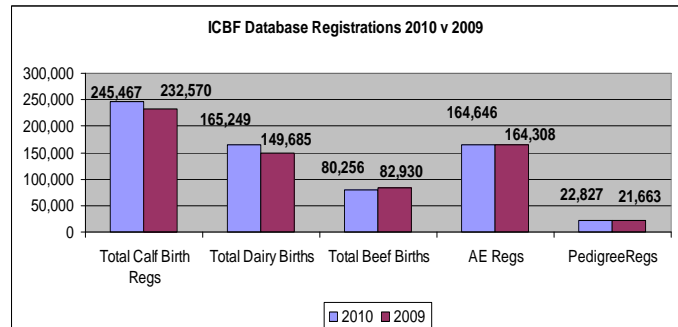
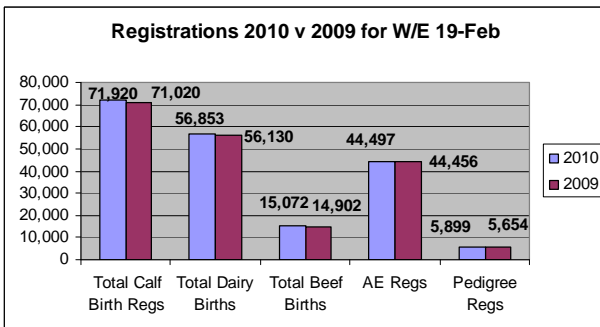


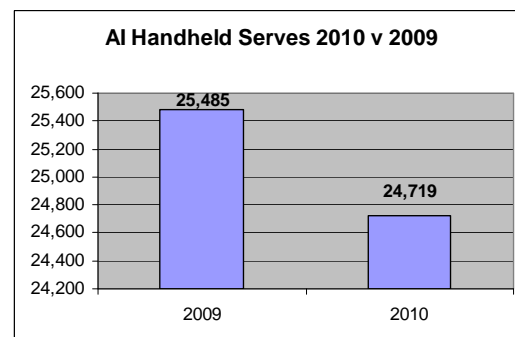
1. Important Dates

- ✚ **ICBF Board Meeting** – Thursday 25th February 2010, **10:00 to 14:00** – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Sheep Ireland Board Meeting** – Thursday 25th February 2010, **14:00 to 16:30** – Maldron Hotel, Portlaoise.
- ✚ **Interbull Breeding Industry Workshop** – Friday 5th March, Paris. This meeting is open to the cattle breeding industry. To get further details and to register follow the *Interbull* link on the International Representation page of our website (www.icbf.com).
- ✚ **ICBF Audit & Finance Sub Committee Meeting** – Thursday 25th March 2010, **10:00 to 14:00** – Horse & Jockey.
- ✚ **Sheep Breeding Consultation Meeting – Genetic Evaluations** – Wednesday 31st March 2010, **10:30 to 14:00** – Maldron Hotel, Postlaoise.
- ✚ **Tully Bull Sale** - Saturday 1st May 2010 **11:00 to 16:00** – Tully Performance Test Centre, Tully.

2. Database



- ✚ In the Suckler scheme, the number of 2009 born calves with meal introduced is 596,807 with the number of animals weaned at 503,366.
- ✚ All the Suckler Herds have had their Animal Events Notebooks and envelopes posted out. A complimentary Herdplus Beef Calving Report was included for all suckler participants.
- ✚ All four milk recording organisations continue to work well on the new Milk Recording system. The final release of changes was implemented last weekend.
- ✚ The final changes to facilitate the migration to the new Beef Linear evaluations continue to be worked on. It is expected that the final catalogue updates will be completed at the end of next week.
- ✚ The generation of the spring EBI reports and data for discussion group reports etc has been completed this week.
- ✚ The graph shows Inseminations recoded on AI Handhelds in 2010 compared with 2009.



3. GROW – Linear Scoring & Weight Recording

A meeting of the linear scorers was held on Thursday in Tully.

Some of the main issues which arose were:

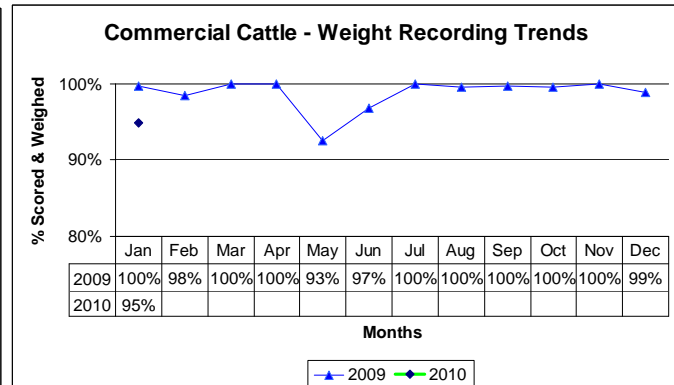
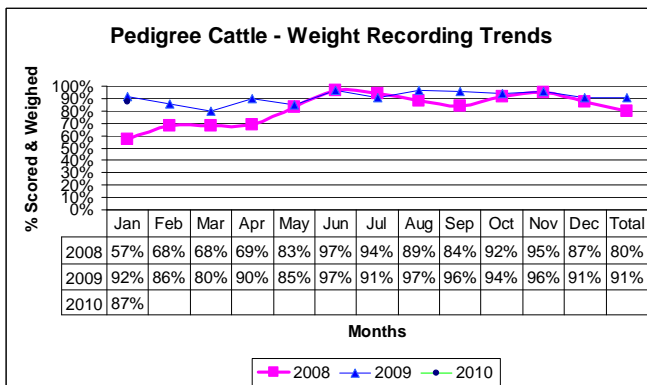
1. What needs to be done to increase the level of scoring in pedigree herds?
2. There is huge scope for increasing scoring in breeds that now have BLUPs which didn't have them before.
3. The number of commercials being scored is increasing strongly from GENÉIRÉLAND[®] beef herds.
4. More link up is needed between Breed Societies, Scorers and Tully.
5. A number of ways were identified for Linear Scorers to “Add Value” to the herd visit.

