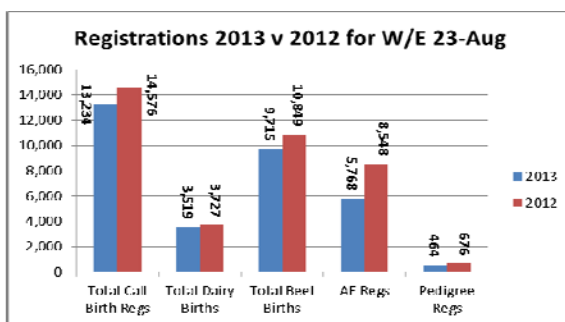


ICBF Weekly Update 23rd August 2013

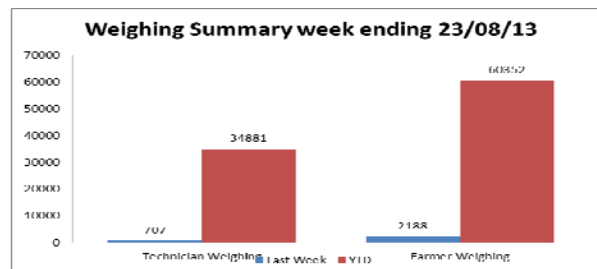
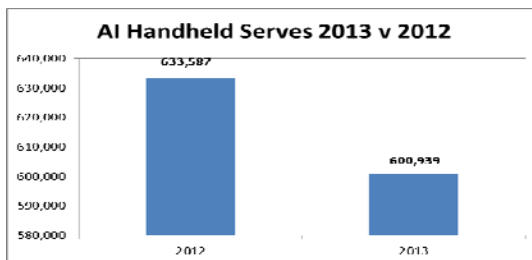
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Multi-breed Ram Sale** – Saturday 24th August, commencing 12.30, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 12th September, 10:30 to 14:00, Highfield House, Bandon.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 19th September, 14:00 to 16:00, Tullamore Court Hotel.
- ✚ **ICBF GENRELAND Beef Open Day** – Saturday 12th October, commencing 11:00, Tully Progeny Test Center, Kildare.

2 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 653,228 with the number of animals weaned at 594,172.
- ✚ BVD test results continue to be received at ICBF and are being processed accordingly. There have been 1,906,000 results received since January 1st, of which 13,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 2.4 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2012.
- ✚ This week there were 707 weights received through the technician service and 2188 weights recorded by farmers.
- ✚ The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 GROW[®]

- ✚ 769 Pedigree animals were scored in July.
- ✚ 1295 Pedigrees were weighed in July which is up by 371 animals from July 2012.
- ✚ 415 Commercial animals were weighed in July, an increase of 248 from July 2012.

4 Tully

Further factory data collected on GENÉIRÉLAND progeny at Tully

63 commercial progeny (born between 1st March 2012 & 30th April 2012) from the GENÉIRÉLAND progeny test center, Tully, Co. Kildare were slaughtered recently. This brings the total number of animals slaughtered through the new progeny test program at Tully to 249. During the 90 day performance test information collected on each animal includes feed efficiency, scanned measurements, dry matter intake and average daily gain.

Overall, the 63 bulls achieved excellent slaughter performance. Carcass weight ranged from 350 kg to 500 kg, with an average carcass weight of 420 kg for the group. The average kill-out rate for the group was 59.4%, with kill-out ranging from 55 to 65%. Table 1 shows a breakdown of the carcass conformation and fat scores for the 63 bulls. In order to capture meat yield data, the carcass for each bull was dissected into 19 cuts and the weight of each cut was recorded. Data on each individual animal can be found on the newly revamped ICBF website (www.icbf.com). The link is called 'Commercial progeny results' which is beneath the 'GENÉIRÉLAND' section. The GENÉIRÉLAND section can be located by clicking on the 'Services tab' section.

	E=	E-	U+	U=	U-	R+	R=
1+				1			
2-			2				
2=		4	2				
2+	3	3	11	1			
3-	2	5	9	2		1	
3=	1		4	2			
3+			3	2	1		
4-			2				
4=		2					

Table 1. Range in conformation and fat scores (15 point scale) for the 63 bulls

- The striploin from the right hand side of each carcass was retained for more in-depth analysis which will take place in the coming weeks. This analysis will include composition (intramuscular fat %, protein % & moisture %), cook loss, shear force and sensory measurements. Sensory analysis will commence next week on all the animals slaughtered to date.
- ICBF would like to thank Slaney Foods, Bunclody, Co. Wexford and Teagasc, Ashtown for their help and co-operation in the collection of the carcass and meat eating quality data.

