

**Breeding Programme
of the
Irish Limousin Cattle Society Limited**

(with approval recognised under the EU legislation by the Department of Agriculture, Food
and the Marine on 8th July 1974)

Approved by the Council of the Irish Limousin Society on 30th January 2020

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The Irish Limousin Cattle Society Limited, here after known as the “Society”, shall maintain one or more registers as follows:

- a) A register of the particulars of the pedigree, status and performance of eligible Limousin pedigree cattle here after known as the “Animals” (1 or more).
- b) Such information as the Council may from time to time decide.

1. Name

The name of the breed is the Irish Limousin.

2. Aim of the Society

The aim of the Society is to preserve and improve the Irish Limousin breed by adhering to a strict breeding programme which maintains the breed characteristics and using all available technology to improve the breed.

3. Geographical territory

The geographical territory being the Republic of Ireland for the Society to conduct its breeding programme.

4. Breed Characteristics:

The Limousin breed is an average to large framed, naturally horned breed showing both excellent beefing qualities and good maternal ability. Its distinguishing qualities are:

- Fine bone and good muscularity which give excellent muscle to bone ratio;
- Uniform, vivid golden red coat, slightly paler under the belly, along the back of the thighs and around the perineum, the anus the testicles and the udder;
- Pink mucous membranes, uniformly pale, lighter around the eyes and muscle;
- Ease of calving and fertility, which give it an excellent ability for cows to produce weaned calves.

5. Division of the breeding book:

The breeding book consists of a main section only. The conditions for entry are:

- a) be descended from parents and grandparents entered in the Irish Limousin herdbook or any other breeding book of the same breed.
- b) be identified according to the rules of the breeding programme.
- c) have a pedigree established according to the rules of the breeding programme.
- d) in the case of entry into the Union of an animal the animal shall be accompanied by a Zootechnical certificate for the breed.
- e) where an animal is produced from a germinal product or which is traded or which is entered into the Union and where the animal is the germinal product it must be accompanied by a Zootechnical certificate.

The main section of the breeding book shall be divided into two classes.

Class 1 Full French Limousin: This class is for animals that meet all the requirements of entry into the main section.

Class 2 Irish Limousin Class: This class is for animals who meet all the requirements of entry into the main section and who fall into one of the two following categories as (i) Polled Limousin or (ii) Black Limousin.

(i) Polled Limousin:

All animals with polled genes, whether polled, scurred or horned will be entered into Class 2 of the herdbook. At the time of declaring the status of an animal the appropriate polled status will be applied to the animal's pedigree certificate.

Any attempt to remove scurs will reduce the animal status to dehorned. Scurs may be removed for health reasons only once status has been confirmed by a vet and permission granted by the society.

Polled animals which also carry black genetics will also be registered in the Class 2 of the herdbook.

(ii) Black Limousin:

All animals with black genetics, whether black or red in colour will be entered into Class 2 of the breeding book.

All animals in Class 2 shall be genomically tested to determine their status i.e. presence of polled genes and/or coat colour. Details of the results of the genomic test in relation to coat colour and known black and/or polled genetics shall be published on its Zootechnical certificate or any other official documents provided by the Society. The letter 'P' will be added to the end of the name of animals that are confirmed polled and/or the word 'Black' will preface the name of animals that are confirmed to have black genetics.

Animals entered into Class 2 and subsequent progeny will remain for all time in Class 2.

6. System for Identifying Identification of animals:

All animals are individually identified by their national identification number which is located by ear tag. All breeding animals are named which consists of the breeder's prefix and the name which commences with a year letter relevant to the year of birth i.e. 2019 births commence with the letter "P". The year letter is available from the Irish Limousin Cattle Society. The prefix and name of animals including spaces and denotations where relevant shall be limited to 30 letters. Inappropriate names shall not be accepted.

7. Procedure for entering animals, progeny of embryo transfers and imported animals in the breeding book:

a) Procedure for Entry of animals

- The birth of every calf alive or dead to any dam registered in the breed book shall be notified to the Society through the Animal Events recording system by the breeder or his/her representative/s within the prescribed time allowed by the Department of Agriculture, Food & the Marine. Thereafter late birth notification fees will apply. Registration fees and late birth registration fees as approved by Council from time to time are attached in Appendix 1. If the calf is sired by a semen royalty sire the necessary fee will apply. See Appendix 2.

