



# Winter 2024 Newsletter

**Year letter** for animals born in **2025** is **"A"**

## OFFICE HOUSEKEEPING

- **All animals** being entered in **Limousin Society Sales** must be resident in the **vendor's herd for the 6 consecutive months prior** to the sale date.
- **All animals** being entered in **Limousin Society Sales** must be **Genotyped and results back** prior to Sale Entry.
- For the integrity of the Herdbook, and to safeguard breeders, from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019 **all 1<sup>st</sup> time calvers must be Parentage Verified** at the owner's expense before the calf can be registered.
- **Pedigree Females bought** into your herd need to have **Pedigree Certificates submitted to the Office** for transfer into new owner's name to avoid Pedigree Certificates for Calves being held up in Transfer not Paid. There is a €45 charge for this. There is no charge for Female Transfers for all females purchased at Irish Limousin Cattle Society Sales.

## SALES SUMMARY

Following is a summary of the Society's sales over the last three years. The first premier sale in Roscrea this year saw the highest average and clearance % at a Society sale.

Sometimes breeders draw conclusions after "the last sale", however, from the data below, there does not seem to be any patterns. Take for example the first sale in 2024 and third sale in 2023.

One comment that I constantly hear at sales is that "stars are selling". Whether one has confidence in the "tars and underlying data or not, a high percentage of our buyers are still following them when purchasing. I wonder will this change in 2025?

Bulls	2024		2023		2022	
	Clearance	Average	Clearance	Average	Clearance	Average
Roscrea/Elphin Spring	98%	€5,739	Elphin 78%	€4,200	Elphin 75%	€4,170
Athenry	74%	€4,124	88%	€4,000	62%	€3,415
Roscrea - May	76%	€4,708	97%	€5,480	93%	€4,564
Roscommon	81%	€3,820	82%	€4,001	82%	€3,670
Roscrea - Autumn	68%	€4,515	87%	€5,144	64%	€4,135
Athenry	65%	€4,200	63%	€3,358	64%	€3,364

Heifers	2024		2023		2022	
	Clearance	Average	Clearance	Average	Clearance	Average
Roscrea - May	64%	€3,464	82%	€4,035	80%	€3,225
Roscrea Autumn	85%	€3,805	55%	€3,760	70%	€3,490

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is an honour once again to address you as president of the ILCS. 2024 has been a very busy year for the Council. I'll share a brief outline of some of the activities we have undertaken.

### **Stakeholder meetings**

The new Council's term started with the changes to the algorithm for generating the indexes in November 2023. Regardless of the pressure from many groups, ICBF have not been for changing.

There has been an increase in the number of meetings this year including the Stakeholder Forums and extra Pedigree Breeders Council meetings. At least one and often two Council representatives attended all of these meetings.

### **Generating Value for your money**

We have tried to focus on reducing costs of non-value add activities, while at the same time providing value to our breeders and customers. Given the losses over the previous two years, our joint treasurers John and Pat looked for opportunities to reduce costs, while not impacting the quality of service. You will see the impact of their approach in the accounts (covered later).

### **Training**

Eleven Council members attended online ICOS training provided by TJ Flanagan. This covered governance amongst other topics. TJ gave a great overview of board members obligations and responsibilities. A key insight was "ignorance is no defence when it comes to director's duties".

Ten Council members attended Health & Safety training given by Jim Dockery at Roscrea Mart.

### **Operating Rule Book**

An Operating Rule Book was established in March and is currently being compiled to ensure the Society has one document containing all its rules. Many of the rule changes currently reside in Council meeting minutes or newsletters, and while it is taking a little longer than anticipated, when completed, we intend to publish it on the website so all members can access it.

We reinstated an **Action List tracker**. To date Council have completed 82 actions, 18 are ongoing and 14 overdue.

The **Online sales entry** is now in operation. Feedback is very positive.

**Notification of heavy birth weights** can now be made via email to [birthweight@irishlimousin.com](mailto:birthweight@irishlimousin.com). This will ensure the breeder and the office both have a record of the notification. Any calf intended to be fed heavily for the show ring or to be fostered on a dairy cow should also be notified.

