



icbf

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION
SOCIETY LIMITED (ICBF)


ANNUAL REPORT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2023

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ABOUT ICBF

ICBF is a not-for-profit, farmer-owned organisation established by the Government and industry to coordinate livestock breeding in Ireland. The ICBF manages one of the largest cattle breeding databases in the world. The open availability of our information and analysis allows AI providers, Milk Recording organisations, Herd Books, and other members to improve the performance of Ireland's dairy and beef herds.

ICBF continuously seeks ways to streamline the processes of providing the industry's most advanced genomic-enhanced selection tools. We are committed to keeping farmers at the forefront of this technology to ensure profitability and sustainability while driving efficiency across the national herd.

Our Vision

Economic, environmental and socially sustainable food production through collaboration and excellence in genetics and data solutions.

Our Mission

ICBF leads industry collaboration to advance sustainable farming and food production systems by improving genetic gain and providing collaborative, precision AgTech solutions powered by the ICBF database.

Our Strategic Goals

1. Optimise sustainable genetic gain in the national herd through national & international collaboration and service provision.
2. Be the national database for AgTech innovations and precision solutions in agri-food for the public good.
3. Grow Farmer & Industry engagement to advance sustainability in food production systems.
4. Continuously enhance our culture and our capacity to achieve organisational excellence.



SUMMARY OF 2023

ICBF exists to benefit our farmers, our agri-food industry and our communities through genetic gain. We do this through the delivery of high-value, low-cost services from the cattle breeding database by developing and applying science and technology to ensure our farmers and industry make the most profitable and sustainable decisions. The overall trends being delivered through genetic improvement continue to be very positive and are delivering real value for money for farmers and the overall industry.

We continue to focus on providing breeding infrastructure that facilitates improved integration, profitability and sustainability in beef and dairy.

In 2023, some of the major contributions ICBF made towards the profitability of farmers and the agri-food industry included:

- Ongoing increases in the genetic merit of our beef and dairy cattle population.
- The continued high usage of genomically selected (GS) bulls in dairy cattle breeding.
- The launch and delivery of phase one of the National Genotyping Programme.
- Delivery of year 1 of the Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme (SCEP) on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM).
- On-going participation in the HerdPlus service of more than 24,000 beef and dairy herds.
- Continuation of the Beef, Dairy and Dairy Beef Gene Ireland Programmes.
- Tully Progeny Test Centre continues to provide crucial data as part of its role as a performance test centre for commercial cattle.
- Updates to the Dairy Beef Index to include new traits and a Carbon Sub Index.
- Publication of Methane Evaluations, a world first.
- Launch of AgNav a collaborative project developed by Bord Bia, ICBF and Teagasc.
- A record breaking 3.5 million genotypes in the ICBF database.
- Launch of weekly Beef Genomic Evaluations.
- Development and delivery of Nitrates Banding screens on behalf of DAFM.
- Improvements to Sire Advice including the ability to select for sexed semen and beef bulls.
- Commercial Beef Value live on mart boards for genotyped animals.
- Development of new HerdPlus Reports and Profiles such as the Dairy Beef Scorecard and the Finishing Profile.



The Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme (SCEP) has continued to increase the data recording on beef cattle, including new cow and calf traits, genotyping and weighing. This data will enable further progress in developing our genetic evaluations for traits relevant to beef cattle in Ireland.

In 2023, beef genetic evaluations for calving, docility, direct weaning weight, carcass, maternal milk and female fertility benefited significantly from the extra data collected through DAFM schemes and data received from various other sources. As beef and dairy breeding decisions are increasingly based on genetic evaluations, the opportunity for increased profitability of beef and dairy farming is being advanced.

The ICBF cattle breeding database continues improving the scope of beef and dairy genetic evaluations. As in previous years, 2023 saw the AI companies purchasing Irish-bred dairy and beef bulls for subsequent progeny testing through the relevant G€N€ IR€LAND programmes. They also continued to facilitate the widespread use of GS bulls at a young age. The Irish dairy and beef industry is benefiting from rapid genetic gain, giving rise to more productive, fertile, and robust cows.

Our research has shown that those herds who are fully engaged across the range of cattle breeding services are more profitable.

Thus, ICBF continues to focus on increasing farmer uptake of recording and breeding services that give them the greatest economic returns. The focus on how this will be done is through greater engagement with the service providers and industry stakeholders.

ICBF's development effort is increasingly focused on streamlining the flow of data from all sources, while improving the quality of the information returned to farms.

Initiatives with industry partners are being undertaken to use the ICBF database to provide better quality information to improve decision-making at farm, service providers, and industry, research and breeder levels.

Thanks to continued strong support from DAFM, the tag contribution from farmers, and robust service income from our service providing partners, ICBF ended the year with a financial surplus.

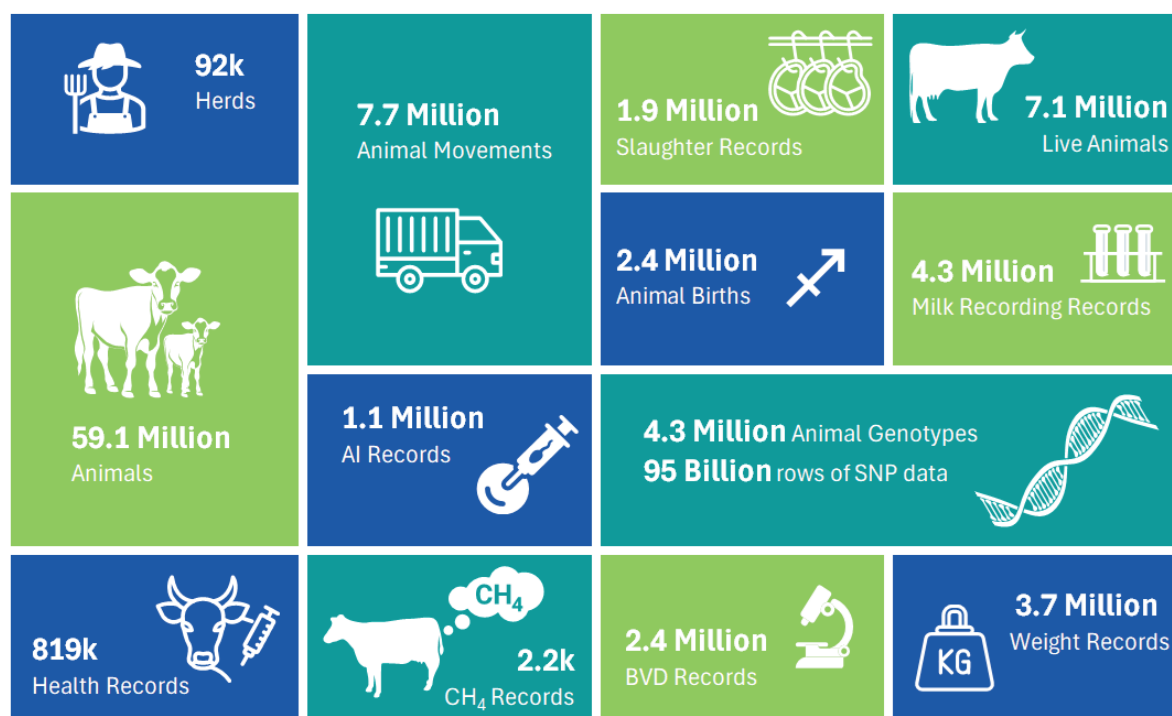


Figure 1. Database Figures.

GENOMICS

GENOMIC SERVICES

Cattle breeding continues to transform as a result of the use of genomics. This technology places Ireland at the forefront of international cattle breeding developments.