- The completed Animal Events Sheet or On-Line Registration must include all necessary information to enable the pedigree registration to be completed, including a name for the animal the first letter of which shall be that of the year letter in which the animal is born. For example, in 2019 all names shall begin with ‘P’. The sire and dam of the animal must be submitted along with the date of birth, the sex and whether born easily or requiring assistance.
- In the event of an error the registration is placed in a holding category in the Society’s database. Once the problem is rectified the registration will be completed. In the event of the issue not being resolved by herdbook staff, the breeder is notified of the position. The breeder then must notify the Society office with the necessary amendment by phone, email or in writing.
- In normal circumstances if no issues arise the pedigree registration process should be complete in a period of 6 weeks.

b) Procedure for registering embryos

- No calf born by Fertilised Ovum Transplant (FOT) will be entered in the Society breeding book unless all the conditions stated in these rules have been fully satisfied as follows:

I Basic qualifications for Sires and Donor females used in FOT in Ireland

(i) Donor Females

- All Donor females must be entered in the Society breeding book and sire and dam verified by DNA.

(ii) Sires

- All sires must be entered in the Society’s breeding book and sire and dam verified by DNA.
- In the case of an A.I. bull, the straws imported or produced in Ireland, the bull must have a valid ICBF issued A.I. code and be sire and dam verified by DNA.

(iii) Recipient Dam

- The recipient dam is only identified by the National Identification Number.

II Embryo Registration

- Each embryo that is either frozen or implanted is to be registered with the Society by the submission of triplicate embryo registration certificate form, which must be properly and accurately completed and signed by the owner of the donor female and signed and stamped by the representative of a Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine approved embryo collection team.
- Part A of the triplicate form must be sent to the Society within twenty-eight days of the completion of the embryo collection procedure be it direct recovery or other appropriate technique and be accompanied by the appropriate fees (Appendix 1).
- Part B of the triplicate form is retained by the approved embryo transplant team.
- Part C of the triplicate form is retained by the breeder.
- Part A must arrive at the Society office within 28 days of the embryo(s) being flushed.

III Reporting of Changes of Circumstances

- The Society is to be informed of the following changes of circumstances as soon as they occur
 - I) In the case of a frozen embryo, if it has been;
 - (i) thawed and implanted
 - (ii) transferred to a new owner
 - (iii) destroyed
 - II) In the case of a Recipient Dam, if it has been;
 - (i) transferred to a new owner
 - (ii) destroyed
- Changes of circumstances are to be notified on an Embryo Amendment Form. Changes of Circumstances of embryos is a mandatory procedure.

The transfer of embryos into recipient dams must be completed by embryo collection and production teams approved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

IV Birth Notification of Calf born by Embryo Transfer

- The birth of every calf alive or dead born as the result of embryo transfer shall be notified to the Society through the Animal Events recording system by the breeder or his representative within the prescribed time allowed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine. Such notification includes provision for details of both the donor dam and recipient dam.
- At the time of birth notification, the breeder's copy of the Embryo Registration form (Part C) must be submitted to the Society office.
- All calves born by Embryo Transfer must have its parentage sire and dam verified by an approved DNA laboratory.

V Importation of Embryos

- The Society will not enter imported embryos or accept into the breeding book the progeny resulting from any such importation unless the requirements below and statutory regulations have been adhered to.
- On importation, embryos must be immediately registered with the Society on submission of a Zootechnical Certificate issued by the Breeding Society or the Embryo production and recovery team as appropriate of the exporting country.
- Change of Circumstances of Imported embryos must also be notified to the Society as set out above.

VI Exportation of Embryos:

- A derogation has been granted to the Irish Limousin Society to authorise embryo collection or production teams to issue a Zootechnical certificate in the exportation of embryos (See section 13).

c) **Procedure for Entry of imported animals**

- Imported animals will only be allowed into the breeding book on submission to the Society of a Zootechnical Certificate from the country of origin. Admission into the

herdbook is subject to a fee as set out in Appendix 1. The Society has the right to inspect imported animals to establish the class of the herdbook whose criteria the animal meets

Deregistration of an animal: A member may deregister an animal provided the animal is their property and where the animal has no progeny entered in a herdbook for the breed. The process to deregister is notification of de-registration to the Society office and return of the Zootechnical certificate. An animal may be re-registered by the person who requested the de-registration or by a new owner provided the person who instructed the de-registration gives consent in writing of the re-registration with the appropriate fees applying.

