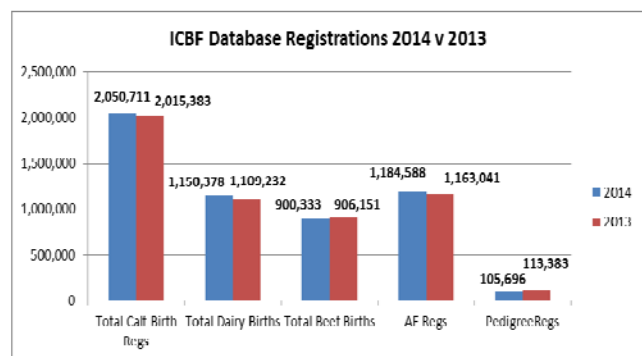
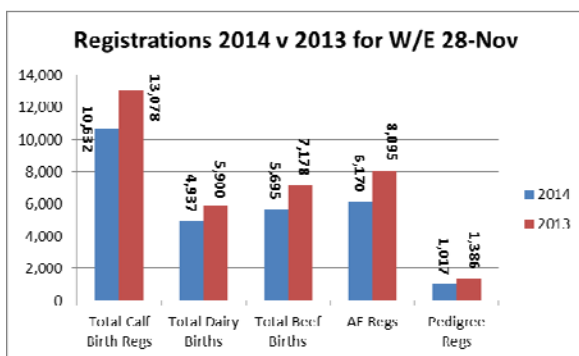


ICBF Weekly Update 28th November 2014

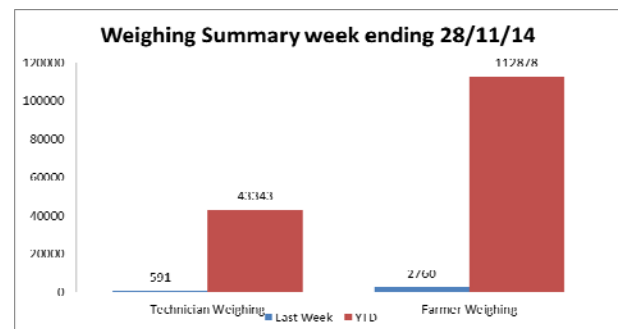
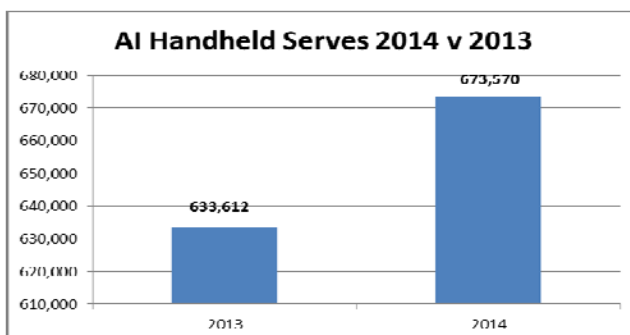
1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** – Thursday 4th December 2014, 10:30 to 13:00, Horse & Jockey Hotel.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 18th December 2014, 10:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Industry Meeting** – Thursday 18th December 2014, 10:30 to 13:30, Killeshin Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 18th December 2014, 14:00 to 16:30, 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 2,207,000 results received since January 1st, of which 19,000 have come in the last 7 days. Since the beginning of the voluntary phase in 2012, 4.87 million results have now been received.
- ✚ The graph below shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2013 compared with 2014.
- ✚ This week there were 591 weights received through the technician service and 2760 weights recorded by farmers. The graph below shows the week and year to date totals.



3 Herd Plus®

- ✚ Any dairy farmers that are currently drying off cows need to make sure that the dry off dates are recorded in the ICBF database. These dates are important in order to make sure that milk recording data is as accurate as possible. Dry off dates can be recorded online.