A number of key factors have enabled Ireland to lead in the exploitation of genomic technology.

- Large volumes of phenotypic data on large numbers of animals are available in the ICBF database.
- Having access to highly skilled and well-motivated technical staff in both ICBF and Teagasc.
- Partnerships with international collaborators that are providing access to knowledge, technology and research material.
- The creation of one of the world’s biggest genomic and phenotypic data databases.
- Access to the ICBF database and genetic evaluation system to support the research and, roll out subsequent genomic services to the industry.
- Beef and dairy farmers who are convinced of the merits of the EBI and Eurostar Indexes respectively and use them as the main basis for selecting AI sires and stock bulls.
- A forward looking AI breeding industry that responds quickly to the availability of new evaluation models and breeding technology and is willing to invest to help them better meet the needs of Irish farmers.

ICBF continues to develop the infrastructure to enable the Irish cattle breeding industry to fully exploit the benefits of genomic information while at the same time minimising costs. Many farmers now see the genotyping of young stock as a routine part of running their enterprise.

DARIY & BEEF GENOMICS

2023 saw the on-going roll-out of genomic selection for dairy and beef cattle.

As a result the increased uptake in genotyping and phase one of the National Genotyping Programme, in 2023, the ICBF database held more than 3.5 million genotypes.

The launch of the Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme by DAFM ensures the continuation of high levels of beef genotyping.

Schemes such as NGP and SCEP are large contributors to the genetic progress being made on the National Herd’s breeding indices.

NATIONAL GENOTYPING PROGRAMME



The National Genotyping Programme (NGP) is a collaborative initiative enabling Ireland to take the first step in achieving a fully genotyped national herd. The first of its kind internationally.

Based on a cost-sharing model between the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine, the beef & dairy industry & participating farmers.

Genotyping the national herd provides a huge opportunity for both the Dairy and Beef industry accelerate in the rates of gain of our national breeding indexes (e.g. EBI, Eurostar & DBI), which will enhance farm sustainability & reduce carbon emissions.

The ultimate goal is to have every calf genotyped at birth.

Number of animals Genotyped	Animal Category
220,645	Dairy Heifers
402,327	Dairy Cows
63,344	Beef Heifers
17,053	Beef Cows

Figure 2. Number of animals genotyped through the NGP in 2023 by category.

GENETIC EVALUATIONS

Our overall goal is to ensure the availability of accurate genetic evaluations for all traits, breeds and animals of significance to Irish cattle farmers.

Our strategy for traits common to beef and dairy is to research, develop, implement, and continuously improve across-breed evaluations that optimally use all national and international data relevant to calving, fertility, survival, beef production, and suckler-cow maternal traits.

Having started in 2005, across breed genetic evaluations for a wide range of calving and beef traits are routinely provided to the Irish cattle breeding industry.

These evaluations enable animals of all breeds (beef and dairy) to be compared with each other for many traits including direct and maternal calving ease, gestation length, calf mortality, carcass weight, carcass grade, carcass fat score and mature cow live weight.

We also now have evaluations for TB and Liverfluke, along with Meat Eating Quality evaluations.

DAIRY EVALUATIONS

Our goal for the dairy herd is to continuously enhance the accuracy and relevance of the Economic Breeding Index (EBI) as a guide for breeding dairy replacements. We also strive to regularly improve genetic evaluations for all current traits and introduce new traits as research allows.

Methodology improvements were implemented to the EBI in the November 2023 evaluation.

- Single-Step calving evaluation
- Reduction of bias in genomic for fertility

In line with international best practice, the single-step evaluation method has been applied to the calving evaluation which improves the accuracy of the evaluation.

DAIRY BEEF INDEX

The evaluation published in January 2023 saw a suite of updates incorporated into the Dairy Beef Index (DBI). These changes are a continuation of updates that were made to the EBI in 2022.

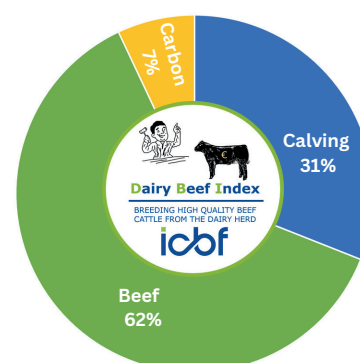


Figure 3. The relative emphasis of the Dairy Beef Index including the Carbon SI.

As a result of these changes, most animals have increased their DBI by on average €30. This can be attributed mostly to the changes in the Beef Sub-Index. The correlation in DBI between the Jan evaluation and the previous evaluations in 2022 is very high at 0.96. The changes included:

Updates to the Beef Sub-Index

- Updated economic values
- New Trait: Age at Slaughter
- New Trait: 'In-Spec'

Inclusion of a Carbon Sub-Index

Traits included in the DBI Carbon Sub Index:

- Gestation
- Carcass weight
- Age at Slaughter

COMMERCIAL BEEF VALUE

The CBV is a euro value placed on an animal's overall genetic merit for the traits of importance to a drystock enterprise. The CBV went live on mart boards in March 2023 for genotyped animals.

Traits similar to that of the DBI were also added in January 2023.

BEEF EVALUATIONS

In 2023, the ICBF board, in collaboration with Teagasc and industry stakeholders, approved the implementation of improvements to both the Terminal and Replacement beef indices. These changes, based on industry feedback and international best practices, were the result of several years of collaborative research and consultation with a focus group, reflecting our shared commitment to the industry's growth and sustainability.

The last review of beef breeding indexes in Ireland occurred in 2015, with relative emphasis on individual traits being derived by Teagasc.

However, due to the ongoing Beef Data and Genomics Programme (BDGP), the indexes were not updated despite obvious changes in output prices and costs of production. The recent changes, approved by the ICBF board, are a necessary step to adapt to these changes and ensure the industry's continued growth and profitability.

These changes have been implemented along with the commencement of the Suckler Carbon Efficiency Programme (SCEP). The fundamental improvements to the genetic evaluations include:

- Updates to the weights on individual traits to better reflect the markets.
- Inclusion of Carbon to future-proof our breeding policy.
- Inclusion of new traits to better reflect the changing landscape.
- Improved methodology in how animals are genetically evaluated.

Breeding indexes globally are regularly updated to reflect the changes in output prices and costs of production. The updates to the economic values for all traits in both the Terminal and Replacement indexes better represent the longer-term outlook on the industry as a whole.

METHANE EVALUATIONS

Methane evaluations were published on the ICBF website in April, 2023. Once again, the Irish agricultural industry is



leading the way by publishing the first enteric methane across breed evaluations on AI sires with phenotyped commercial progeny destined for slaughter.

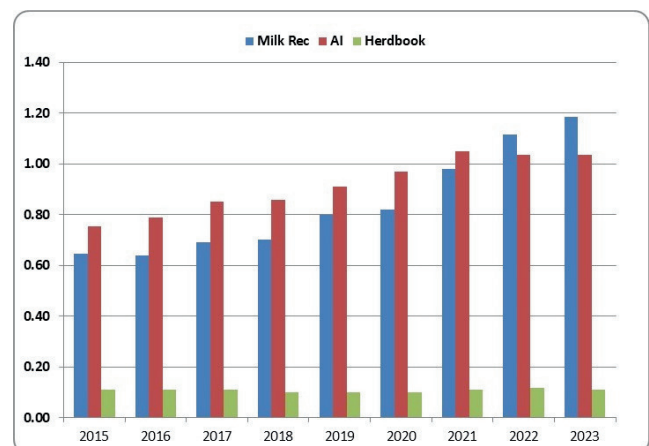
The generation of Methane Evaluations comes as a direct result of the collaborative effort between ICBF, DAFM and Teagasc through innovative projects such as GREENBREED, RumenPredict and MASTER and funding from the Irish Research Council.