Note: The Society reserves the right to cancel or refuse an animals' registration within the breed book where registration has been made on the basis of information subsequently found to be inaccurate, misleading or deficient.

8. Control checks for recording pedigree of the breeding animal:

- Every 50th calf notified to the Society shall be required to be DNA typed to confirm sire and dam parentage and the next 3 pedigree calves born in that herd must be notified to the Society within 48 hours.
- The Society reserves the right to inspect every 50th calf notified to the Society. The inspection procedure may include the collection of photographic evidence and the collection of root hair follicles for DNA processing.
- All bulls used for breeding purposes must have been DNA typed (sire and dam verified) by an approved laboratory, before progeny can be accepted for notification of birth. In the case of an A.I. bull, the straws imported or produced in Ireland, the bull must have a valid ICBF issued A.I. code and be both sire and dam verified through DNA.
- Where a breeder is a DIY operator, the Society may carry out random checks for checking progeny, request for a list of straws that the breeder has purchased and keep a copy on their file. Likewise, for situations where AI technicians are not using handhelds, the

Society may request the breeders to submit copies of AI docket as evidence of insemination relevant to the registration.

- All calves born by Embryo Transfer shall have its parentage (sire and dam) verified by an approved DNA laboratory.
- Imported semen may be used subject to compliance with the statutory regulations and providing a copy of the bull’s Zootechnical certificate (where the donor bull is not entered in the Society’s herd book) and its DNA certificate is lodged with the Society. The DNA certificate shall contain the results of the DNA test with a reference number. Until this is done no calves by this animal will be accepted for registration.
- The Society reserves the right to carry out herd inspections. The objective of herd inspections is to maintain the integrity and rules of the herdbook. Such herd inspections will be carried out according to the ‘Herd Inspection Protocol’ as authorised by the Council which includes the collection of weight and photography information and collection of root hair follicles for DNA processing

Herd inspections will be carried out on a routine basis annually. Herds will be categorised for inspection as follows;

Category	Triggered by;	Action to be taken
Category 3:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Excessive weight gain at sales or on-farm weighing. ➤ Numerous complaints to the society office. ➤ Random 50th calf notification inspection. ➤ Random herd inspection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Herd inspection according to the inspection protocol carried out by a society representative.
Category 2:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Inspection weighing shows average daily gain >40% above breed average. ➤ Irregularities from photography and/or random DNA samples. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 48 hour notification of the next calving or all pedigree calvings. ➤ Follow up inspection and further DNA sampling. ➤ Compulsory AI event recording via Animal Events

Category 1:	➤ Irregularities from follow up inspection	➤ Ban from society events. ➤ 48 hour notice of all pedigrees calvings until further notice. ➤ Further action at the discretion of Council.
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Herd inspections will be carried out by officer(s) authorised by Council or persons acting on behalf of the Society. The authorised officer will carry out the inspection accompanied by a competent independent person. Inspectors will act in an independent and non-discriminatory manner and will not inspect stock in which they may have a vested interest.

The Society and its servants shall not be responsible for any injury, loss or damage, to a person or property, occurring during or arising out of such inspections.

- Other control checks are carried out in relation to gestation length, transfer fees outstanding, membership fees owed, DNA outstanding or any other issues which may warrant further investigation and place the registration of an animal on hold until the issue is resolved.

9. Information on the system for recording pedigrees of purebred animals:

The system used for recording pedigrees of purebred animals is an electronic database system known as Taurus.

For each animal entered on the database the following information is recorded where applicable: name of the animal, date and country of birth, parents and grand-parents, sex, ear tag identification, name and address of breeder, name and address of owner, section of herd book and relevant class, twinning status, progeny of embryo transfer, results of performance testing, date of genetic evaluation, genetic defects and peculiarities, insemination or mating information, other relevant information to the registration process.