The **Short Gestation program** was reestablished and renamed Dairy Beef Program. Meetings have taken place with Dovea, Eurogene and Progressive/Munster Bovine. Thanks to the Short gestation team of James Wycherley, Michael Philips, Brendan Curtin, Pat Sheahan, Michael McInerney and a special mention to Frank Buckley for his advice, expertise and invaluable support.

Limo Leader transitioned to **IML HealthPlus+** (which covers all breeds). Due to this the Society no longer need to submit a separate set of accounts for it.

We started working more closely with Tully via Niall Kilrane. A **huge positive** for the breed is how well Limousin is scoring in their **Methane Emissions per Breed** research. Limousin has lower emissions than all other breeds.

**Herd Inspections** are currently taking place on behalf of the Society. These are vital to maintain the integrity of the herd book.

Overall, we had a **positive sales season**. Our sales Team, consisting of Michael Phillips, Michael McInerney and John O'Reilly, worked closely with all stakeholders to endeavour to make the sales a success for the breeders and buyers. **Export on the day** for Premier Sales was a big positive.

We reestablished **surveying buyers at sales**. Bull bonuses were stopped mainly based on feedback from buyers, (while not being financially sustainable).

We stopped paper advertising in NI and UK newspapers but have maintained **advertising in the British Yearbook**. For Premier Sales we are **emailing the contacts** in our database (over 100) a link to the catalogue, details re transport and lairage and a contact name and number for assistance.

Tullamore saw a **successful National show**, with exhibitor numbers up on previous years. Thanks to all the exhibitors and everyone who made the show a success, congratulations to all the prize winners.

We have started **liaising with British Limousin Society** and we hope to grow this relationship. On the YMA front, we have spoken with our counterparts in the UK who are interested in reinstating the Anglo-Irish event. We are also in contact with the **French AI companies**.

### **Marketing**

We **increased our Social Media engagement**. We also modernised the adverts both on paper and online. We have updated the content on the website, the next step is a facelift to improve the design. I would like to thank our **PRO Ann Curtin** for both the **volume and quality** of content and the **timeliness** of same.

We have **increased our communication to breeders** via newsletters and ongoing emails. Our aim is to providing information that breeders are interested in. A special word of thanks to Brendan Curtin for all his work compiling the newsletters and other communications.

We have compiled a list of farms to profile in 2025.

### **UPCOMING ITEMS**

The Society plans to run several **webinars** (and record them) starting in January. The initial focus will be on **Irish and French AI companies**, followed by **animal health and nutrition**. If you have any ideas for topics, please inform your Council rep. If you wish to join these webinars, please **ensure the Society office has your email address**.

The Pedigree Breeders Council (group representing all breeds) are defining a **Performance Recording System** which will potentially replace WHPR. Limousin representatives are leading this.

### **Breed Secretary**

The process of **recruiting a Breed Secretary is ongoing**. We had hoped to have a Breed Secretary in place by now. We fully realise we cannot continue without one, however, it is very difficult to find someone with the required skill sets on the salary we can afford. Careful consideration is required to get the right person to fill the role and given the falling revenue and the need to monitor costs we need to **think outside the box**, as one would do in any business. We continue looking at aspects of the Breed Secretary role and how to define what best serves the membership.

We **explored the possibility of renting out office space** to generate extra income, however, due to tax, this was not an attractive option.

I would like to thank our office staff **Veronica, Marie and Creina** for their support during the year.

Finally, on behalf of all Council and our office staff, I would like to wish you a very happy and peaceful Christmas and all the best for your 2025 sales and breeding season.

Ann Hester  
ILCS President

## AGM UPDATE

The AGM took place on Saturday November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Tullamore Court hotel. Seventy-seven breeders signed in.

The AGM lasted just over two hours. Many people commented that it was good to “have a normal AGM again”, other feedback was that Council are working as a team and breeders were glad that the AGM lasted a reasonable amount of time!

The main point raised was not having a Breed Secretary. While the Society definitely needs a Breed Secretary, Council will need to think “outside the box” given costs are increasing while the Society’s income continues to decrease.

