



UPDATE – for period 18th– 24th October 2008

1 Important Dates

- ✚ **Thursday 13th November** – ICBF Cattle Breeding Conference, Cork Mart Rathcormac. This major event is being sponsored by the FBD Trust. **Please note the change of date** (previously on 6th November).



2 ICBF Board Meeting

At the Board meeting on Thursday decisions taken included:

- ✚ To adopt the draft strategic plan, with some modifications, as the basis for formulating the ICBF budget for 2009.
- ✚ To support a formal approach to the Minister of Agriculture seeking DAFF approval of an ICBF website calf registration support service.
- ✚ To adopt the report on Genomic Selection and GENE IRELAND[®] presented to the Board. The report included:
 - A review of GENE IRELAND[®] 2005 to 2008.
 - Results of research commissioned by ICBF on the impact of genomic selection on the optimal breeding scheme design for dairy breeding in Ireland.
 - The impact of genomic selection on GENE IRELAND[®]
 - Plans for GENE IRELAND[®] and genomic selection in 2009.
 - Progress with Irish research on genomics.
 - Genomics & ICBF Genetic Evaluation services for 2009.

3 Interim Sheep Board Meeting

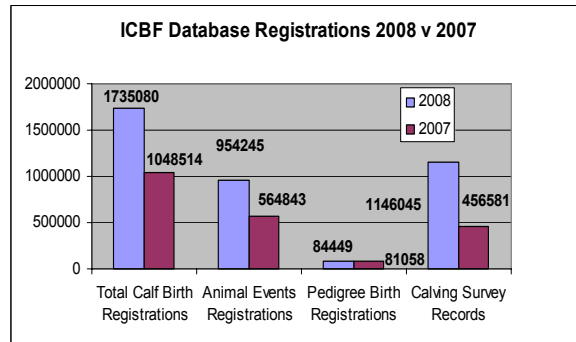
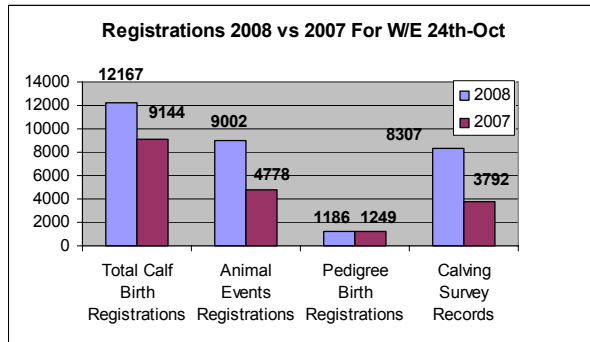
The outcome meeting of the Interim Sheep Board meeting on Thursday included:

- ✚ Signing of forms to register Sheep Ireland Limited and apply for recognition by Revenue as a charitable and thus tax exempt entity.
- ✚ A review of progress on the strategy agreed at the previous meeting identified major progress in:
 - *Animal Identification* - progress has been made toward modifications of the NSIS system to facilitate a single lifetime identification in flocks participating in Sheep Ireland services.
 - *Sheep Database* – the database structure has been created and loading of data will commence shortly.
 - *MALP* – a number of flocks have been recruited to participate in the MALP scheme.
 - *Cost Benefits* – the cost benefit study conducted by AbacusBio Ltd has been completed and adopted by the Board. The conclusions of the study shows a benefit to cost ratio of 3:1 with potential to reach 6:1, on the investment of €680,000 required over the initial 5 year period.
 - *Flock Books* – a meeting with Flock Books will be held shortly now that the issue of lifetime identification has been largely resolved.
- ✚ Recommendation 17 (dealing with the development of a permanent structure the pulls together and represents all interests) from the Strategy Project Team was adopted and the executive requested to develop a detailed proposal for consideration at a future meeting.





4 Database



- ✚ 506,084 inseminations have been received so far in 2008, compared with 356,304 in 2007 for the same period.
- ✚ The work on revamping the AI software for next season is continuing. Testing has continued, but has been slower than we would have liked. Munster AI will be the first company to go live on the new software.
- ✚ The number of calves with a meal feeding introduction has increased to 515,000, with just over 125,000 of these having been weaned.
- ✚ The new development work on the Bull Search output has been finalised and will be live next week.
- ✚ Next Wednesday, an upgrade of the web-server infrastructure will be completed. In order to complete the work, the website will be unavailable from 6pm-10pm on Wednesday 29th Oct.
- ✚ The revamp of the Milk Recording system continues. The 'back-end' work is now almost completed, and the focus will switch to the design of the screens for inputting and data correction.
- ✚ This week, work has begun on migrating the Sheep Performance system to the Sheep Ireland database.