10. Selection and Breeding Objectives:

The **breeding objective** is a) to make and then maintain Limousin as the number one beef breed in the Republic of Ireland by means of satisfying the needs of the commercial farmer and

consequently the aspirations of the membership and b) to promote, improve and develop the Limousin breed to be astride of any advances in modern agriculture.

The traits to be recorded in relation to the **selection objectives** are: a functionally correct animal, docile with good conformation, beefing ability with good depth of loin, length, depth and round of hind quarter, width of the hind quarter and width at the withers. Maternally the females must have good pelvic width to enable calving ability, milkability, neat udders and good teats, fertility, good functionality, longevity and still possess good terminal traits such as carcass conformation.

These traits are all identified, measured and the results published in the ICBF Eurostar indexes. The Eurostar index allows the Society to monitor the success of the breeding programme in respect of the aforementioned traits. Further detailed information on the evaluation carried out by ICBF for the Irish Limousin Society can be found at <https://www.icbf.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Beef-Evaluation-Document.pdf>

11. Performance testing and genetic evaluations:

The ILCS undertake ‘Performance Testing’ and ‘Genetic Evaluation’ as part of their breeding programme. These services are made available to breeders and are provided by ICBF. There are 3 main objectives for the Limousin breed:

1. Replacement: To breed future cows for the Limousin suckler herd.
2. Terminal: To breed terminal sires for progeny that is destined for slaughter.
3. Dairy Beef: To breed terminal sires for progeny from the dairy herd that is destined for slaughter.

Following are the weightings of the traits in these indexes:

Index Trait Weightings			
	Dairy Beef	Replacement	Terminal
Calving	64%	16%	26%
Carcass	27%	39%	56%
Fertility		23%	
Milk		18%	
Docility		4%	2%
Feed Intake			16%
Other	9%		

Performance Testing

The following data is collected as part of performance testing

1. Calving Survey

Each Breed Society member records ancestry and calving data on their calves through the ‘Animal Events’ recording system. The Calving Survey options are: 1=Normal Calving, 2=Some assistance, 3=Considerable difficulty, 4=Vet assistance. ‘Abortion or ‘Calf died at birth may also be recorded.

This data is used in the calculation of calving difficulty of an animal.

2. Liveweight & Morphological traits

Whole Herd Performance Recording (WHPR) is available to Breed Society members to participate and is a process through which breeders can get relevant liveweight and morphological trait data recorded on their pedigree animals. Following is a description of the data recorded on the various types of animals in a herd:

Animal Type	Action
Under 150 days old	Weighed
150 – 700 days old	Scored & Weighed
Cow with calf sucking	Scored & Weighed (Twice maximum)
Cow with no calf	Checked (no cost) 1. Whether in milk or not 2. Evidence of C-Section

Following is a list of the morphological traits that are recorded on pedigree animals at a WHPR visit.