The following motion was raised by the NW club “The Irish Limousin Cattle Society cease publishing ICBF figures in the Sale Catalogue”. Very diverse views were expressed on the night.

The article on last week’s Farmers Journal made concerning reading.

- Reduction of 50,000 suckler cows in the last 12 months
- This equates to a reduction of ~60 suckler farmers per week.
- The suckler herd now stands at 799,000, the lowest figure since the early 90’s.

As a Society we must be **customer focused**. If someone chooses to ignore the ICBF figures, they are fully entitled too, and can ignore this information on the catalogue, however, if we do not publish the ICBF data, the customers who do not want to ignore it will not be supported. We fully realise that very few people would stand over the accuracy of the figures given their variation in the last 12 months.

Given one of our main markets is rapidly declining, we need to target our marketing at **all** potential customers, whether this be farmers trying to breed the next Carrick champion, or a dairy farmer looking for a short gestation, easy calving Limousin bull, or a suckler farmers selling weanlings or finishing cattle.

Given the trends outlined above, Limousin needs to continue gaining market share from other breeds.

## Accounts

John O’Connell from Stephens Cooke & Associates Auditor and Accounting firm presented the accounts. The comments made from the floor were very positive especially relating to the reduction in expenditure.

## SUMMARY

2023 delivered a loss of €86,713.

2024 delivered a profit of €83,970, a turnaround of €170,683. This is a very positive outcome given a decrease in income of €94,203.

### Income:

Income decreased from €553,373 to €459,170, a decrease of €94,203 (17%). The main contributors to the reduction in income were:

- a reduction of €45,730 in income relating to the 50th anniversary.
- a reduction of €37,972 (11.5%) relating to calf registrations.
- a reduction of €7,618 (56.4%) relating to Semen Royalty admin fee.
- a reduction of €4745 (5.6%) relating to membership.
- a reduction of €3,910 (17%) for embryo births.

Excluding the income relating to the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, income decreased by €48,473 or 8.8% (compared to the previous year).

### Expenditure

Expenditure decreased from €640,108 to €375,656, a decrease of €264,452 (41%).

Excluding the costs in 2023 for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the consultancy services relating to the interim CEO (€147,292 in total), the 2023 expenditure would have been €492,816. Based on this the reduction of spend in 2024 is €117,160 or a reduction of 23.8%.

The main contributors to the cost reduction are:

Item	2023 costs	2024 costs	Difference
Legal and Professional	€31,906	€2,866	€29,040
Advertising, Marketing, Sales	€105,419	€76,628	€28,791
Meeting and Travel	€48,063	€27,549	€20,514
Telephone	€18,636	€11,071	€7,565

### Election for national seat

Two nominees ran for the National Council Seat, Brid Cronin and Karol Connell. Congratulations to Karol who won the election.

## 2025 SALES

Following are the 2025 sales dates. Please note the **March and May Premier sales in Roscrea** will take place on **Saturday**.

Sale	Sale Date	Closing date
Roscrea Premier Bull sale	Sat March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fri Feb 14 <sup>th</sup>
Athenry Bull & Heifer sale	Thu April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Fri Mar 21 <sup>st</sup>
Roscrea Premier Bull & Heifer sale	Sat May 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Fri Mar 28 <sup>th</sup>
Roscommon Bull & Heifer sale	Sat May 24 <sup>th</sup>	Fri April 25 <sup>th</sup>
Roscrea Premier Bull & Heifer sale	Mon Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>	Fri Sept 19 <sup>th</sup>
Athenry Bull and Heifer sale	Sat Dec 13 <sup>th</sup>	Fri Nov 14 <sup>th</sup>

Our **online sales entry form** was used for the Roscrea sale in October and the Athenry sale in December. Feedback is very positive, and we would recommend all breeders to at least try it. If your entry is accepted, you will receive a message on screen stating: **“Animal saved into catalogue”**. You will also receive a confirmation text immediately (if ICBF have your mobile number on their database).

To access the online Sales Entry form, select the **Sales tab** on the website.

The vendor enters the animal’s **tag number**. If the tag number is valid the animal’s **Name** and **Sex** appears.