4. GENÉIRÉLAND[®]

Beef

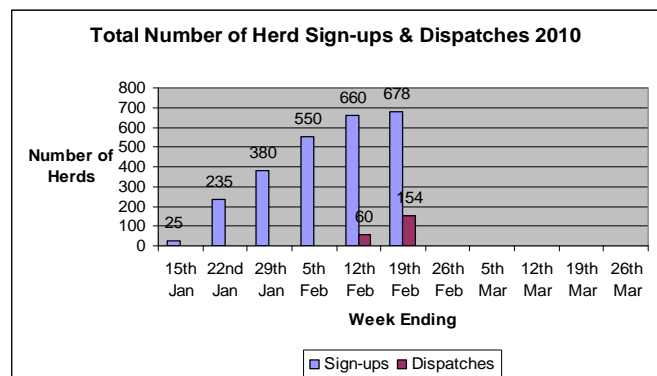
January Figures:

The tables show a slight dip in the level of weight recording compared to 2009.



Dairy

- Further recruitment of herds will not recommence until bull supply issues are alleviated.



5. Sheep Ireland

- ✚ LambPlus[®] presentation was given to the Galway Breed Society AGM last night (Thursday) in Athenry.
- ✚ LambPlus[®] breeders are entering Lambing data, also a few breeders have started to enter 40 Day weight results.
- ✚ The Growth report is further into development for LambPlus[®] breeders.
- ✚ New breeders will be getting access to the database for recording in the coming week.
- ✚ MALP ewes have now all been EID tagged.
- ✚ All MALP ewe DNA tissue has been sent to the lab for testing.
- ✚ Preparations are being made for lambing of the CPT flocks in early March.

6. Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ The active bull list for dairy is nearing completion and will be available next week. In addition a file of all available bulls will be made available.
- ✚ The beef linear scorers were briefed on changes to the evaluations at Tully on Thursday. An educational pack will be sent to each of the scorers and will be available for consultation with breeders on-farm. Niall Kilrane is taking over the running of the GROW[®] service and liaising with the scorers and will be dealing with linear scoring queries at farm level.
- ✚ The extra evaluation information on the bull search is almost complete and the bull search will be updated on Monday.

7. Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 09/02/10 to 19/02/10

	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	6	352	59	25.8	4.34	3.42	2.00	315
CAVAN	12	333	28	20.5	4.19	3.25	1.53	489
CLARE	1	65	65	37.8	3.92	3.19	2.69	318
CORK STH	163	7,556	46	23.2	4.24	3.31	1.75	434
CORK NTH	76	3,586	47	23.1	4.31	3.35	1.77	347
DONEGAL	4	484	121	17.6	4.46	3.37	1.38	439
DUBLIN	4	145	36	22.5	4.14	3.26	1.67	308
GALWAY	7	240	34	21.9	4.22	3.26	1.64	740
KERRY	27	1,296	48	22.0	4.07	3.27	1.61	488
KILDARE	21	1,167	56	23.7	4.31	3.35	1.82	512
KILKENNY	19	778	41	24.7	4.20	3.31	1.85	348
LAOIS	17	1,111	65	21.7	4.59	3.51	1.76	446
LEITRIM	3	106	35	19.1	4.01	3.37	1.41	600
LIMERICK	32	1,370	43	21.9	4.06	3.37	1.63	320
LONGFORD	2	137	69	21.5	4.38	3.37	1.67	455
LOUTH	12	939	78	26.2	4.04	3.41	1.95	378
MAYO	15	653	44	21.9	4.36	3.60	1.74	624
MEATH	43	2,986	69	22.8	4.16	3.37	1.72	509
MONAGHAN	10	343	34	23.3	4.09	3.31	1.72	434
OFFALY	12	608	51	21.2	4.17	3.27	1.58	478

ROSCOMMON								
SLIGO	4	136	34	22.9	3.90	3.26	1.64	555
TIPPERARY NTH	5	171	34	20.0	4.29	3.39	1.54	541
TIPPERARY STH	8	484	61	17.5	4.09	3.47	1.32	408
WATERFORD	18	1,269	71	24.3	4.44	3.34	1.89	295
WESTMEATH	2	53	27	23.8	4.23	3.23	1.78	437
WEXFORD	31	1,556	50	21.4	4.25	3.42	1.64	487
WICKLOW E	20	1,134	57	22.6	3.79	3.29	1.60	406
WICKLOW W	6	567	95	29.2	3.67	3.21	2.01	338
	<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	580	29,625	53	23.0	4.18	3.34	1.73	445

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 09/02/10 to 19/02/10

Provincial	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
Munster	327	16,751	51	23.7	4.18	3.34	1.78	381
Leinster	195	11,480	59	23.6	4.17	3.34	1.77	417
Connacht	30	1,619	54	21.5	4.12	3.37	1.61	626
Ulster	26	1,160	45	20.5	4.25	3.31	1.55	454

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