Genetic Evaluation use	Traits recorded	Pedigree Males & Females	Pedigree Calved Females	Pedigree Calved Females	Pedigree Males & Females	Dry Cows & Uncalved Females	Panel Section (Functional, Skeletal, Breed Quality, Muscle)
		1-149 days	1st Scoring	2nd+ Scoring	150-700 days		
Replacement & Terminal Euro-Stars	1	Weight (kg)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	2	Width at Withers				Yes	Muscle
	3	Width Behind Withers				Yes	Muscle
	4	Loin Development				Yes	Muscle
	5	Dev Hind Quarter				Yes	Muscle
	6	Thigh Width				Yes	Muscle
	7	Height at Withers				Yes	Skeletal
	8	Length of Back				Yes	Skeletal
	9	Pelvic Length		Yes		Yes	Skeletal
	10	Width at Hips				Yes	Skeletal
	11	Docility		Yes	Yes	Yes	
	12	Milkability (1-5)*		Yes	Yes		
FuncBLUP	1	Fore Legs Front View		Yes		Yes	Functionality
	2	Hind Legs Side View		Yes		Yes	Functionality
	3	Hind Legs Rear View		Yes		Yes	Functionality
	4	Locomotion		Yes	Yes	Yes	Functionality
Cow Traits	1	Teat placement		Yes	Yes		
	2	Teat size		Yes	Yes		
	3	Udder suspension		Yes	Yes		
Other Traits (As decided by each Breed)	1	Width of Pelvis		Yes		Yes	Skeletal
	2	Rump angle		Yes			Breed Quality
	3	Width at Pins		Yes		Yes	Skeletal
	4	Condition score		Yes		Yes	Muscle
	5	Dev Inner Thigh (1 to 15)				Yes	Muscle
	6	Width of Chest				Yes	Skeletal
	7	Canon Bone Thickness				Yes	Breed Quality
	8	Depth of Chest				Yes	Skeletal
	9	Level of Back				Yes	Functionality
	10	Width at Hips				Yes	Skeletal
	11	Harmony				Yes	Breed Quality
	12	Width of Muzzle				Yes	Breed Quality
	13	Colour of Head				Yes	Breed Quality
	14	Type of Head				Yes	Breed Quality
	15	Girth				Yes	Breed Quality
	16	Rib					Breed Quality
	17	Plates					Breed Quality
	18	Depth of Rump (1 to 10)				Yes	Breed Quality
	19	Tail Set					Breed Quality
	20	Colour of Tail					Breed Quality
	21	Depth of Hoof					Breed Quality
	22	Scrotal Circumference				Yes	Breed Quality
	23	Colour of Coat				Yes	Breed Quality
	24	Hair Type					Breed Quality
	25	Shoulder Muscle (1 to 15)					Breed Quality
	26	Top Muscle (1 to 15)					Breed Quality
	27	White Patches					Breed Quality
	28	Skin Thickness					Breed Quality
Edit Info	1	Cow in milk (rearing a calf): Y/N		Yes	Yes	Yes	
	2	Mastitis on Day of Scoring (Y/N)		Yes	Yes		
	3	Mastitis Since Last Calving (Y/N)		Yes	Yes		
	4	Evidence of C-section Last Calving: Y/N		Yes	Yes	Yes	
	6	Lameness on day of scoring (Y/N)		Yes	Yes		
	7	Lameness since last calving (Y/N)		Yes	Yes		
	8	Sick on the Day of Scoring (Y/N)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
	9	*16 Extra Indicators (below)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

*US=Undershot, OS=Overshot, NT=Undescended Testicle, OT=One Testicle, DW=Dwarf, CD=Claw, HD=Hip Defect, TD=Tongue Defect, CD=Colour Defect, SD=Scurs Defect, PD=Pastern Defect, GD=Genetic Dam, BR=Bucket

The traits above are used in the calculation of an animal's 'Linear Type' breeding values. They are grouped into 'Muscle', Skeletal' and 'Functional'. The breeding values of an animal in a herd participating in WHPR can be found by clicking on the 'Linear Type' page in an animal's 'Animal Search' output on the Society's Live Herdbook or the ICBF website e.g. <https://webapp.icbf.com/v2/herdbook/index.php?vAnimalType=2&end=1> or

<https://webapp.icbf.com/v2/app/bull-search/view/998726033>

Data collected on Liveweight & Morphological traits provides a strong base of accurate phenotypic data and can increase the accuracy and the reliability % of an animal's 'Euro-Stars' (see below).

Genetic Evaluations

The ICBF beef evaluation system uses 'Euro-Stars' as its main method of breeding value output. The Euro-Star Index is a breeding index designed to aid beef farmers in the selection of more profitable breeding animals. Euro-Star Indexes quantify the genetic component of an animal's performance across all traits of importance. The Euro-Star Index has two overall indexes – the Replacement Index and the Terminal Index. Breeders can use the appropriate index for their animals depending on their farming systems i.e. breeding replacements or for beef.

Replacement Index: There are 17 traits included in the Replacement Index. Each trait has its own Predicted Transmitting Ability (PTA). An animal's PTA is the amount of a trait that it can pass on to its progeny. The PTA for each trait is then multiplied by the Economic Weight (monetary value for each unit of the trait) to generate a Euro value contribution for the trait. All the values are added up to provide an overall Replacement Index. Table 1 details the traits included in the Replacement Index as well as their respective Economic Weights.