Select the Herd Health Scheme you are participating in. The system defaults to **IML HealthPlus+** (previously known as Limo Leader).

Sellers can enter an **optional comment**.

Select **Add Animal**.

If your entry is accepted, you will receive a message confirming same on screen and receive a confirmation text. If your entry is not accepted, you will receive a message on screen as to the reason why.

All animals being entered in Limousin Society Sales **must be Genotyped** and results back **prior** to Sale Entry. Following are some relevant dates.

DNA SAMPLES TO BE RECEIVED AT ICBF/LAB	LAST DAY FOR ALL DATA TO EVALUATIONS (DATA, PEDIGREE & VALID GENOTYPES)	PUBLICATION (3PM ON THE DATE BELOW) OF UPDATED INDEXES	Relevant for sale
24 <sup>th</sup> December	24 <sup>th</sup> January	25 <sup>th</sup> March	Athenry April Roscrea May Roscommon May
26 <sup>th</sup> February	26 <sup>th</sup> March	27 <sup>th</sup> May	
No further dates available, however they will follow a very similar pattern			



**Shannon Stan**, bred by Sarah Mc Elligott in Asdee Co Kerry, made history after the November index rerun when he achieved a **minus gestation score**. This is the first Limousin bull ever to achieve this milestone. Gestation length is a key metric for dairy farmers, one of the few growing areas in agriculture. Short gestation bulls are the key to growing our market share in the dairy market. Congratulations to Sarah on this achievement.

For a list of Limousin bulls sorted under different categories (Terminal, Replacement, Calving ease, Gestation, Docility, Carcass weight) please [click here](#).

## FRENCH FIGURES

The following table shows some known AI bull's French figures. The Excel file sorted under different criteria can be accessed from [this link](#) on the website.

There are still issues with the French data being imported into the ICBF system, which is not benefiting the breed.

It is very interesting to compare the French and ICBF figures! While the algorithms are different, it does raise the question, **which one is correct?**

Name	Qualification	Off Spring	Calving Ease	Growth Rate	Muscle Dev	Skeletal Dev	Functionality	Milk	IVMAT	Docility
Percy	N/A	N/A	108	105	111	89	106	111	120	N/A
Cameos	RRE M	18241	98	107	130	91	98	105	128	102
Bavardage	RRE M	16444	101	100	106	108	87	115	117	100
Usse	RRE M	11382	103	103	102	96	106	113	115	105
Bel orient	RRE M	6742	99	104	108	106	104	111	111	98
Grenache	RR M	4623	124	91	98	82	108	112	104	112
Erebos	RR QM	4432	114	99	97	94	104	115	114	102
IO	RRE M	2732	102	107	114	100	94	100	111	111
Day	RRE M	2615	88	105	117	98	100	112	122	114
JT	RRE M	2583	104	106	136	89	97	97	124	101
Frascati	RRE M	2268	97	106	106	105	109	106	113	99
Jurancon	RRE M	2077	96	113	123	99	95	102	124	97
Edakya	RRE M	1917	102	104	106	100	79	93	100	103
Jaurel	RRE M	1675	99	111	116	105	92	117	132	97
Hamiclar	TA RP2	1648	125	89	131	62	124	95	106	105
Gstaad	RRE JB	1463	97	115	116	97	93	83	105	113
Ivatonov	RR JB	891	121	91	108	84	100	106	108	96
Hotel	RR JB	760	110	98	104	92	89	112	113	100
Haled MN	RRE Vs	669	108	98	104	98	89	108	109	100
Hector GD	RRE Vs	622	109	99	130	82	113	109	123	96
Hussac	RRE VB	509	96	94	118	81	97	100	103	100
Letiprince	RRE M	430	98	110	114	107	92	99	115	93
Leopard MN	RRE Vs	306	86	113	117	108	95	95	111	100
Magister	RR JB	281	101	114	129	95	89	98	128	109
Jym	RRE JB	268	105	97	111	103	86	105	109	107
Malijai	RRE M	221	111	112	108	98	94	102	117	111
Nucleon	RR Vs	98	107	98	101	104	95	105	103	100
Nebbiolo	RRE M	67	103	109	104	107	90	103	111	109
Moebius	RRE M	60	110	108	115	94	108	101	118	97

The Society are in contact with the various French AI companies. They will be invited to present at the upcoming webinars.