5 GENE IRELAND[®]

Dairy



- ✚ Payments were made this week for the calvings associated with the Spring 2007 programme, which consisted of 7,376 progeny with calving ease records.
- ✚ First straws were dispatched for the Autumn 2008 programme. 38 herds now signed up.
- ✚ To date 764 test bull progeny from the Autumn 2007 programme have been registered on the database (370 female and 394 male).
- ✚ The first milk recordings are coming through for daughters of the Autumn 2005 test bull panel.

Beef

- ✚ There are now 2 Belgium Blue test bulls in the Autumn 2008 programme, with the addition of RSA (Ross A, SBV €141) last week.
- ✚ Another Limousin test bull has been added this week (RBU – Roundhill Botan 983, SBV €181). He has replaced FL24, which has now reached the target number of straws dispatched.

Genomic Selection

- ✚ As was mentioned last week, a final push is required to obtain straws from proven AI bulls used within Ireland for the purpose of Genotyping. Below is a list of the top 100 most used AI dairy bulls that we have yet to acquire, and for which there should be straws available. We would appreciate your assistance with this task. ([Please see file below](#))



6 Genetic Evaluations

- ✚ Work continues on the dairy and beef genetic evaluations which will have an anticipated release of proofs in the 2nd-3rd week of November.
- ✚ A meeting was held in Lelystad, The Netherlands on Tuesday in the Animal Sciences institute to discuss the possibility of using Italian EBVs from ANABORAPI in the Irish beef evaluation. The meeting was constructive and it is anticipated the results of this work will be incorporated in time for the first beef evaluation in 2009. Present at the meeting was Roel Veerkamp and Han Mulder from ID-Lelystad, Andrea Albera from ANABORAPI and Ross Evans from ICBF. The meeting coincided with a visit to Lelystad by Ross Evans to discuss enhancements to the use of foreign data for future evaluations.
- ✚ Francis Kearney gave a talk to Agricultural Science students in UCD on Thursday on dairy breeding objectives.

7 Milk Recording

National Milk Recording Results by County - 10 day Period 14/10/08 to 24/10/08

	<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>
CARLOW	13	722	56	18.9	4.13	3.75	1.49	266
CAVAN	32	1830	57	17.0	4.35	3.63	1.36	331
CLARE	45	2278	51	14.6	4.46	3.77	1.20	376
CORK STH	294	18075	61	16.1	4.46	3.84	1.34	279
CORK NTH	231	15135	66	16.5	4.41	3.81	1.36	320
DONEGAL	7	576	82	13.1	4.65	3.87	1.12	326
DUBLIN	3	126	42	23.0	4.08	3.46	1.73	498
GALWAY	32	2203	69	15.3	4.70	3.85	1.31	407
KERRY	140	8026	57	16.1	4.22	3.61	1.26	382
KILDARE	13	1144	88	22.2	4.31	3.61	1.76	411
KILKENNY	50	3725	75	14.0	4.37	3.80	1.14	300
LAOIS	32	2021	63	15.0	4.71	3.84	1.28	264
LEITRIM	3	156	52	15.6	4.18	3.48	1.19	319
LIMERICK	147	9375	64	15.4	4.29	3.67	1.23	349
LONGFORD	2	102	51	15.3	4.33	3.55	1.21	374
LOUTH	11	1017	92	30.9	3.89	3.35	2.24	221
MAYO	1	70	70	17.1	3.70	3.46	1.22	787
MEATH	41	3680	90	19.0	4.17	3.63	1.48	366
MONAGHAN	15	668	45	21.1	4.07	3.42	1.58	351
OFFALY	19	1227	65	15.1	4.22	3.70	1.20	358
ROSCOMMON	1	46	46	20.6	3.80	3.69	1.54	371
SLIGO	7	340	49	18.4	4.33	3.68	1.47	282
TIPPERARY NTH	57	4014	70	15.2	4.62	3.91	1.30	308
TIPPERARY STH	78	6012	77	14.8	4.47	3.81	1.23	272
WATERFORD	38	3531	93	15.6	4.72	4.02	1.36	279
WESTMEATH	15	1072	71	19.1	4.23	3.60	1.50	305
WEXFORD	49	3350	68	16.6	4.44	3.78	1.36	290
WICKLOW E	14	957	68	17.8	4.09	3.55	1.36	362
WICKLOW W	3	148	49	20.1	3.60	3.75	1.48	141



	No. Herds Recorded	No. Cows Recorded	Average Herd Size	Average 24hr Milk kg/Cow	Average Fat %	Average Protein %	Average F + P kg	Average SCC
National	1,393	91,626	65	17.6	4.28	3.69	1.40	341

National Milk Recording Averages by Province - 10 day Period 14/10/08 to 24/10/08.