- ✚ All serve and scan information should also be recorded so that expected calving dates in the pocket notebooks are up to date.
- ✚ A genomics conference was held this week at Roganstown House Hotel, Swords, Co. Dublin in conjunction with Teagasc and the Irish Farmer's Journal. Various experts in this field from both at home and abroad contributed to the event. The following is a video link to the presentations which were given:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJmh8XaMDQw>
- ✚ The 2014/2015 Beef HerdPlus journal will be posted to all beef HerdPlus customers in the coming weeks. There are some excellent articles in this year's edition and will be well worth reading. The following are links to some of the articles:
<http://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/euro-stars - sales ring - booklet>
<http://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/euro-stars in action - suckler cows>
<http://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/2014 journal statistics/0>
- ✚ For anybody that is interested in the Gene Ireland Beef Programme the following articles give a good insight into the programme and what it is trying to achieve:
<http://www.icbf.com/facebook/news/GeneIrelandLeaflet.pdf>
<http://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/gene ireland booklet>
- ✚ A beef replacement heifer sale will take place next Tuesday 2nd December at Mayo-Sligo Mart, Ballina. The sale has been organised by the Teagasc Mayo Drystock Advisors in conjunction with ICBF, Irish Farmer's Journal and Mayo-Sligo Mart. There will be an elite group of 46 high Replacement Index (min 3 stars) heifers available. These heifers have been inspected pre sale to ensure that they are of a good standard visually. Euro-Star indexes will be available on the day. See link to catalogue below:
<http://www.mayosligomart.ie/Specialsaleevent.aspx>

4 GENEIRELAND[®] - Beef

- ✚ 257 herds taking a total of 3900 straws have joined so far.
- ✚ The average order is 15 straws.
- ✚ To learn more or to order straws please phone **1850 600 900**.
- ✚ The catalogue is available to view on the ICBF website
- ✚ Approximate total straws ordered to date for the remaining bulls are in the table 1.

Table 1. List of Bulls currently on-test

Code	Name of Bull	Breed	Straws Ordered
JBS	Steil Jacob	AA	190
VEZ	Balinclea Iveco	AU	305
SGA	Scaughmolin G Mail	BA	285
AGY	Rosemount Giga ET	BB	365
RFF	Ringfort Goulou	BB	80
GEZ	Gedeon	CH	260
YKM	Moyclare Lucky	HE	165
XGL	Glorieux	LM	260
AYH	Lisnagranchy Hulio	PT	330
ZYH	Alamira Harry	PT	255
KTM	Knottown Michael	SA	285
ZBZ	Breffni Muzz	SA	105
EMS	Doon Erasmus (P)	SH	115

5 Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ Work is progressing ahead of the December routine evaluation update. The calculation of genomic proofs for Holstein Friesian sires began this week once the traditional quantitative evaluations were completed and loaded to the database.

- ICBF and Teagasc hosted the INTERBEEF genomics conference from Tuesday to Thursday this week at the Roganstown House Hotel in Swords. The conference was very successful with some useful recommendation being put forward to ICAR and INTERBEEF around the need for development of International co-operation in areas such as pooling resources on phenotypes and genotypes so that genomic selection can become a reality for many beef breeds and countries. ICBF also availed of the expertise present to advise on areas around Irelands Beef Genomics programme and our Gene Ireland maternal breeding program.

6 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 28/11/14						
Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 28/11/14	No. EDIY Herds YTD 28/11/14	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 28/11/14	No. EDIY Cows YTD 28/11/14	% Cows EDIY
Munster	3,908	1,173	30%	336,622	107,041	32%
Progressive	2,524	1,102	44%	245,707	106,964	44%
Tipperary	117	46	39%	10,411	4,133	40%
Total	6,549	2,321	35%	592,740	218,138	37%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison			
Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2013 Cows Recorded 01/01/13 - 28/11/13	YTD 2014 Cows Recorded 01/01/14 - 28/11/14	2014 vs. 2013 Year on Year Difference (%)
Munster	313,298	336,622	6.9%
Progressive	238,216	245,707	3.0%
Tipperary	10,167	10,411	2.3%
Total	561,681	592,740	5.2%

7 Sheep Ireland

Sheep Industry meeting

- On December 18th a sheep industry meeting will take place to brief the Irish sheep breed societies on the recent approval of a research project. The project is called 'Ovigen' and offers a fantastic opportunity to sheep breed societies in Ireland as it will look into what genomics can offer the Irish sheep industry. The project will be funded by the Irish Department of Agriculture and will seek input from all stakeholders in our sheep industry. The main collaborators in this project will be Teagasc, UCD and Sheep Ireland. A critical element of the project will be pedigree breed societies, without whom this project is not possible. Invitations to this meeting are currently being issued. As spaces will be limited, we would ask LambPlus breeders that are interested in attending to make contact with your relevant breed society secretary to reserve a place.