## RECORD COMES TUMBLING DOWN IN CARRICK WINTER FAIR.

On the second weekend of the winter fair in Carrick on Shannon, the top price record fell, when a smashing weanling Limousin heifer (named Lizzo), a daughter of MBP (Milbrook Dartangan Et), sold for a record price of €30,000. She was bred by renowned showman and commercial cattle producer Derrick Forde from Galway. Lizzo was born in May and weighed 345kg on sale day.

Many of the dams and sires were Limousin, it is great to see this market growing each year.

Following are some of the prices from the Senior Cattle and weanling bulls which was held on Monday November 18<sup>th</sup>.

WEIGHT	PRICE	PRICE /KG	SEX	SIRE
748	€8,000	€10.70	F	Claddagh McCabe Et
334	€3,050	€9.13	M	Claddagh McCabe Et
520	€4,200	€8.08	F	Elite Forever Brill Et
595	€4,600	€7.73	F	Elderberry Galahad
550	€4,000	€7.27	F	Wilodge Joskins
369	€2,600	€7.05	F	Trueman Idol
680	€4,700	€6.91	M	Gamin (ZGM)

732	€5,000	€6.83	F	Elite Lacette Et
413	€2,700	€6.54	M	Milbrook Dartangan Et
545	€3,500	€6.42	F	Lough Rynn Mike
506	€3,100	€6.13	M	Trueman Jagger

Prices for weanling heifers – these are only the top few – many of the cattle presented sold **for in excess of €10/kg.**

WEIGHT	PRICE	PRICE/KG	SIRE
345	€30,000	€86.96	Milbrook Dartangan Et
345	€12,600	€36.52	Trueman Idol
365	€10,000	€27.40	Trueman Idol
305	€7,700	€25.25	Claddagh McCabe Et
405	€9,600	€23.70	Jaegerbomb
400	€9,200	€23.00	Ampertaine Elgin
465	€10,000	€21.51	Trueman Idol
437	€7,500	€17.16	Trueman Idol
445	€7,400	€16.63	Graigcock Rambo
335	€5,100	€15.22	Stock bull
518	€7,600	€14.67	Trueman Idol
300	€4,400	€14.67	Graigcock Rambo
500	€6,600	€13.20	Jaegerbomb



Lizzo the record breaker

## METHANE EMISSIONS – Limousin the Greenest breed

Limousin are outperforming the other beef breeds when it comes to lower methane emissions.

From the research currently taking place in Tully, out of 319 bulls in the test sample of which 57 are limousin.

- 19 out of the lowest 20 are Limousin.
- 49 of the 57 Limousin are in the bottom 100.

For full results across all breeds [click here](#).

Following are the Limousin bulls with the lowest methane emissions, the ranking is their position based on the 319 bulls tested.

1	DAMONA	LM
2	WILODGE JOSKINS	LM
3	TOMSCHOICE IRONSTONE	LM
4	TOMSCHOICE JET	LM
5	CASTLEVIEW GAZELLE	LM
6	BALLYGARVAN STUD IKE	LM
7	EXCEL	LM
8	NOOB	LM
9	IX	LM
10	BROOKLANDS MARCO	LM
11	ELITE ICE CREAM ET	LM
13	CORCAMORE LORCAN	LM
14	ELITE LACETTE ET	LM

---

## CLUB STRUCTURES.

When you become a member of the Society you automatically become a member of a club based on your address.

Clubs are a great way (especially for new members) to learn about the breed and to meet fellow breeders. Most clubs organise events (Open days, Club heifer sales, social events, etc) and have 2-3 meetings annually. Members receive text messages informing them of upcoming club events.

You are all welcome to attend your club meetings.