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	1030	66,446	65	15.5	4.19	3.81	1.24	321
Leinster	265	19,291	73	19.0	4.09	3.64	1.47	320
Connacht	44	2,815	64	17.4	4.30	3.63	1.38	433
Ulster	54	3,074	57	17.1	4.71	3.64	1.43	336

National Milk Recording Statistics - Herds, Cows & EDIY 24/10/08

Milk Recording Organisation	Total Herds Recorded YTD 24/10/08	No. EDIY Herds YTD 24/10/08	% Herds EDIY	Total No. Cows Recorded YTD 24/10/08	No. EDIY Cows YTD 24/10/08	% Cows EDIY
Progressive	2,235	927	41%	181,794	72,980	40%
Dairygold	1,690	638	38%	124,331	48,740	39%
Kerry	1,159	247	21%	79,074	16,244	21%
SWS	914	133	15%	62,106	9,625	15%
Tipperary	171	72	42%	13,025	5,775	74%
Arrabawn	165	137	83%	12,830	10,827	84%
Connacht	159	69	43%	10,347	4,356	42%
Donegal	49	49	100%	4,787	4,787	100%
Total	6,542	2,272	35%	488,294	173,334	35%

Recorded Cows by Milk Recording Organisation - Year on Year Comparison

Milk Recording Organisation	YTD 2007 Cows Recorded 01/01/07 - 24/10/07	YTD 2008 Cows Recorded 01/01/08 - 24/10/08	2008 vs 2007 Year on Year Difference (%)
Progressive	172,013	181,794	5.4%
Dairygold	112,288	124,331	9.7%
Kerry	72,712	79,074	8.0%
SWS	61,893	62,106	0.3%
Tipperary	12,355	13,025	5.1%
Arrabawn	12,096	12,830	5.7%
Connacht	10,219	10,347	1.2%
Donegal	3,901	4,787	18.5%
Total	457,477	488,294	6.3%