Euro-Star Replacement Index			
Trait	Economic Weight (€ Unit)	Trait Emphasis	Trait Type
Maternal Calving Difficulty	-4.98	6%	Cow Traits 71%
Age 1st Calving	-0.99	6%	
Calving Interval	-5.07	9%	
Survival	8.86	8%	
Milk	5.58	18%	
Heifer Intake	-0.76	8%	
Cow Intake	-0.55	6%	
Cow Docility	77.27	4%	
Cull Cow Weight	0.91	7%	
Calving Difficulty	-5.12	7%	Calf Traits 29%
Gestation	-2.48	2%	
Mortality	-5.87	1%	
Docility	14.72	1%	
Feed Intake	-0.07	4%	
Carcass Weight	2.1	10%	
Carcass Conformation	10.22	3%	
Carcass Fat	-5.44	1%	

Table 1. Traits included in the Replacement Index and their Economic Weights.

Terminal Index: There are 8 traits included in the Terminal Index. Each trait has a PTA and an Economic Weight which are multiplied to give the Euro value contribution of that trait. All the relevant trait contributions are added up to provide a overall Terminal Index. Table 2 details all of the traits included in the Terminal Index as well as their respective Economic Weights.

Euro-Star Terminal Index		
Trait	Economic Weight (€ Unit)	Trait Emphasis
Calving Difficulty	-4.65	18%
Gestation	-2.25	4%
Mortality	-5.34	3%
Docility	17.03	2%
Feed Intake	-0.1	16%
Carcass Weight	3.14	41%
Carcass Conformation	14.77	11%
Carcass Fat	-7.86	5%

Table 2: Traits included in the Terminal Index and their Economic Weights.

Evaluations for the breed are also performed across-country through Interbeef. Breeders can assess the genetic merit of a bull in the Irish condition via his Interbeef ranking. These breeding values cannot be compared to the national breeding values. Further information can be found at: https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=13498.

Maternal Bull breeder Programme and Progeny Testing

Progeny of new young Limousin sires are tested annually as part of the Gene Ireland Beef Programme. These high index bulls are selected on the basis of genetic potential for good milk & fertility (in their daughters) and good growth & conformation (in calves from these daughters) and in consultation with the breed society. The animals are purchased from Limousin breeders and entered to a bull stud for semen collection. 1,000 doses of semen are taken from each bull. The data recorded includes insemination records, calving difficulty, birth weights, docility, growth rate, female milk and fertility.

Commercial progeny of these bulls purchased by Gene Ireland and moved to the ICBF progeny performance test station in Tully. These animals will be measured on traits that include growth potential measured through weight gain vis a vis feed consumed, visual muscle and skeletal measures (linear scoring), docility and functionality (also measured by linear scorers), ultrasound fat and muscle, and finally feed intake which allows a cost of production to be placed on the output traits. At the end of the test they are slaughtered and slaughter/carcass data recorded. Finally, traceable meat cuts are assessed for meat eating qualities.

Further details can be found on

https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=227

All information is combined at the end of test with previous performance tested animals and with commercially recorded data including calving and gestation information, weaning weight and calf value from the livestock marts, linear type classification from pedigree beef herds, carcass weight, carcass fat and carcass conformation data from the factories, as well as pedigree ancestry information. These results allow a genetic profile of all animals with records and related animals to be computed in the form of a Euro-star index.

Genomics

The Society facilitates the usage of genomics by breeders to help better predict how well an animal will perform in the future from an earlier stage. Genomics can increase reliability figures (by about 20%) even before animal performance data becomes available, provides accuracy to gauge potential performance of the animal from the genetic traits and confirms parentage of the animal (assuming parents are genotyped) or can predict a sire. More details on the ICBF Genomics service can be found at: https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=7876

Methodology

ICBF extracts the performance, pedigree and genotype data from the database 6 times per year. The ICBF Animal Evaluation unit uses SAS for pre-processing and post-processing of data before and after the genetic evaluation run itself. 'Mix 99' is used for variance component estimation and for the actual running of the genetic evaluations. The ICBF genetic evaluations are computed 6 times per year. Further information on the genetic evaluation schedules can be found at: https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=11285. The rules and standards applied for genetic evaluation are those established by Interbull. Further details can be found at:

https://wiki.interbull.org/public/beef_guidelines?action=print&rev=64

Communication and Use of Performance Testing and Genetic Evaluations Results

The star rating system (1-5 stars where 5 stars being good, 1 star being poor) is incorporated into the Euro-Star Index to assist breeders in assessing the results for their breeding animals and using this information when considering their selection objectives. However, breeders must note

- Stars 'within' and 'across' breed stars.
- Star rating are assigned to multiple indexes and traits
- The PTA for the specific index or trait first.