15	CASTLEVIEW IMMAGINABLE	LM
16	GAMIN	LM
17	CLARAGH NEYMAR	LM
18	MEELICKADUFF LAMBORGHINI	LM
19	MONTCLARE LOPEZ	LM
20	CLONARK JUMBO	LM
26	IDALGO PP	LM
27	COISCEIM LEX	LM
28	BOVA KAISER	LM
29	TOMSCHOICE ICEBERG	LM
33	CASIMIR 65	LM
34	ELDERBERRY GALAHAD	LM
35	JYM	LM
36	CARROWREAGH HONDURAS	LM
38	DIMOIWII	LM
40	KELTIC HANDSOME	LM

Greenhouse gas emissions are not currently included in the indexes. From a Limousin perspective, the sooner this data is included the better. Given the growing emphasis on sustainability and carbon footprint, this is an extremely positive outcome for Limousin in the medium to long term.

---

There are currently 7 clubs in Ireland. Following is the breakdown of members per club.

Club	# Members	% Members
Northwest	547	26.3%
Northeast	465	22.4%
Southeast	424	20.4%
Clare	229	11.0%
Southwest	202	9.7%
Cork	150	7.2%
Donegal	61	2.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2078</b>	



# Club Updates

## SOUTHEAST CLUB REPORT 2024

The club kicked the year off with it's AGM on the 16<sup>th</sup> May in the Springhill Court Hotel in Kilkenny.

John O'Reilly provided an update on the challenges facing Council and the goals the Council hope to achieve in the short to medium term.

The club then held its elections: Emer Moran was elected Chairperson, David Swaine elected Club Secretary, Noel Brennan was elected Club Treasurer and Steven Tierney was elected as the Club PRO. The meeting concluded with presentations to John O'Reilly the outgoing Chairperson and to Mary Delany the outgoing Club Secretary for their many years of work and dedication to the running of the club.

The club established a Facebook page -[South East Limousin Club](#)- to help promote the breed and breeders of the South East and keep the members up to date with all club activities

### Club Calf Championship

The club held a very successful calf championships in Ossory Show

There were three well contested classes, class results were:

**September Bull Calf Class:** First Brendan O'Shea, Second Colin Dunne

**September Heifer Class:** First Brendan O'Shea, Second Sean Maher, Third Brendan O'Shea



**Best Calf Male or Female Born in 2024:** First Tom Harney (Finboy Cixen), Second Tom Harney

We would like to thank all participants and our sponsors **Natural Nutrition** and **Animal Farmacy** for making the day a success.

### Club meetings.

A breeding information meeting was held in the Seven Oaks Hotel in Carlow on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October. There were guest speakers from Bull Bank, Progressive Genetics and Eurogene, followed by a very insightful presentation from Martin Ryan on best practices for calving and calf growth, through to weaning and sale. All members found this interesting and informative.

A Council update was then given by John O'Reilly and Ger O'Brien.

**Plans for 2025 include** informative meetings, a calf championship and a field evening.



September Heifer Calf-Brendan O'Shea with Templequain Ultra and Judge Donie Mc Keon

## Cork Club report 2024.

We held our calf promotion in Kanturk mart in February. Winner on the day with both the Champion and Reserve champion was Anthony Dunlea, Banteer.

We had our Cork Calf Championship in Ballyvourney/Coolea show in July, with the Champion going to Ian Santry with Haven Vikki and Reserve champion going to Declan O'Regan with Paircalassa Umar. Thanks to Championship sponsors Dovea Genetics.



Judge Steven Tierney presenting Champion plaque to Ian Santry's Haven Vikki, handler Grace O'Donovan

In July we also held our herds competition with 10 herds participating. Thanks to our Judges Mac Murphy and Teleri Thomas. Our results and prizes were presented at our annual Christmas night out, held in The Castle Hotel, Macroom.

### Cork Club Herds Competition 2024: Results



Adrian Buckley presenting plaques to Kieran and Jason Noonan, Dromanig herd.