Work is now focusing on collaboration with other research entities to scale up the recording of this trait and to cover more systems of production such as grass-based diets and lactating cows. With the further accumulation of records, Methane PTA's will become available for genotyped animals. Methods on how best to include a methane trait in the dairy (EBI), dairy-beef (DBI) and beef (Terminal and Replacement indices) are currently being developed.

This global first, evaluation for individual animal methane emissions in a multi-breed population of growing animals complements the other breeding strategies developed in the like of the Carbon sub-index.

CATTLE BREEDING SERVICES

The level of participation in cattle breeding services continues to grow. This firstly benefits herd owners who are now using breeding stock that give greater farm profitability. It is also providing a substantial benefit to ICBF's members who are enjoying increased service uptake, with the benefits that an integrated database brings. This in turn provides valuable data and service income to ICBF.



7 Figure 4. Cattle breeding service participation 2016-2026 (millions).

SERVICES TO HERD BOOKS

There was on-going development in relation to the Herdbook processing service in 2023.

The progression towards the genotyping of all Herdbook registered animals continues, with a number of Herdbooks now genotyping all pedigree males as well as any first calved pedigree females.

The various Herdbooks played a significant role in the promotion and uptake of the NGP in 2023.

MILK RECORDING

In 2023, the uptake of milk recording was ahead of 2022. Milk recording levels were at 1.2 million cows (across 10,000 herds).

ICBF's strategy is to work closely with its milk recording members to make full use of new technology, reduce labour, reduce inconvenience for farmers and reduce the cost of recording.

Our long term goal is to help the service providers increase usage of milk recording to all dairy herds.

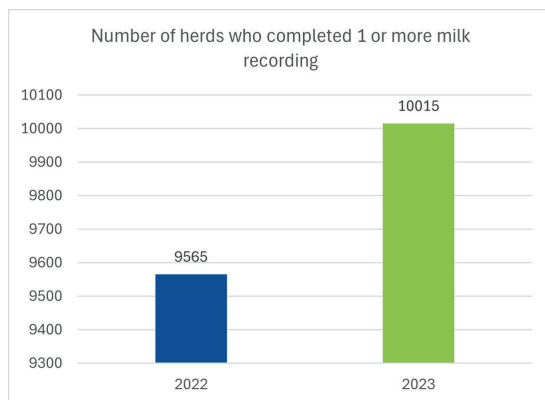


Figure 5. Number of herd who completed 1 or more milk recordings 2022 vs 2023

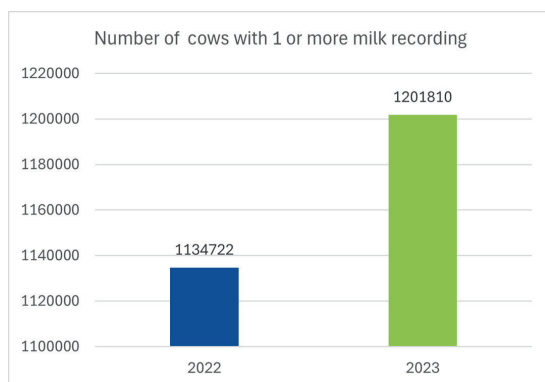


Figure 6. Number of herd who completed 1 or more milk recordings 2022 vs 2023

The Milk Recording App that recorders use on farm continues to help in removing paper, reducing errors and reducing turnaround times in the process.

ELECTRONIC DATA FROM FARMS

We work closely with service-providing members to expand farmer electronic data recording by introducing new recording systems and integrating data from electronic systems at farm level to the ICBF database.

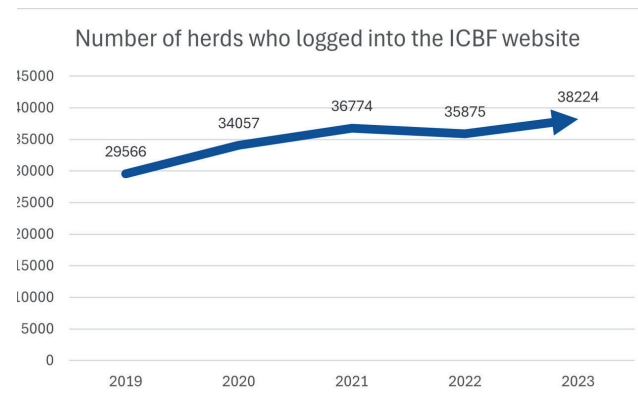


Figure 7. Number of herds who logged into the ICBF website 2019-2023

Engagement with the ICBF website continues to grow with more than 38 thousand herds logging to the HerdPlus service in 2023.

DATA FROM AI TECHNICIANS

In 2023, 1,038,448 beef and dairy inseminations were recorded through the AI handheld application. 107,676 were sexed semen serves.

This system eliminates delays due to processing dockets while at the same time providing farmers with real-time information for mating decisions. The facility for avoiding inbred matings continues to be particularly useful.

There has been a big shift towards dairy farmers opting to use beef in the dairy herd from the start of the breeding season. 2023 saw about 80k less dairy serves.

Year	Bull Type	AI Inseminations	Dairy Cows
2022	Dairy Sire	916,298	762,791
2023	Dairy Sire	834,286	714,996
2022	Beef Sire	459,437	343,215
2023	Beef Sire	571,415	423,826

8 Figure 8. Number of inseminations on dairy cows by bull type 2022 vs 2023

CATTLE BREEDING SERVICES

SUPPORTING HEALTH & DISEASE SERVICES

Our strategy is to extend the genetic indices to include a greater focus on the Animal Health and Welfare traits. This has become an area of increasing focus for ICBF and our service providers as we move towards better evaluations for all 'Cost of Production' traits.

Our relationship with Animal Health Ireland continues to be successful in delivering value for the Irish industry.

In 2023 this included the provision by ICBF of the key information system infrastructure for the AHI National Programmes.

HERDPLUS SERVICE

The HerdPlus service is built around genetic evaluations and reproduction information on a whole-herd basis. By focusing on the needs of farmers, ICBF has been able to design, build and market a service that beef and dairy farmers are finding excellent value for money.

The HerdPlus service continues to enable ICBF to save on costs associated with providing information (e.g. index profiles, breeding charts, and trend reports etc) to farmers.

The information available to farmers is designed to aid in making more informed management decisions to subsequently increase profits and ensure sustainability.

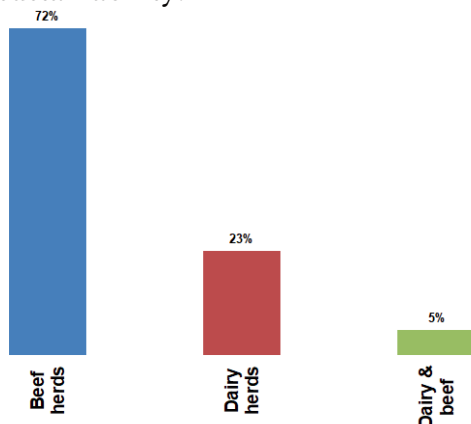


Figure 9. % of 2023 HerdPlus memberships by category.

ICBF HERDPLUS APP



The new and improved ICBF HerdPlus App was launched in 2023. The app has new features and improvements, making it more user friendly for farmers.

The app allows farmers to track the status of calves submitted for the NGP, view profiles and record events. The app works on Android and iOS devices (tablets and phones) and is free to download.