The Trait Emphasis is the average contribution of each trait to the index of the average, proven AI bull. Breeders should consider which trait is of importance to their breeding programme and the corresponding percentage assigned to this trait.

The Reliability figure gives an indication as to how confident that an index or trait figure will not change in the future as more data is recorded.

Further information on the Eurostars can be found on

https://issuu.com/herdplus/docs/euro-star_system_explained

<https://www.icbf.com/wp/?p=12929>

Information to breeders on Genetic Evaluations is available through

ILCS On-line Herdbook https://webapp.icbf.com/v2/herdbook/index.php?source_org=LM

ICBF Animal Search <https://webapp.icbf.com/v2/app/bull-search/>

AI Bull Listing https://www.icbf.com/wp/?page_id=206

Herdplus Reports (where relevant) [https://www.icbf.com/wp/wp-](https://www.icbf.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/ICBF-Beef-User-Guide.pdf)

[content/uploads/2018/05/ICBF-Beef-User-Guide.pdf](https://www.icbf.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/ICBF-Beef-User-Guide.pdf)

Zootechnical Certificates

Breed Society Sale Catalogue

Participating Mart Boards

12. Technical activities outsourced:

The technical activities of the Irish Limousin Cattle Society are outsourced to the Irish Cattle Breeding Federation (ICBF). ICBF provide

- the Taurus data base which contains all data relevant to the Irish Limousin Cattle Society breeding book.
- all genetic evaluations for the Irish Limousin Cattle Society.
- training for Irish Limousin Cattle Society staff in matters relevant to the Irish Limousin Cattle Society data base

ICBF's contact details are:

Irish Cattle Breeding Federation

Highfield House,

Shinagh,

Bandon

Co. Cork.

Tel: 00353 23 8820452

Email: query@icbf.com

www.icbf.com

13. Derogation Article 31 (1)

A derogation was sought and granted by the competent authority to permit a semen collection or storage centre, or an embryo collection or production team to issue a Zootechnical certificate for germinal products based on the information the society has provided. The following being a list of the approved centres/teams:

Dovea AI, Bova AI, NCBC, Coney Island Genetics, Munster AI Farm Services, Eurogene AI, Slogo AI, Dunmasc Genetics, XYZ Genetics, Celtic Sires, Bull Bank, Kevin Genetics, Champion Embryos, Genecel Ireland Ltd, Mr. Laurence Dunne MVB, MRCVS, Bovi Genetics (trading as Cowmaster Ltd), Mr. J.F. Brody, Bova Embryo & Scanning Technologies, Dunmasc Genetics, Animal Reproductive Technologies Ltd, Gerard Beirne, Thomas Griffin, Glencoyne Genetics, Daire Markham MRCVS.

14. Zootechnical certificate:

- The Zootechnical certificate provides information on the owner and breeder of an animal. In the context of Zootechnical certificates, the breeder is the member of the Society when entering the animal in the breeding book. The owner is the paid-up member of the Society.
- The Zootechnical certificate is issued to a breeder for an animal when it fulfils the rules of the breeding programme.

- A derogation was granted by the Competent Authority for the non-use of the model forms as referred to in Article 31 (2)(a) of Regulation (EU) 2016/1012. The derogation will permit the Irish Limousin Cattle Society provide the Zootechnical certificate in landscape orientation. A reference to this derogation appears on the side of the Zootechnical certificate.
- Results of relevant genomic tests, performance testing and/or genetic evaluations are published on the Zootechnical certificate.
- A twin animal will have the circumstances of its twinning (twin to male, twin to female) published on its Zootechnical certificate or any other official documents provided by Society.
- An animal found to have a genetic defect or genetic peculiarities following linear assessment or herd inspection shall have details of such published on its Zootechnical certificate or any other official documents provided by the Society. In the event of an animal not being inspected breeders must notify the Society office of any genetic defect or peculiarities on an animal which shall have details of such published on its Zootechnical certificate or any other official documents provided by the Society.
- The procedure for the change of ownership is that the new owner receives the Zootechnical certificate when taking ownership of a purebred animal and submits it to the Society office. Where if everything is in order the Zootechnical certificate will be reissued to the new owner with the name of the new owner displayed on the Zootechnical certificate.
- All efforts are made to issue Zootechnical certificates within one month of the start of the process except in the event of exceptional circumstances.