### Small herd

- 1<sup>st</sup> Declan O'Regan - Paircalassa
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Diarmuid Thompson - Leevalley
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Adrian Buckley - Bluehill

### Medium Herd

- 1<sup>st</sup> Timmy Mc Carthy - Gaberial
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Brid Cronin - Powerstown
- 3<sup>rd</sup> PJ Hegarty - Gaggin

### Large Herd

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kieran Noonan - Dromanig

**Best newcomer** John O'Connell - Lyragh

**Best group of calves** Brid Cronin - Powerstown

**Best young bull** Diarmuid Thomson - Leevalley Ultimate by Goldies Jackpot

**Best Young heifer** Adrian Buckley - Bluehill Una by Grangeford Jojo

**Best Heifer Maiden or in Calf** Diarmuid Thompson - Leevalley Temptation by Tomschoice Jet

**Best Cow** Brid Cronin - Powerstown Lilly by On-dit

**Best Cow Family** PJ Hegarty - Gaggin Impress

**Highest Terminal Index male** Brid Cronin - Powerstown Ventress by Aughalion prince

**Highest Maternal Index female** Kieran Noonan Dromanig Usha by Tomschoice Lexicon

We held a farm walk in November, in conjunction with the SW club, on the farm of Pat O'Flynn and family, with a YMA event held on the day. We also had a number of speakers on the day sharing some great information and advice. For event report [click here](#).

We would like to thank all the companies who supported and sponsored our various competitions throughout the year.

- The Irish Limousin Society
- Munster Bovine
- Dovea Genetics
- Eurogene AI
- Elite Pedigree Genetics
- Worldwide Sires
- Dairygold
- Natural Nutrition
- Drinagh Co-Op

We would also like to thank Veronica and Marie in the office for their help and support throughout the year.

## NORTHWEST CLUB REPORT 2024

The North West Club had a very successful 2024 with a full calendar of events.

First day out for the club was a trip to Northern Ireland and the North East club area at the end of May where visits to various herds were undertaken. Herds visited included Ernevalley, Trueman, Titchburn & Alandale. On day 2 of the trip, the tour took in the Baileys Open day in Co. Meath.

The club held it's open day at the Milan Limousin herd in June in conjunction with their viewing day ahead for their Dispersal Sale. We would like to thank Maura & Donie for opening their doors to the club again. The open day was a great success with a large crowd in attendance, including visitors from all club areas. A great tour of the Milan Limousin herd took place with competitions and talks given on the day.



All in the club would like to congratulate Maura and Donie on their very successful [Dispersal sale](#) and wish them both the very best in their retirement.

A full calendar of summer shows was held in the club area, and it was great to see everyone out showing Limousins, both pedigree and commercial. Well done to David Cogan who won his All Ireland class at the National Show in Tullamore.



Other sales that occurred in the club area included the Lisna production sale for Dermott Shaughnessy held in August. Well done to Dermott and family on a very successful sale. For report [click here](#).

The annual herds competition took place in early August. Kieran McCrory of the noted Bernish herd in Northern Ireland had the task of judging the different herds. The 2024 herds competition saw the largest numbers of entrants in many years. Well done to all category winners and all who took part

In September the club held its annual Calf Finals in Ballinrobe. Kieran was again judge on the day. He had a tough task to judge a super line up of Limousin cattle. Overall winner of the calf finals went to Martin O'Connor with Rockview Una.

Martin's heifer was later sold at the North West Elite heifer sale in December for the top price on the night of €4,400, a new record for the club sale. This heifer showed the success story of the club sale as her dam was purchased at a previous club sale. Our sale saw a 100% clearance with some great heifers on display, showing the demand for top quality Limousin heifers. A massive well done to everyone who supports the North West Club Heifer sale each year. For report [click here](#).

The John Moore cup for YMA members was won this year by Henry Gunn from Elphin Co. Roscommon.

We would like to congratulate all our members who had another very strong year at the various Irish Limousin Sales where North West breeders took a range of prizes and also in the top prices at the sales.

A massive well done to our club member Derrick Forde who stole the show at the Carrick on Shannon Fat stock selling his May born heifer "Lizzo" for €30,000. Lizzo was Interbreed Champion at the Bonniconlon show in Mayo in August.

The club would like to thank all our sponsors who supported the club during the year.

On behalf of the club, we would like to thank all purchasers of NW Limousin cattle both pedigree and commercial and wish them every success with their purchases.

Thanks to Marie and Veronica in the office for their support.