Additional features and developments will continue to be added in 2024.

SIRE ADVICE



Sire Advice plays a pivotal role in the bull selection process for Irish dairy farmers. The application ensures that optimum matings occur leaving the best economic returns in the future.

The service, first introduced in spring 2007, has been progressively enhanced on the basis of farmer feedback. 2023 saw the addition of a new Sexed Semen feature. Sire advice is available to all dairy HerdPlus users and allows farmers to:

- Select a team of bulls based their breeding objectives.
- Ensure the the best matings to maximise the genetic gain in the herd.
- Eliminate any inbreeding risk.
- Upload all matings to technician's handheld.

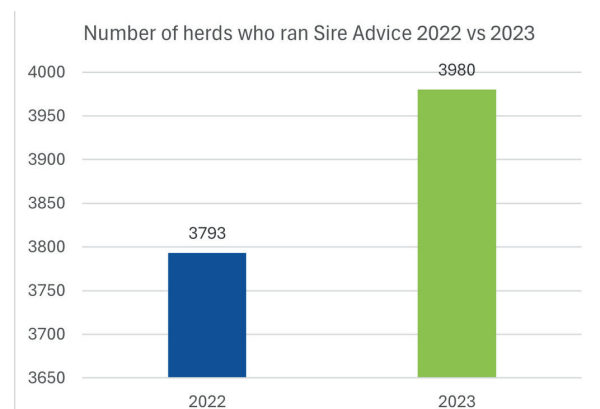


Figure 10. Sire Advice usage 2022 vs 2023.

NITRATES BANDING

In 2023, ICBF developed a new Nitrates Banding screen in conjunction with the DAFM. This screen was made available to ALL dairy farmers. The screen allows dairy farmers to determine which milk kgs/cow band their herd falls into for the purpose of nitrates requirements.

In 2023, 14,849 dairy farmers submitted their milk kgs cow band via ICBF.

ADVISORY SUPPORT SERVICE

ICBF provides an information service to Teagasc advisors, private advisors, ICBF service providers and Veterinarians.

The service gives advisors access to herd reports (with herd owners' permission) along with discussion group information and analyses of herd performance statistics. This service reduces the amount of time advisors need to spend on gathering and analysing data, thus freeing up time for focusing on farm management decisions.

MILK PROCESSORS

The Coop Performance Report, which has been developed in partnership with milk processors, maintained its popularity in 2023. It continues to be the most viewed report and profile on HerdPlus. This service makes use of data held in the respective databases (ICBF and processor) to provide herd owners with information that allows them to assess the performance of their herd on a number of key performance indicators.

In 2023, ICBF began collaborative work with milk processors to develop the breeding element and development of screens for various sustainability programmes. This service will be offered to all milk processors who wish to avail of it over the coming months.

AGNAV



Bord Bia, Teagasc and ICBF are collaborating to create AgNav, a farmer-centric sustainability support framework which utilises the three agencies' collective knowledge, data, support tools and other resources, to enable delivery against Climate Action Plan targets for the agri sector.

In 2023 AgNav was trialled with a number and Teagasc advisors and Signpost demonstration farms.

BREEDING SCHEMES

ICBF's aim is to ensure that the cattle breeding industry achieves optimal economic returns for Irish beef and dairy farmers. This requires a clear understanding of both optimal breeding scheme design and the currently operating design for each breed of cattle in Ireland.

Further, it implies that ICBF will seek to ensure the industry moves towards the optimal design. This approach is most advanced for the Holstein Friesian breed, and huge credit must go to the indigenous AI companies and the IHFA for their proactive approach to date, particularly in the area of genotyping.

G€N€ IR€LAND PROGENY TEST PROGRAMMES

Our strategy is to work closely with NCBC, Dovea, Eurogene and other AI organisations to provide support for bull selection and progeny testing, in tightly targeted herds, in order to achieve the optimal design for dairy and beef breeds in Ireland.

In 2005 and 2007 respectively the dairy and beef, G€N€ IR€LAND progeny test schemes were launched in collaboration with the AI industry. The number of bulls progeny tested and herds participating remains strong.

Genomics has led to a stabilising in the overall numbers of bulls being tested.

To date, over 1,000 bulls have been tested through Dairy Gene Ireland, with over 450,000 straws distributed across several thousand herds.

The on-going collection of data is vital for the accuracy of genetic and genomic evaluations for dairy bulls.

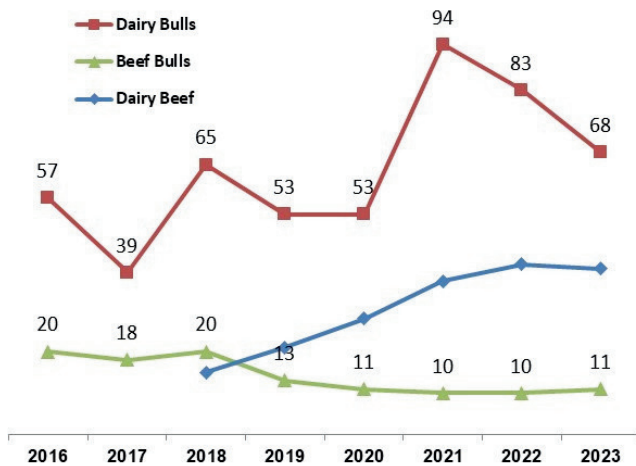


Figure 11. Number of bulls tested in GENE IRELAND dairy and beef progeny test programmes 2016-2023.

Today, over 95% of sires tested through the programme are Irish bred.

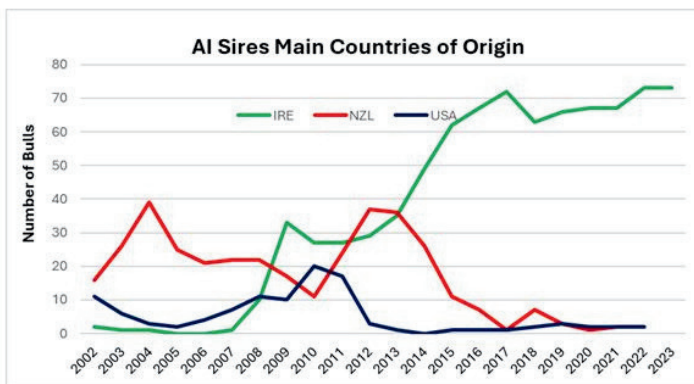


Figure 12. AI Sires main countries of origin 2002 to 2023.

GENETIC GAIN - DAIRY

A strong rate of genetic gain seen in the early years has been maintained due to the continued use of genomic selection.

The net impact on the future national dairy herd is improved profitability from increased milk production (increased protein, increased fat and no increase in water), and improved fertility (shorter calving intervals) from more robust cows (greater survival).

The enhanced trends are directly attributable to the ICBF's initiatives. These trends showcase the collaboration with industry and how we are fulfilling our objective to accelerate genetic progress in Irish dairy cattle.

