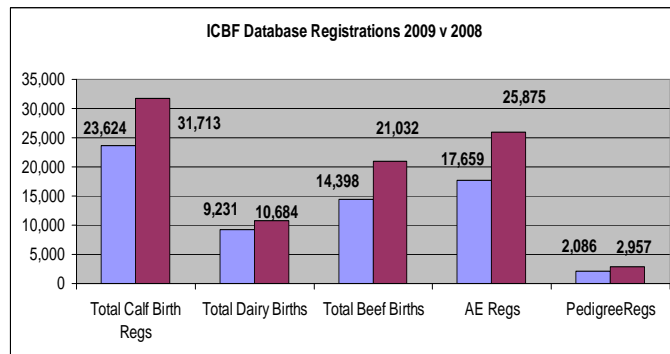
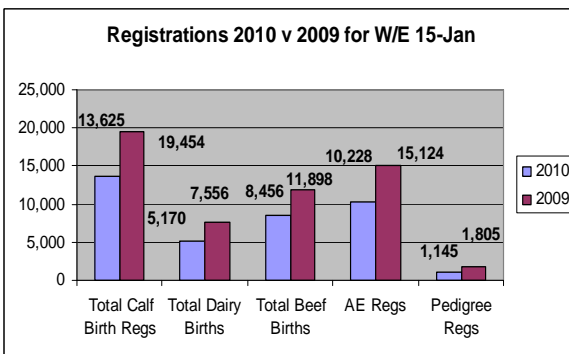


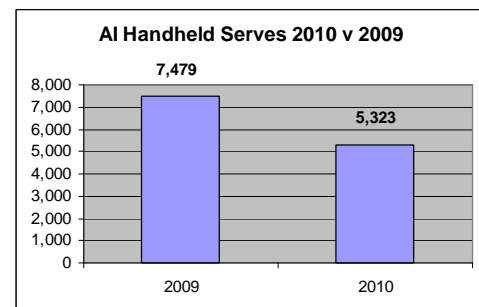
1. Important Dates

- ✚ **Dairy Breeding Consultation** –Wednesday 20th January 2010, **10:00 to 13:00** – Horse & Jockey.
- ✚ **Dairy & Beef Breeding Consultation Participants – Joint Lunch** –Wednesday 20th January 2010, **13:00 to 14:00** – Horse & Jockey.
- ✚ **Beef Breeding Consultation** –Wednesday 20th January 2010, **14:00 to 17:00** – Horse & Jockey.
- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 21st January 2010, **10:00 to 14:00** – Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** –Thursday 21st January 2010, **14:00 to 16:30** – Portlaoise.

2. Database



- ✚ In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2009 born calves with meal introduced is 569,198 with the number of animals weaned at 457,741.
- ✚ The focus for the first few weeks of January is to complete a number of outstanding items in relation to projects that are either live or in the final stages of completion.
- ✚ All four milk recording organisations continue to work well on the new Milk Recording system. We are continuing to update the software based on feedback from the organisations, and there will be a significant release of updates within the next week or so.
- ✚ A number of changes to facilitate the migration to the new Beef Linear evaluations forms are being finalised. These include the new linear score report, the herd-book catalogues, Taurus, the on-line bull search among others.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recorded on AI Handhelds in 2009 compared with 2008.



3. GENÉIRELAND®

Beef

- ✚ Sign ups are underway for the 2010 season with 16 herds taking part so far.
- ✚ The next batch of catalogues should be available early next week.
- ✚ Some very interesting bulls are emerging for inclusion on the panel.

- Total straws sent out per bull currently on the panel are in the table below.

BREED	CH	LM	LM	SI	BB	BB	PT	SA	AA	SH	HE
CODE	VHC	FL29	MBP	HSY	EVG	SEU	KCP	BHU	RWB	CZB	AGI
STRAWS	450	430	380	190	300	580	605	325	535	435	195

Dairy

- Letters and flyers with signup forms for GI Dairy Spring 2010 were sent out this week to the participants of last years programme.
- Included was a draft list of potential bulls based on current EBI figures (ancestry average). Genomic data is currently being analysed for these bulls and a revised list of potential test bulls will be available from the start of February.

4. Tully

- The first live-weight on all bulls (n = 105) was obtained on Monday of this week (Table 1). Bulls were in pre-entry isolation up to now, where they were gradually built up onto ad-lib concentrates and also had blood samples taken weekly, testing for IBR. Live-weights will be obtained every 21 days from the initial weight, during the 90 day performance test. Individual feed intake is being recorded on all bulls daily, and this information along with the recent live-weight has being inputted into the ICBF database, in time for the next evaluation run.

Table 1. Live-weight and Suckler Beef Value of bulls averaged by breed

Breed	AA (n = 13)	AU (n = 1)	BB (n = 4)	CH (n = 26)	HE (n = 5)	LM (n = 40)	SA (n = 4)	SI (n = 10)	SP ¹ (n = 2)
Average Live-weight (Kg)	480	388	474	514	449	474	428	533	487
² Average SBV (€)	36	59	93	123	43	101	80	147	-

¹SP= Speckle Park

²SBV= Suckler Beef Value

- Bull owners and breed societies have received letters and e-mails, respectively, updating them on the performance of bulls to date, along with the latest Euro-Star figures. Also, AI companies have received the latest performance figures of bulls, along with all other relevant information.
- Bulls are being washed at present to help maintain and promote hair growth. They are also being treated with a product called tactic at the time of washing, which treats and discourages external parasites such as lice and mange.
- A Tully Advisory Committee meeting has being scheduled for Wednesday, 3rd of February at 10am. The meeting will take place at Tully and cover a number of topics such as the previous and current intake of bulls and an update on the GEN€IR€LAND program.