Latest intakes on test

- 46 bulls (born between 1st May & 30th June 2012) and 54 steers (DOB: 1st Nov 2011 – 31st Dec 2011) are currently on test. The bulls are due to finish their 90 day performance test on 1st October 2013, while the steers are due to be slaughtered on 15th October 2013. All bulls and steers on-test were ultrasonically scanned this week for muscle and fat depth along with intramuscular fat depth. Scrotal circumference was also captured at the time of scanning. During the performance test all bulls are weighed weekly.
- 30 bulls (DOB: 1st July 2012 – 31st August 2012) have completed their 30 acclimatisation period and will start test on Monday of next week.

New intake of commercial progeny

- A new intake of 80 bulls (born between 1st September & 31st October 2012) were purchased recently. These animals are currently being acclimatised for 30 days. During the 30 day period bulls will be built up on-to an ad-lib concentrate diet. They will start their performance test on 20th September 2013.

Upcoming Open day at Tully

- An ICBF GENÉIRÉLAND Beef Breeding Event will take place on Saturday, 12th October 2013 at the GENÉIRÉLAND Progeny Test Center, Tully, Co. Kildare. The event will provide Irish beef farmers with a wealth of information on the latest developments in beef breeding.

First AI sires to have 15 progeny tested through Tully

Netherhall Epic (NHL) and Seepa Tee Jay (IS4) are the first AI sires to have 15 progeny complete the testing program at Tully. 15 is the recommended number in order to have high reliability for the traits of interest to the progeny test program.



5 HerdPlus®

- ✚ Stats on sire and calving ease recording for the first 6 months of 2013 show a 10% decrease on the same period last year.
- ✚ Farmers should constantly be reminded of the importance of this data.
- ✚ The Maternal Bull Breeder Scheme is in full swing with 180 herds now signed up.
- ✚ Bulls are being identified for inspection with a view to purchasing for progeny testing.
- ✚ BTAP advisors are reminded to ensure that all relevant data is recorded through ICBF such as weights, AI serves, scanning results and baseline survey data.
- ✚ For any assistance on this call **1850 600 900**.

6 Sheep Ireland

- ✚ The eagerly anticipated Sheep Ireland Multi-breed ram sale takes place this Saturday 24th August in Tullamore, Co. Offaly. The number of entries for this sale has grown once again this year and will comprise of over 200 entries

On offer (in sale order)

Texel	17 Shearlings & 75 Ram lambs
Rouge	1 Shearling & 8 Ram lambs
Belclare	3 Shearling & 19 Ram lambs
Suffolk	6 Shearlings & 31 Ram lambs
Vendeen	16 Ram lambs
Beltex	1 Shearling & 6 Ram lambs
Hampshire Down	3 Ram lambs
Charollais	3 Shearlings & 56 Ram lambs

- The sale will commence at 12.30pm sharp. There are a lot of rams to move through the ring so there will be no delays. We are delighted to have George Candler taking charge of the hammer once again this year and he will no doubt add a bit of colour to proceedings. Full sale catalogue is available on www.sheep.ie under the tab 'Euro-Star multi-breed Ram sale'.
- Also included on our website is a catalogue for the upcoming NSBA STAP eligible sale in Roscrea on August 28th. The NSBA will also hold a sale in Blessington on September 14th – keep an eye on the Sheep Ireland website to find the catalogue for this sale.
- STAP has been heating up in recent weeks with many farmers now heading to ram sales to find a STAP eligible breeding ram. We are regularly adding updates to our Sheep Ireland homepage for STAP farmers. Go to www.sheep.ie and have a look at the 'Sheep Technology Adoption Programme' tab to view recent updates.

7 Genetic Evaluations

- Complete update of proofs for all dairy/beef animals was published this week. Usual files in Genetic Evaluations section of website.
- Work continues on across-country parameter estimation for INTERBEEF.
- Various presentations will be given at Interbull/EAAP conference in Nantes next week. More details on these will be included next week.
- A collaborative project has begun with researchers in University of Wageningen (Netherlands) on a dairy Udder health index.