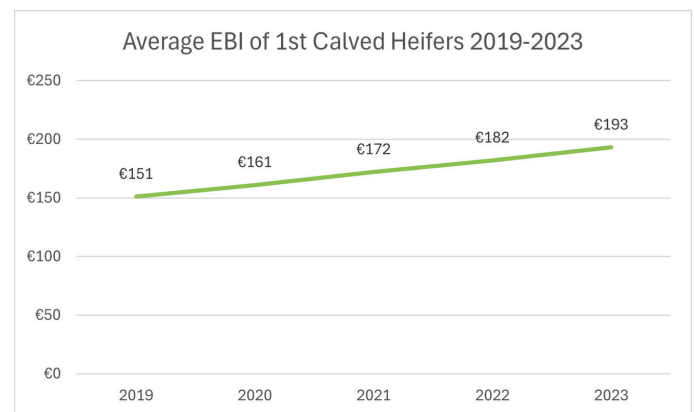


Figure 13. Average EBI of 1st calved heifers 2019 to 2023.

icbf 2023 Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) broken down by Herd EBI							
KPI Metric	No EBI	Btm 20%	20-40%	40-60%	60-80%	Top 20%	Average
Average EBI	-	€117	€160	€181	€201	€231	€178
Num. of Creamery Herds	2,781	2,268	2,267	2,268	2,267	2,267	14,118
Num. of Dairy Cows	73	80	83	101	119	146	99
% Herds Milk Recording	38%	53%	56%	68%	81%	93%	64%
% Herds in HerdPlus	17%	42%	50%	67%	87%	99%	59%
Milk Litres per Cow	4,589	5,018	4,896	5,140	5,322	5,501	5,060
Butterfat %	4.13	4.12	4.21	4.28	4.36	4.45	4.26
Protein %	3.43	3.41	3.48	3.52	3.57	3.63	3.50
Kgs Milk Solids / Cow	357	388	387	413	434	457	404
SCC	244	213	217	196	170	153	200
Milk Price (cpl)	40.46	40.84	41.54	42.38	43.11	44.09	42.01
Six-Week Calving Rate	62	60	64	69	75	81	68
Calving Interval (days)	395	398	390	380	373	369	384
AI Bred Replacements %	13	45	55	68	83	92	58
Replacement Rate %	17.3	18.1	17.9	20.1	21.7	22.2	19.5
Average Parity	3.96	3.87	3.95	3.80	3.64	3.61	3.81
Kg CO2 / Kg FPCM	0.983	0.942	0.930	0.905	0.886	0.849	0.918

Figure 14. 2023 Key Performance Indicators broken down by herd EBI

BEEF GENE IRELAND

The purpose of the Beef Gene Ireland programme is to progeny test young high-index bulls and provide Irish suckler farmers with proven high-index bulls as quickly as possible.

Increasingly, these young Irish bulls have been identified via the ICBF database. By progeny testing these bulls, we can prove their indexes and confirm their genetic merit which allows the stakeholders of GI (breed societies, AI Companies and breeders) to optimise future breeding programmes with elite proven sires at the base.

The Beef Gene Ireland programme continues to make progress. In 2023, a total of 5,473 straws were dispatched across 361 herds.

	2021	2022	2023
No. herds involved	340	352	361
No. straws dispatched	5,320	6,064	5,473
No. straws per herd	16	17	15
Bull equivalents tested	10.6	12	11
Avg. Replacement Index	€146	€149	€152

Figure 15. Beef Gene Ireland analysis 2021 to 2023.

The AI companies in consultation with the breed societies, now take on the role of purchasing the bulls put forward for the Gene Ireland Programme.

In 2023, a variety of breeds were made available on both the Replacement and Terminal Index across the Spring and Autumn Programme. These breeds included Aberdeen Angus, Belgian Blue, Charolais, Hereford, Limousin and Simmental.

DAIRY BEEF GENE IRELAND

The Dairy Beef Gene Ireland also continues to go from strength to strength. In 2023, a total of 20,155 straws were dispatched across 561 herds with an average of 36 straws per herd.

	2021	2022	2023
No. herds involved	525	588	561
No. straws dispatched	18,664	21,106	20,155
No. straws per herd	35	36	36
Bull equivalents tested	37	42	40
Avg. Dairy Beef Index	€72	€93	€134

Figure 16. Dairy Beef Gene Ireland analysis 2021 to 2023.

The testing of Dairy Beef Bulls will continue to grow as the role of beef from the dairy herd increases in importance.

GENETIC GAIN BEEF

Genetic progress continues to be made in the National suckler herd. Despite some controversy around the updates to the beef indices in November, 2023, farmers can and will continue to make genetic progress with their breed of choice.

On the Terminal index (breeding animals for finishing), the changes will help drive:

- Easier calvings
- Shorter gestations
- Less calf mortality
- Heavier carcasses, with better conformation
- Earlier finishing age
- Less feed intake
- Improved TB resistance

Since the updates, continental breeds continue to be the most desirable on the Terminal index.

On the Replacement index (breeding heifers for replacements), the changes will help drive:

- Easier calvings
- Shorter gestations
- Less calf mortality
- Earlier finishing age
- Less feed intake
- Improved TB resistance
- More fertile cows
- Slightly lighter cows

Since the updates, Aberdeen Angus, Limousin and Simmental remain as the top 3 breeds on the Replacement index.

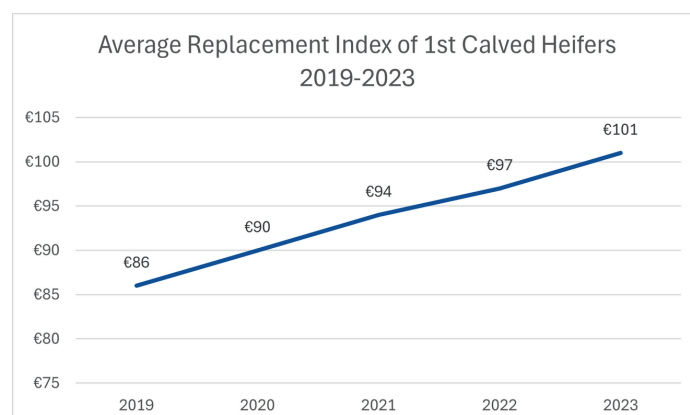


Figure 17. Average Replacement Index of 1st calved heifers 2019-2023.

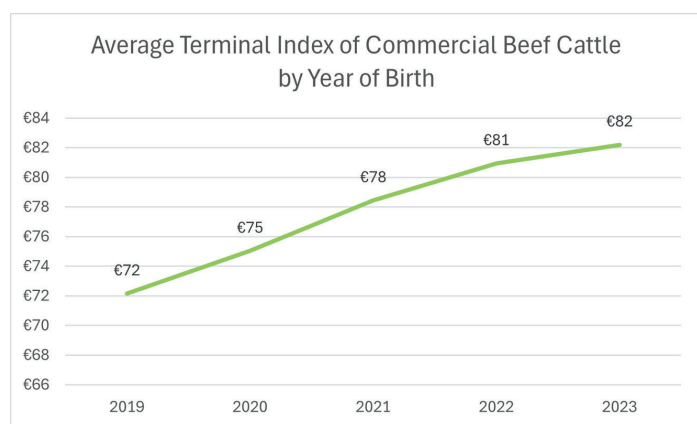


Figure 18. Average Terminal Index of Commercial Beef Cattle by Year of Birth

The ongoing work and data recording at Tully has proven to be a very worthwhile exercise with excellent cooperation between ICBF, Teagasc, and the meat processors to ensure that the maximum amount of data is captured from those animals.

MTI has a number of elements that ICBF are centrally involved in, especially in relation to Tully and the work we do with Meat Eating Quality and Methane Data collection.

The future role of Tully is also an integral element of G€N€ IRELAND.

TULLY

The role of Tully continues to evolve and provide extremely valuable data to the industry.

Data on traits used in €uro-Star indexes such as feed intake and growth rate is collected on progeny test cattle at Tully.

Difficult to measure traits such as meat-eating quality and GHG emissions, are also evaluated. 2023 saw further additions of methane measurement systems on site.

Methane data collected on animals from the same breed is showing a variation of 17% per kilo of liveweight produced.