Appendix 1

Schedule of Registration Fees

Birth Notifications

Bulls and Heifers	€45
Re-registration by breeder	€45
Re-registration by new owner	€200

Late Fees

Day 40-80	€10
Day 81-125	€30
Day 126-365	€100
Day >365	€150

(Calves notified after 365 days or more must also be DNA typed (sire and dam verified) at the breeder's expense)

FOT Notifications

Embryo Calf Birth Notification	€85
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Transfer of Ownership Fees

Female Transfer	€45
Female with calf at foot (Up to 6 months)	€45
Male Transfer	€12

Appendix 2

Semen Royalty Scheme

Outline of the Scheme

Pedigree calves got by AI from a Semen Royalty bull and born after the semen royalty begin date and subsequently registered to the society, will have an additional royalty fee applied payable by the breeder of the calf.

Conditions of Entry

Eligible bulls: Only bull with a valid ICBF issued AI code are eligible for entry into the scheme.

Notification of Entry: Notification of intention to enter a bull in the semen royalty scheme must be made in writing by the completion of a Semen Royalty Entry Form, signed by the owner of the bulls AI pedigree semen rights and submitted to the society office. This entry form also authorises ILCS to act as an agent for the semen rights owner to collect royalty fees due. At the same time the owner is required to agree to abide by the rules of the scheme as stated herein.

Semen Royalties:

Two semen royalty begin dates apply each year. They are 1st January and 1st June. The appropriate royalty begin date will apply where the notification of entry to the royalty scheme has been previously received no sooner than 14 months. For example: For royalty begin date of 01/01/2020 notification of entry must have been received in the society office before 01/11/2018. If notification of entry is received after this date then the royalty begin date of 01/06/2006 will apply.

Bulls, from whom semen has not been distributed in Ireland, may have an immediate semen royalty begin date following the notice of royalty intent in a society newsletter.

Upon initial entry to the scheme, a bull's chosen royalty fee may be fixed by the owner of the semen rights, but thereafter may only be increased biannually on 1st January and 1st June after previously given 6 months' notice of the intention to do so. Reductions in semen royalty fees may be notified to the society and introduced at any time.

Semen royalty fees will be published in society newsletters and publications and on the society website.

Collection of Semen Royalty Fees

Semen Royalty fees will be collected by the ILCS as an agent of the bona fide owner of the bulls AI pedigree semen rights. A maximum price limit for the straw and the royalty

combined of €50 (including a €7 admin fee to the ILC office). This is effective as of 22nd November 2016 and cannot be adopted retrospectively. Collection of such fees by the society will be subject to a charge per calf payable by the semen rights owner determined by Council from time to time, currently set out in Appendix 1. Payment of Semen Royalty fees to the semen rights owner will be direct to his/her Limousin account minus collection charges and any other fees due to the society. Release of monies from the Limousin account to the semen rights owner will be arranged at regular intervals.

The Society will not collect royalty fees for more than one bona fida owner. If ownership of the semen royalty bull is transferred, the AI semen rights must either be retained in total by the vendor or transferred in total to the purchaser at an agreed date of the birth of the progeny. Where the semen rights are transferred to the purchaser, this must also include the right to claim all royalties on all semen, which has been sold prior to the transfer of the bull and resulting births of calves after the agreed date of transfer.

Any member who refuses to pay semen royalty fees within days of a final demand duly conveyed to him/her by registered post, may at the discretion of the Council be barred from conducting further herd book business with the Society. Agreement for non-payment of royalty fees may be made between the semen rights owner and the member provided that the details of such an agreement are disclosed to the society in writing and signed by both parties.

Females sold in-calf to a Semen Royalty bull: When females are sold in-calf to a Semen Royalty bull the purchaser shall be responsible for the payment of the semen royalty fee due following the registration of the resulting calf.