8 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 23/08/13						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 23/08/13	No. EDIY Herds YTD 23/08/13	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 23/08/13	No. EDIY Cows YTD 23/08/13	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,676	1,059	29%	308,327	95,512	31%
Progressive	2,418	980	41%	228,210	95,317	42%
Tipperary	114	40	35%	9,987	3,624	36%
Total	6,208	2,079	33%	546,524	194,453	36%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2012 Cows Recorded 01/01/12 - 23/08/12	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 23/08/13	2013 vs. 2012 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	303,256	308,327	1.6%
Progressive	219,625	228,210	3.8%
Tipperary	9,921	9,987	0.7%
Total	532,802	546,524	2.5%

Please see milk recording stats attached.

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, 14-AUG-2013 To 23-AUG-2013

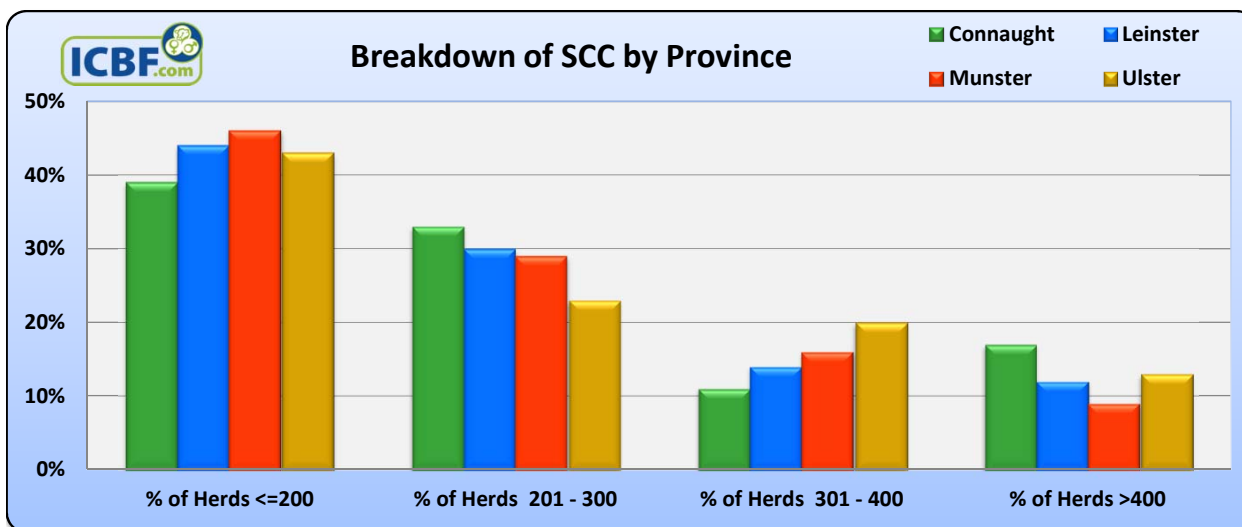
ICBF.com	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	18	945	53	20.6	3.77	3.43	1.48	248
Leinster	181	16,424	91	20.8	3.91	3.49	1.54	215
Munster	548	43,269	79	21.0	3.87	3.46	1.53	212
Ulster	30	2,112	70	21.6	3.75	3.33	1.53	229
National Statistics	777	62,750	81	20.9	3.87	3.46	1.53	214

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 14-AUG-2013 To 23-AUG-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	18	945	53	39%	33%	11%	17%	248
Leinster	181	16,424	91	44%	30%	14%	12%	215
Munster	548	43,269	79	46%	29%	16%	9%	212
Ulster	30	2,112	70	43%	23%	20%	13%	229
National Statistics	777	62,750	81	45%	29%	16%	10%	214

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 14-AUG-2013 To 23-AUG-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	18	945	53	134	210	226	241	360
Leinster	181	16,424	91	146	186	226	247	337
Munster	548	43,269	79	141	188	210	242	330
Ulster	30	2,112	70	137	189	262	274	334
National Statistics	777	62,750	81	141	188	216	245	332

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