Trait	Unit	Heifers	Steers	Young Bulls
Number of cattle	Count	111	342	89
Start Test Liveweight	kg	459	501	518
End Test Liveweight	kg	553	594	644
Average Daily Gain	kg/day	1.43	1.43	1.94
Dry Matter Intake	kg/day	11.78	12.86	12.04
Feed Conversion Ratio	kg/kg	8.4	9.4	6.5
Age at Slaughter	Months	18	24	16
Carcass Weight	kg	283	296	371
Carcass Conformation	EUROP	R-	O-	U-
Carcass Fat	1-5 scale	3=	3=	2+
Kill-out	%	51.2	49.7	57.6

Figure 19. The average performance of cattle finished in 2023 from Tully.

RESOURCES

ICBF is using a number of resources in pursuit of its mission. These include:

People: ICBF is fortunate to have a growing group of highly skilled, energetic, and committed people who, in 2023, made a huge effort to deliver ongoing value to Irish Farmers and the wider industry.

Tully: The Bull Performance Test Centre at Tully, Co. Kildare, is leased from DAFM. These facilities capture strategically important profitability and carbon footprint data for the industry and have benefited from significant investment in new feed bins and methane measurement facilities from Cattle Breeding Infrastructure Funds.

Offices: In 2023, ICBF continued to work and host industry meetings in our main offices in Ballincollig on the west side of Cork City.

IT Infrastructure: ICBF's database runs on computers located in Ballincollig, with back-ups in the cloud. The ICBF database is constantly undergoing development and upgrades in order to keep on top of the ever growing requirements associated with increased volumes of data, especially in the era of genomics and big data.

EDIY Calibration Laboratory: This laboratory, located in Bandon, houses specialist equipment, which is used to ensure the EDIY electronic milk meters used by the industry are performing according to specification.

INTERNATIONAL

ICBF maintains a number of important international linkages including:

- Providing leadership for the development of international beef genetic evaluations through the ICAR Interbeef Working Group,
- Participation in international research forums including ICAR and Interbull, and

- Participation in international research collaborations including the European Wide EEIG spectral data project.

This international network enables ICBF to keep up to date with scientific developments relevant to Irish cattle breeding.

SUPPORT

ICBF wishes to acknowledge and express its appreciation for the support and co-operation received from a large number of individuals and organisations. The relationships we have with the cattle breeding service providers are crucially important in delivering the benefits at farm level. The collaborative nature of ICBF's activities depends to a large extent on the goodwill of its membership, the wider agricultural community and cattle farmers.

The leadership and support provided by DAFM has been a key to the success of ICBF. DAFM has long recognised the value that can be created through the availability of a well-integrated cattle breeding database.

The financial support provided through the Cattle Breeding Infrastructure Funds towards the creation of an efficient cattle breeding infrastructure is now delivering benefits to farmers, to the cattle breeding industry and to the wider community.

We wish to acknowledge this support and express our appreciation for the leadership and vision that DAFM provides to our industry and cattle breeding in particular.



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

FUTURE PROSPECTS

2023 has been a year where we have continued to exploit the new cattle breeding technologies for the benefit of Irish farmers. Our strategic plan has us focused on meeting the very real challenges ahead in keeping up with the world's best in terms of the use of data and technology.

However, the key to ICBF's success remains the same - the application of good science, a focus on the needs of farmers, working closely with our stakeholders and a 100% commitment to delivery by our talented and dedicated team.

We are most fortunate to operate in an environment where ICBF's vision is shared by our Board, our members, DAFM, industry and, most importantly, Irish farmers.

Sean Coughlan

Michael Doran

.....

.....

Chief Executive

Chairman





IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION
SOCIETY LIMITED (ICBF)

Financial Statements for the year ended
31 December 2023

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 December 2023

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IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

SOCIETY INFORMATION

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Mr. M. Doran (Chairman)	Mr. P. Kelly
Mr. S. Arthur	Mr. P. Hannon
Mr. S. Deasy (<i>Appointed 7 September 2023</i>)	Mr. L. Sexton (<i>Resigned 15 June 2023</i>)
Mr. B. Golden	Mr. J. Ryan
Mr. T. Fitzgerald	Mr. P. Ging (<i>Resigned 15 June 2023</i>)
Mr. B. Callanan	Mr. D. Murphy
Mr. S. Sherman	Mr. T. Buckley
Ms. D. Corridan	Mr. B. Eivers
Mr. G. O'Dwyer	
Mr. R. Shannon (<i>Appointed 7 September 2023</i>)	

SECRETARY

Ms. S. Walshe

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Mr. S. Coughlan

SOCIETY'S ADDRESS AND REGISTERED OFFICE

Link Road,
Ballincollig,
Cork.

SOLICITORS

Hallissey & Partners Solicitors,
41 South Main Street,
Bandon,
Co. Cork.

Ronan Daly Jermyn,
2 Park Place,
City Gate Park,
Mahon Point,
Cork.

BANKERS

AIB Bank,
South Main Street,
Bandon,
Co. Cork.

AUDITOR

Ernst & Young,
Chartered Accountants,
City Quarter,
Lapps Quay,
Cork.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 December 2023

The committee are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893 to 2021 requires the committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the committee have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

In preparing these financial statements, the committee are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the society will continue in business.

The committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Society and which enables it to ensure that the financial statements are prepared in accordance with Irish Generally Accepted Accounting Practice and with the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893 to 2021 . It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

On behalf of the Committee of Management

MICHAEL DORAN
Chairman

PATRICK KELLY
Vice Chairman

Date: 4 April 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Society Limited ('the Society') for the year 31 December 2023, which comprise the income and expenditure account, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity, the statement of financial position, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 1. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish Law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the Society's affairs as at 31 December 2023 and of its surplus for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Committee of Management's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Committee of Management with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report. However, because not all future events or conditions can be predicted, this statement is not a guarantee as to the Society's ability to continue as a going concern.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED (Continued)

Other information

The Committee of Management are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893 to 2021

As required by section 13(2) of the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893 to 2021 we examined the statement of financial position showing the receipts and expenditure, funds and effects of the society, and verified the same with the books, deeds, documents, accounts and vouchers relating thereto, and found them to be correct, duly vouched, and in accordance with law.

Respective responsibilities

Responsibilities of Committee of Management for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the committee of management's responsibility statement set out on page 3, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Committee of Management are responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless Committee of Management either intends to liquidate the Society or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED (Continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA's website at: http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8f-a98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf.

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 13 of the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893 to 2021. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Society's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and the Society's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

IAN VENN
for and on behalf of
Ernst & Young Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm

Cork

Date: 10 April 2024

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 December 2023

	<i>Note</i>	2023 €	2022 €
Income		23,806,766	15,346,240
Operating expenses		(23,285,053)	(15,049,501)
Operating surplus		521,713	296,739
Interest receivable and similar income		199	-
Surplus before taxation		521,912	296,739
Tax on surplus	3	(93,488)	(55,096)
Surplus after taxation		428,424	241,643

Approved by the Committee of Management on: 4 April 2024

MICHAEL DORAN
Chairman

PATRICK KELLY
Vice Chairman

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the year ended 31 December 2023

	<i>Note</i>	2023 €	2022 €
Income and expenditure surplus for the financial year		428,424	241,643
Total comprehensive income for the year		<u>428,424</u>	<u>241,643</u>

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the year ended 31 December 2023

	<i>Share capital</i> €	<i>Income and expenditure account</i> €	<i>Total</i> €
At 1 January 2022	2,028,330	2,363,787	4,392,117
Surplus for year	-	241,643	241,643
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2022	2,028,330	2,605,430	4,633,760
Surplus for year	-	428,424	428,424
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,028,330</u>	<u>3,033,854</u>	<u>5,062,184</u>