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TOP 100 AI BULLS WANTED FOR GENOMIC SELECTION - 24 OCT 2008

AI Code	Internation ID	Name	AI Code	Internation ID	Name
AON	HOLNLDM000102562006	AMSWEER ORKAAN	MOC	HOLGBRM000000545012	MONAMORE MISTER MERIBUCK ET
ATH	HOLNZLM000000096242	ATHOL ENIGMA	MTK	HOLNLDM000137789003	MISTER KOKO
AXX	HOLNLDM000830500284	SHINAGH ALEX 135	MYT	HOLDEUM000578615627	MAJESTY
BEI	HOLIRLM331314410197	BALLINFAD BERTIE 3	NRD	HOLNLDM000861713628	NEWHOUSE REDOUTE
BFZ	HOLNLDM000816368978	BATENBURG FREDDIE ET	NWL	HOLNLDM000777430664	NEWHOUSE RONALD
BJN	HOLNLDM000835202929	BROEKS JOMAN	NWR	HOLNLDM000777434046	NEWHOUSE RAI
BMI	HOLNLDM000816368745	BATENBURG MILAN	PAW	HOLUSAM000002182318	PARKER AERO WADE ET
BWB	HOLUSAM000002155633	SFL BOOTPEG SW BELMONT ET	PBP	HOLUSAM000002151007	PAULOBRO PRODIGY
CAP	HOLGBRM000000549221	CRADENHILL ASTRO PREJET ET	QSG	HOLFRAM005991023330	QUIETCOVE SOUTHWIND GEMIDGE
CEZ	HOLUSAM000017129288	CANYON-BREEZE ALLEN	RCY	HOLNLDM000844814168	SHINAGH ROCKY 5
CHX	HOLGBRM000000553936	CRADENHILL LM SAMSON ET	RGK	HOLNLDM000189287319	RGK TAUS
CHZ	HOLGBRM000000551918	CRADENHILL STAR BRYAN ET	RMS	HOLUSAM000002141196	RICHRO MARK SAM
CIV	HOLNLDM000825558292	CHARTOISE VINCENT	RND	HOLUSAM000002251487	REGANCREST ELTON DANTE ET
CKS	HOLGBRM000000548711	CLASHDUVE KLAUS 2	S21	HOLUSAM000002271271	RICECREST EMERSON ET
CLR	HOLGBRM000000552460	CRADENHILL LM MAGIC ET	SAC	HOLUSAM000002287330	S-M-E MANDEL COCONUT
CMX	HOLCANM000006663935	COMESTAR LHEROS	SAV	HOLUSAM000017078742	SANDY VALLEY OLYMPUS
COA	HOLDEUM000101346146	GALTEE COMBAT ET	SBH	HOLNZLM000000096345	SRB BALLS HERITAGE
CPB	HOLGBRM000000570436	CRADENHILL PRO ROBIN ET	SGH	HOLITAM001308046686	SABBIONA GIGH
CPM	HOLITAM006001001962	CAROL PRELUDE MTOTO ET	SHB	HOLGBRM000000551572	SKEHANAGH BURY BARON
CRU	HOLGBRM000000569865	CRADENHILL TRUE BLUE ET	SHN	HOLCANM000005402550	SHOREMAR MILAN ET
CSZ	HOLUSAM000002156938	CHANCE SOUTHWIND LB ZACK ET	SIF	HOLNLDM000231655891	SULLY INFLUENCE MATTIE G
DCP	HOLUSAM000002234121	DUNCAN PROGRESS ET	SKJ	HOLNLDM000319203127	SETSKE JUPITER 3 ET
DHP	HOLNLDM000320397905	DOVEA HEIDEHIPPER 16	SPR	HOLNLDM000790784700	KILBANIVANE S PARTNER
DLB	HOLDEUM001021044209	DOVEA LEADBOY ET	SRR	HOLITAM000802016745	S FERMO AEROSTAR RAVEN
DME	HOLDEUM001021231446	DOVEA MANAGER ET	SRS	HOLITAM001309035736	DEL SANTO CORSARO
DNV	HOLNLDM000817118723	DELTA NOVALIS	SSA	HOLDEUM001015211012	SOUTHWIND SAMUEL ET
DNY	HOLGBRM000000552222	DOURNANE SUNNY BOY	SZI	HOLNZLM000000098303	SRC MACKENZIES KINLOCH
ELF	HOLNLDM000461674653	ETAZON LEAF	TNC	HOLCANM000005808350	COMESTAR TOP GUN ET
EMR	HOLNLDM000461892147	ETAZON MC RAY	VCM	HOLGBRM000000585261	DOVEA COSMO
EVI	HOLUSAM000002137657	EASTVIEW IMAGE ET	VWB	HOLGBRM000000548043	VIEWHOUSE BEAR
FET	HOLFRAM004490045166	FALERNE STAR	WAU	HOLNZLM000000099316	WAIJU EMINENCE LOTUS
FMK	HOLFRAM005990007465	FIRST MIKE	WRE	HOLNLDM000162173565	DOVEA WESTENRADE 2
FNC	HOLFRAM004490045330	FLACON STAR	WUD	HOLNLDM000213082196	WOUNDHOEVE DUNKER
FNS	HOLFRAM004490045140	FENEC STAR			
FOD	HOLFRAM006290021721	FLEETWOOD			
FPR	HOLNLDM000320856228	FL PROTEIN STAR			
GLE	HOLDEUM001021094994	GALTEE LEADMAN ET			
GPO	HOLUSAM000002182343	GELPRO			
GWD	HOLFRAM005991008249	GANWIND			
GWP	HOLNLDM000226927987	GENPOWER TOSS			
HLB	HOLNLDM000319578481	HOLWERDA BART 90			
HMA	HOLNLDM000110651329	HOLIM ALBERT			
HMV	HOLUSAM000002123419	HENKESEEN MARCI MARVELOUS			
HPM	HOLNLDM000776437936	HAVEP MARCONI			
HTB	HOLNLDM000864021315	HOL-STIENS BEST			
HTE	HOLNLDM000839403083	HSTIENS ESPRIT			
HTF	HOLNLDM000178602828	HSTIENS FOSTER			
INT	HOLFRAM005193406475	GALTEE INTEREST			
JTR	HOLUSAM000002162771	JUNIPER BSTAR ROCKET			
KBC	HOLNLDM000860122739	KILBANIVANE CURIOUS			
KPZ	HOLGBRM000000564159	KNOCKATUBBER PAPARAZZI ET			
KSD	HOLGBRM000000552900	KILGARRIFFE SOUTHWIND 7			
KWA	HOLNZLM000000663811	KAPAWAI LANCE DAVE			
LBT	HOLGBRM000000546411	LEAGH BERT			
LDZ	HOLNLDM000203822380	LORDMAN			
LGZ	HOLFRAM005112013652	LEGACY			
LLE	HOLDEUM001002435364	LEADMAN LITTI ET			
LLU	HOLGBRM000000545572	LEMRAE LINA STARBUCK ET			
LOV	HOLGBRM000000605094	DOVEA LORD ET			
LRF	HOLNLDM000319297050	LINDE ROELOF			
LRV	HOLGBRM000000562882	LYNBROOK RAVEN ET			
LTD	HOLUSAM000002137251	LANGSTWINELM DANDY			
LVS	HOLUSAM000002129064	LONGHAVEN SAMBO			
LYU	HOLCANM000006193092	LYSTEL LEDUC ET			
MIC	HOLCANM000006947936	COMESTAR STORMATIC			
MLZ	HOLUSAM000002289419	MILEY GILBERT			
MNN	HOLUSAM000002283989	MR MANHATTAN			