5. Genetic Evaluations

Dairy

- Work on evaluations is ongoing. Testing of the new fertility model continues. Several different evaluations are being run to test the changes. Test proofs will be made available in advance of the dairy industry meeting on January 20th. At this point a final decision will be made on what proofs to use. A routine evaluation using the current model is being run should the new model not be implemented.

- ✚ Provisional proofs were sent to the AI industry for feedback during the week.

Beef

- ✚ A new extract for linear type traits will commence tonight in line with the new GROW scoring rules.
- ✚ A new beef evaluation will commence on the 16th January.

Carcass Images

- ✚ The digital images covering the July 06 - Aug 07 have been converted into meat yields: 91000 carcasses, after initial validation, have been converted into Low, Medium, High, and Very High value cuts.
- ✚ The conversion presently running cover the period July 08 - Aug 09.

6. Sheep Ireland

- ✚ National Sheep Day meeting on Monday 18th of January 2010.
- ✚ 40 Day Growth Report for LambPlus users in the early stages of development.
- ✚ New Breeders are sending back LambPlus sign up form's for the coming year, breeders who wish to sign up are encouraged to sign up before Lambing starts.
- ✚ Last year's LambPlus users are being called just as a reminder to start recording as lambing start's on farms. New web screens are up and running for users. Lambing Sheet's are being posted out to postal users.

7. Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 05/01/10 to 15/01/10

	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
CARLOW	2	69	35	24.0	4.11	3.52	1.83	651
CAVAN	12	398	33	19.2	4.21	3.40	1.46	437
CLARE								
CORK STH	33	1,918	58	23.7	3.92	3.60	1.78	417
CORK NTH	20	876	44	18.0	4.44	3.57	1.44	399
DONEGAL	3	123	41	22.1	4.24	3.62	1.74	369
DUBLIN	3	137	46	23.4	3.89	3.30	1.68	677
GALWAY	8	442	55	24.4	4.11	3.35	1.82	548
KERRY	7	330	47	15.5	4.11	3.44	1.17	531
KILDARE	11	586	53	21.5	4.21	3.44	1.64	666
KILKENNY	5	202	40	24.9	4.30	3.50	1.94	487
LAOIS	6	358	60	17.7	4.34	3.57	1.40	846
LEITRIM	4	145	36	24.6	3.87	3.25	1.75	506
LIMERICK	9	390	43	22.2	4.17	3.49	1.70	338
LONGFORD	3	139	46	20.3	4.28	3.52	1.58	339
LOUTH	11	853	78	27.3	3.91	3.49	2.02	540
MAYO	15	814	54	19.7	3.79	3.54	1.44	419

MEATH	26	2,262	87	21.5	3.94	3.41	1.58	524
MONAGHAN	6	231	39	17.7	4.15	3.49	1.35	500
OFFALY	1	27	27	20.9	4.22	3.47	1.61	708
ROSCOMMON	1	17	17	20.5	4.64	3.33	1.63	445
SLIGO	2	90	45	22.5	3.78	3.28	1.59	393
TIPPERARY NTH	4	105	26	9.8	4.31	3.74	0.79	604
TIPPERARY STH								
WATERFORD	4	262	66	22.1	4.49	3.65	1.80	458
WESTMEATH	1	131	131	28.4	4.84	3.36	2.33	492
WEXFORD	9	484	54	19.0	4.20	3.49	1.46	626
WICKLOW E	8	494	62	22.3	3.73	3.32	1.57	465
WICKLOW W	3	225	75	22.7	3.46	3.22	1.52	469
	<i>No. Herds Recorded</i>	<i>No. Cows Recorded</i>	<i>Average Herd Size</i>	<i>Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow</i>	<i>Average Fat %</i>	<i>Average Protein %</i>	<i>Average F + P kg</i>	<i>Average SCC</i>
National	217	12,108	52	21.3	4.14	3.46	1.62	513

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 05/01/10 to 15/01/10

Provincial	<i>No. Herds Recorded</i>	<i>No. Cows Recorded</i>	<i>Average Herd Size</i>	<i>Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow</i>	<i>Average Fat %</i>	<i>Average Protein %</i>	<i>Average F + P kg</i>	<i>Average SCC</i>
Munster	77	3,881	50	18.6	4.24	3.58	1.45	458
Leinster	89	5,967	67	22.6	4.06	3.43	1.69	576
Connacht	30	1,508	50	22.3	4.04	3.35	1.65	462
Ulster	21	752	36	19.7	4.20	3.50	1.51	435

Brian Wickham (PhD) Chief Executive, ICBF & Sheep Ireland, Highfield House, Shinagh, Bandon Co. Cork., Phone: +353 238 820 222, Mobile: +353 86 826 9911, Email bwickham@icbf.com,

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