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
at 31 December 2023

	<i>Note</i>	2023 €	2022 €
FIXED ASSETS			
Project development expenditure	4	5,649,975	5,115,486
Tangible fixed assets	5	533,461	678,257
		<u>6,183,436</u>	<u>5,793,743</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	6	1,172,215	513,306
Debtors	7	2,830,866	1,865,097
Cash at bank		8,755,337	3,216,075
		<u>12,758,418</u>	<u>5,594,478</u>
CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)	8	(9,819,903)	(3,022,802)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>2,938,515</u>	<u>2,571,676</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		9,121,951	8,365,419
GOVERNMENT GRANTS	9	(4,059,767)	(3,731,659)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES		<u><u>5,062,184</u></u>	<u><u>4,633,760</u></u>
FINANCED BY			
SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS			
Share capital	11	2,028,330	2,028,330
Income and expenditure account		3,033,854	2,605,430
Shareholders' funds		<u><u>5,062,184</u></u>	<u><u>4,633,760</u></u>

Approved by the Committee of Management on: 4 April 2024

MICHAEL DORAN
Chairman

PATRICK KELLY
Vice Chairman

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	<i>Note</i>	2023 €	2022 €
NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	12 (a)	6,315,057	1,480,070
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Project development expenditure		(2,314,418)	(1,978,967)
Payments for tangible fixed assets		(81,578)	(120,561)
Project development grants received		1,620,000	1,586,290
Net cash flow from investing activities		(775,996)	(513,238)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Interest received		199	-
Amounts repaid by related company		-	49,248
Net cash flow from financing activities		199	49,248
Increase in cash		5,539,262	1,016,080
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		3,216,075	2,199,995
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	12 (b)	8,755,337	3,216,075

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 *Statement of compliance*

Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Society Limited is a society registered in Ireland under the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1893 to 2021. The registered office is Link Road, Ballincollig, Cork.

The society's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland, including FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland).

1.2 *Basis of preparation*

The financial statements are prepared in euro which is the presentational currency of the society. The company has adequate financial resources and a good business model including strong relationships with its customer and supplier base. As a consequence, the directors believe that the group is well placed to manage its business risks successfully. After making enquiries, the directors have a reasonable expectation that the society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements

1.3 *Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty*

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the Statement of Financial Position date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following are the society's key sources of estimation uncertainty:

(a) *Project development expenditure*

Development expenditure is capitalised in accordance with the accounting policy given below. Initial capitalisation of costs is based on management's judgement that technical and economic feasibility is confirmed, usually when a product development project has reached a defined milestone according to an established project management model. In determining the amounts to be capitalised management makes assumptions regarding the expected future cash generation of the assets, discount rates to be applied and the expected period of benefits.

(b) *Impairment of non-financial assets*

Where there are indicators of impairment of individual assets, the society performs impairment tests based on fair value less costs to sell or a value in use calculation.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2023 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

1.4 *Significant accounting policies*

(a) *Accounting convention*

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are expressed in Euro (€).

(b) *Fixed assets and depreciation*

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. No depreciation charge has been recognised for fixtures & fittings and leasehold improvement assets not yet in use as there is no consumption of the economic benefits of these assets in the period.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis by reference to the expected useful lives as follows:

Office equipment	3 years
Fixtures & fittings	5 years
Tully machinery	5 years
Weighing equipment	5 years
BDGP technology	5 years
Leasehold Improvements	over lease term

(c) *Project development expenditure*

Project development expenditure on clearly defined projects whose commercial outcome can be assessed with reasonable certainty is capitalised. When the development of these commercial projects reaches completion, the society provides services to its members in return for fee income. This expenditure is amortised over the useful lives of the projects. Costs relating to fully amortised projects and the related fully amortised government grants are written off after a period of nine years from when the expenditure was incurred.

(d) *Government grants*

Grants for operating expenditure:

Grants received from the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine to fund the operations of the society are credited to the Income and Expenditure Account so as to match them with the expenditure to which they relate.

Grants for project development expenditure:

Grants received towards the cost of project development expenditure are deferred and amortised over the same period in which the related project development expenditure is amortised.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2023 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

1.4 *Significant accounting policies (continued)*

(e) *Taxation*

Corporation tax is provided on taxable profits at the current rates.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the Statement of Financial Position date where transactions or events have occurred at the Statement of Financial Position date that result in an obligation to pay more tax or a right to pay less tax in the future.

Timing differences are temporary differences between profit as computed for taxation purposes and profit as stated in the financial statements which arise because certain items of income and expenditure in the financial statements are dealt with in different periods for taxation purposes.

A net deferred tax asset is regarded as recoverable and therefore recognised only when, on the basis of all available evidence, it can be regarded as more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted

(f) *Income recognition*

Income is recognised on delivery of the service. Where monies are received in advance of the related goods or services being provided, the revenue is deferred until such time as the related performance criteria have been met to recognise the sale.

(g) *Operating leases*

Operating lease costs are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred, normally on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

(h) *Pensions*

The Society operates a defined contribution pension scheme for certain of its employees and its annual contributions are charged to the incomes statement in the year to which they relate.

(i) *Leasing commitments*

At the commencement of the lease term, a lessee shall recognise its rights of use and obligations under finance leases as assets and liabilities in its statement of financial position at amounts equal to the fair value of the leased asset or, if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments, determined at the inception of the lease.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2023 (Continued)

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

1.4 Significant accounting policies (continued)

(j) Stocks

Stocks have been consistently valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is based on actual invoice cost. Net realisable value comprises selling prices less appropriate selling and distribution costs.

(k) Debtors

Known bad debts are written off and specific provision is made for any amounts the recovery of which is considered doubtful.

(l) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position comprise cash at banks and in hand and short-term deposits with an original maturity date of three months or less. For the purpose of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

(m) Short-term debtors and creditors

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in the income statement in other operating expenses.

2. STAFF COSTS	2023	2022
	€	€
The staff costs, including costs capitalised in project development, are comprised of:		
Wages and salaries	4,937,667	4,666,020
Social welfare costs	538,966	508,795
Pension costs	437,921	415,789
	<u>5,914,554</u>	<u>5,590,605</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2023 (Continued)

2. STAFF COSTS (Continued)

The average number of persons employed by the society in the financial year was 89 (2022: 84) and is analysed into the following categories:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Management	8	8
Administration	6	6
Technical	26	26
Fixed term subcontractors	49	44
	<u>89</u>	<u>84</u>

3. TAXATION ON SURPLUS

(a) <i>Analysis of charge in the year</i>	2023 €	2022 €
<i>Current tax</i>		
Corporation tax at 12½%	93,515	51,333
(Over)/under provision relating to prior year	(27)	3,763
	<u>93,488</u>	<u>55,096</u>
(b) <i>Factors affecting tax charge for the year</i>	2023 €	2022 €
Surplus chargeable to corporation tax (12½%)	<u>522,111</u>	<u>296,739</u>
Surplus multiplied by the standard rate of tax 12½% (2022: 12½%)	65,264	37,092
<i>Effects of:</i>		
Other adjustments	28,251	14,241
(Over)/under provision relating to prior year	(27)	3,763
	<u>93,488</u>	<u>55,096</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2023 (Continued)

4.	PROJECT DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE	€
	<i>Cost:</i>	
	At 1 January 2023	15,332,342
	Additions	2,314,418
	Elimination of fully amortised costs (b)	(1,617,197)
		<hr/>
	At 31 December 2023	16,029,563
		<hr/>
	<i>Amortisation:</i>	
	At 1 January 2023	10,216,856
	Charge for the year	1,779,928
	Elimination of fully amortised costs (b)	(1,617,197)
		<hr/>
	At 31 December 2023	10,379,587
		<hr/>
	<i>Net book value:</i>	
	At 31 December 2023	5,649,976
		<hr/> <hr/>
	At 31 December 2022	5,115,486
		<hr/> <hr/>

(a) Project development expenditure consists of computer hardware, software consultancy, database, and other project costs.