Final reminder for LambPlus sign-up

- The deadline for signing up to LambPlus for the 2015 season is Monday 1st December. Reminder texts have been sent to all breeders in recent days. Any breeders which have not signed up before and have not yet submitted a sign-up form should contact us on **1850 601 901** or by email at query@sheep.ie.

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, 19-NOV-2014 To 28-NOV-2014

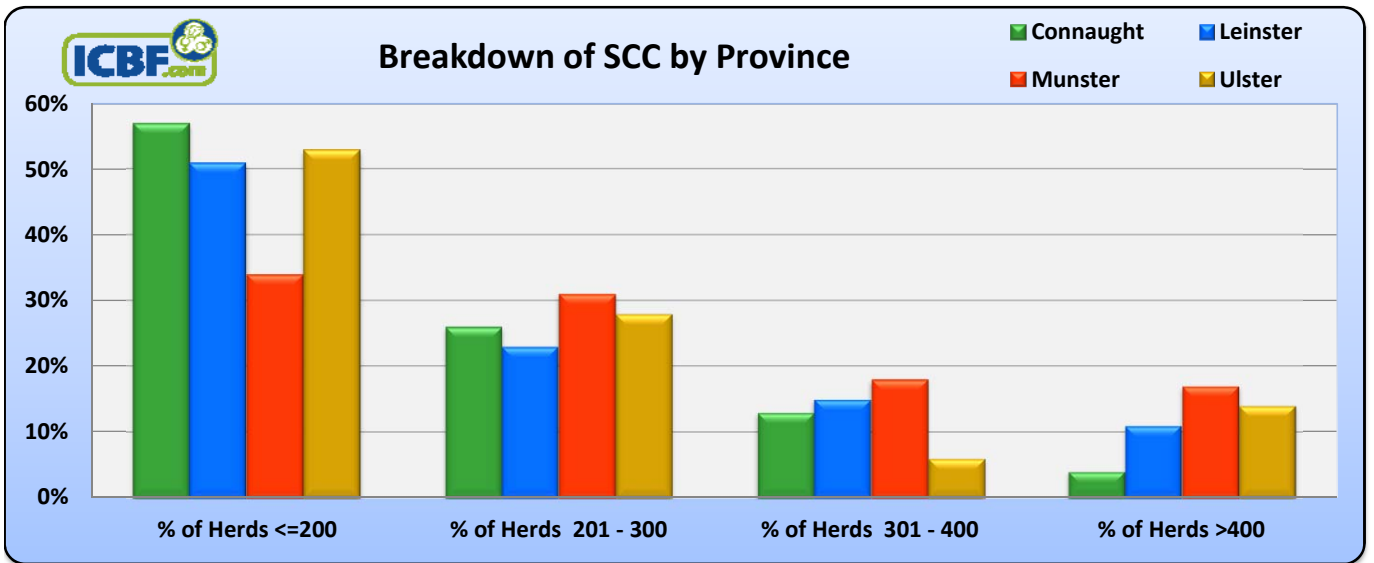
ICBF	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Avg Herd Size	Avg Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F+P kg	Average SCC*
Connaught	23	992	43	18.2	4.24	3.48	1.40	196
Leinster	104	7,594	73	17.5	4.30	3.49	1.35	203
Munster	304	18,056	59	14.3	4.52	3.74	1.16	248
Ulster	36	1,709	47	16.7	4.21	3.49	1.27	191
National Statistics	467	28,351	61	15.4	4.43	3.65	1.23	230

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC

SCC Distribution for the 10 day period, 19-NOV-2014 To 28-NOV-2014

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	23	992	43	57%	26%	13%	4%	196
Leinster	104	7,594	73	51%	23%	15%	11%	203
Munster	304	18,056	59	34%	31%	18%	17%	248
Ulster	36	1,709	47	53%	28%	6%	14%	191
National Statistics	467	28,351	61	40%	29%	16%	15%	230

* Geometric Mean Herd SCC



% Herd Breakdown for the 10 day period, 19-NOV-2014 To 28-NOV-2014								
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	23	992	43	118	169	187	223	286
Leinster	104	7,594	73	133	169	198	226	343
Munster	304	18,056	59	158	208	236	274	374
Ulster	36	1,709	47	120	173	188	208	274
National Statistics	467	28,351	61	145	199	220	256	362

** Percentile Herd SCC Rank (Median SCC)