(b) Fully amortised projects are written off after a period of nine years from when the expenditure was incurred. As the project expenditure is fully amortised the write off has no impact on profits or on the carrying value of projects in the Statement of Financial Position.

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2023 (Continued)

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	<i>Office equipment</i> €	<i>Fixtures & fittings</i> €	<i>Tully machinery</i> €	<i>Leasehold improvements</i> €	<i>Total</i> €
<i>Cost:</i>					
At 1 January 2023	173,810	359,582	61,274	595,854	1,190,521
Additions	43,219	38,359	-	0	81,578
	<u>217,029</u>	<u>397,941</u>	<u>61,274</u>	<u>598,854</u>	<u>1,272,099</u>
<i>Depreciation:</i>					
At 1 January 2023	122,395	130,704	60,542	198,624	512,264
Charge for the year	46,742	79,588	732	99,312	226,373
	<u>169,137</u>	<u>210,292</u>	<u>61,274</u>	<u>297,936</u>	<u>738,637</u>
<i>Net book value:</i>					
At 31 December 2023	<u>47,892</u>	<u>187,649</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>297,918</u>	<u>533,462</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>51,415</u>	<u>228,878</u>	<u>734</u>	<u>397,230</u>	<u>678,257</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2023 (Continued)

6. STOCKS	2023	2022
	€	€
Other consumables	863,111	217,598
Tully consumables	14,105	19,409
Livestock	295,000	276,299
	<u>1,172,216</u>	<u>513,306</u>

Other consumables are comprised of testing kits which are consumed in the provision of the National Genotyping Programme (NGP).

The replacement cost of stocks is not considered to be materially different from the Statement of Financial Position value.

7. DEBTORS	2023	2022
	€	€
Trade debtors	1,827,553	1,059,910
Prepayments and other debtors	908,213	706,371
Amounts due from related party (<i>note 14</i>)	95,100	95,100
Corporation tax	-	3,716
	<u>2,830,866</u>	<u>1,865,097</u>

8. CREDITORS (amounts falling due within one year)	2023	2022
	€	€
Trade creditors	3,680,905	371,278
Accruals	3,214,822	2,421,079
Deferred revenue	1,987,696	-
VAT	769,121	87,142
PAYE/PRSI	152,708	143,303
Corporation tax	14,651	-
	<u>9,819,903</u>	<u>3,022,802</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2023 (Continued)

9. GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Government grants comprise grants received from the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine (DAFM).

	€
<i>Received:</i>	
At 1 January 2023	10,367,985
Received during year	1,620,000
Elimination of fully amortised grants (a)	(1,010,000)
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2023	10,977,985
	<hr/>
<i>Depreciation:</i>	
At 1 January 2023	6,636,326
Credited to the income and expenditure account in year	1,291,892
Elimination of fully amortised grants (a)	(1,010,000)
	<hr/>
At 31 December 2023	6,918,218
	<hr/>
<i>Net amount</i>	
At 31 December 2023	4,059,767
	<hr/> <hr/>
At 31 December 2022	3,731,659
	<hr/> <hr/>

- (a) Consistent with the policy for related project expenditure, as outlined in Note 4, fully amortised grants are written off after a period of nine years from when the grant was received. As the grants are fully amortised the write off has no impact on profits or on the Statement of Financial Position.

IRISH CATTLE BREEDING FEDERATION SOCIETY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2023 (Continued)

10.	FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS	2023	2022
		€	€
	<i>Financial assets that are debt instrument measured at amortised cost:</i>		
	- Trade debtors	1,827,553	1,059,910
	- Amounts due from related party	95,100	95,100
	<i>Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost:</i>		
	- Trade creditors	3,680,905	371,278
		<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>
11.	SHARE CAPITAL	2023	2022
		€	€
	<i>Authorised:</i>		
	28,768 "A" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	365,278	365,278
	28,768 "B" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	365,278	365,278
	28,768 "C" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	365,278	365,278
	73,696 "D" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	935,746	935,746
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		2,031,580	2,031,580
		<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>
	<i>Issued and fully paid:</i>		
	28,768 "A" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	365,278	365,278
	28,768 "B" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	365,278	365,278
	28,512 "C" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	362,028	362,028
	73,696 "D" ordinary shares of €12.697381 each	935,746	935,746
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		2,028,330	2,028,330
		<u><u> </u></u>	<u><u> </u></u>

All shares rank pari passu in all respects.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 December 2023 (Continued)

12. NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(a)	<i>Reconciliation of surplus to net cash inflow from operating activities</i>	2023 €	2022 €
	Surplus before tax for the year	521,912	296,739
	<i>Adjustments to reconcile surplus for the year to net cash flow from operating activities:</i>		
	Amortisation of project development expenditure	1,779,928	1,663,689
	Project development grants amortised	(1,291,892)	(1,162,971)
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	226,373	211,128
	Interest received	(199)	-
	<i>Movements in working capital:</i>		
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(969,485)	175,103
	Increase in stocks	(658,909)	(73,312)
	Increase in creditors	6,782,450	443,945
	<i>Taxation:</i>		
	Corporation tax paid	(75,121)	(74,251)
		<u>5,793,145</u>	<u>1,183,331</u>
	Net cash inflow from operating activities	<u>6,315,057</u>	<u>1,480,070</u>
(b)	<i>Cash and cash equivalents</i>	2023 €	2022 €
	Cash at bank and in hand	<u>8,755,337</u>	<u>3,216,075</u>

13. PENSIONS AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The society operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The cost charged to the income and expenditure account in the year for the scheme was €437,921 (2022: €415,789).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2023 (Continued)

14. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The operations of Sheep Database Limited are administered by Irish Cattle Breeding Federation Society Limited. Costs incurred by the society, on behalf of the company, totalling €150,000 (2022: €150,000) were recharged during the year. The amount due by the company to the society at the year-end is included in debtors.

Key management personnel

All committee of management and certain senior employees who have authority and responsibility for planning, directing, and controlling the activities of the society are considered to be key management personnel. Remuneration paid includes pension contributions to provide retirement benefits.

Total remuneration in respect of these individuals in 2023, one member of the committee of management (2022: 1) and ten senior employees (2022: 8) is made up of the following components:

- Basic salary cost of €339,076 (2022: €368,250) paid to individuals and which is set at market rates for equivalent roles.
- Employer social insurance costs (ancillary to salary costs) which amounted to €92,655 (2022: €95,827)
- Pension benefits paid by the employer to provide retirement benefits amounted to €115,126 (2022: €108,336) for the year.

Total remuneration in respect of 14 non-executive board members paid for their attendance at board meetings during 2023 amounted to €23,250 (2022: €12,600).

15. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At the statement of financial position date the society had future minimum rentals payables under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 €	2022 €
Due within one year	378,900	369,427
Due between one and five years	757,800	1,136,700
	<u>1,136,700</u>	<u>1,506,127</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31 December 2023 (Continued)

16. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There have been no events between the reporting date and the date on which the financial statements were approved by the directors of the Company, which would require adjustment to the financial statements or any additional disclosures.

17. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the committee of management on 4 April 2024.