We would also like to wish all our own members and breeders continued luck and success with their breeding and sales in 2025.

## CLARE CLUB REPORT 2024

This summer saw a host of shows with great success from Clare breeders both at home and across the country. Shows included the Ennis Show, Mullagh, Corofin, Limerick & Kildysart. The highlight of the summer was the Tullamore Show '24.



*Hurricane Ultrabeat from the herd of Daire O'Meara winning the September bull class, Junior Champion and Reserve Overall Male Champion in Tullamore 2024. Selling in Roscrea Oct sale for €9,000.*



*Ardnacrusha Limousins - Tafford pictured taking 1st and Reserve Senior Male Champion from Donal and Rachel Moloney*

The Drummin Herd Sale took place in October – end of an era. Congratulation and well done for a tremendous contribution to Irish Limousin from John McInerney.

### Clare Limousin Heifer Sales 2024 – Sixmilebridge

Another successful sale of Clare bred heifers at Sixmilebridge Mart was held on Nov 15th.

Top quality bred females were presented on the night. Well done to all breeders and purchasers on the night. Outstanding support from the staff of Sixmilebridge mart and Irish Limousin.



**MegaMoo Raffle.** The winner of the €5000 voucher was Kieran Ahern (#01). Purchased Lot 4 & 15.

Winners of the four €500 vouchers were Line #:

- 125 - Philip Crowe
- 183 - Michael Ward
- 49 - Andrew McInerney
- 22 - John Shannon

Topping the sale at €4,300 was MONAFOLA TESS from the Newmarket-on-Fergus based herd of Sean O'Connor. Monafola Tess is a stylish May 2022 born daughter of Gamin and the Mullary Intrepid dam Finboy Layla.

Next highest prince at €4,100 was for BALLYKINNCURRA TAMARA from the herd of John and Sean Moroney, Corofin. Tamara is daughter of Grenache and the homebred Ampertaine Foreman dam Ballykinncurra Mariah.

James Hannon received €4000 for DRUMLINE T 1210 a daughter of Norman Inventor. Her dam Drumline K 932 has Springvalley Harrison and Milbrook Tanko in her lineage.

For a full report on the sale [click here](#)

**Herds Competition** – Judging this year was Martin Davis. A vast array of enthusiastic entries this year and a two-day visit from our adjudication to view and review all competitors.

For all the results follow us on Facebook at 'Clare Limousin Club'.. coming soon

Events planned for 2025

- Herds Competition 2025
- Clare Limousin Heifer Sales 2025

## CALVING-RELATED DATA.

The following table is the data received by ICBF in relation to the **calving classification per breed in 2023**. The data relates to **“Pedigree cow calvings by sire breed of calf.”**

breed	calvings	% with score	% no assist (1)	% some assist (2)	% difficult (3)	C-section (4)	% 3 or 4	Herds all	Herds with data
AA	8,627	91%	97%	2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	1,224	1,070
AU	901	98%	97%	3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	157	154
BA	183	97%	97%	2%	0.0%	0.6%	0.6%	30	28
BB	159	20%	44%	13%	3.1%	40.6%	43.8%	65	20
CH	5,466	91%	92%	6%	0.4%	1.0%	1.4%	1,349	1,279
DX	1,016	77%	98%	2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	243	173
HE	3,677	96%	95%	4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.7%	582	553
LM	5,751	93%	95%	4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.7%	1,260	1,197
PI	16	75%	100%	0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4	3
PT	206	100%	96%	4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	37	37
SA	462	95%	99%	1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	84	80
SH	311	91%	94%	5%	0.7%	0.4%	1.1%	107	92
SI	1,555	91%	92%	7%	0.6%	0.8%	1.3%	402	370

The following table contains some interesting 2023 data, with **over 50% of commercial heifers calving down to Limousin**. This is an extremely positive insights for Limousin and shows the confidence the commercial farmers have in the calving-ease of the breed.

Commercial heifer calvings by sire breed of calf		
Breed	calvings	%
LM	40,560	51.4%
AA	14,285	18.1%
CH	10,476	13.3%
SI	2,943	3.7%
SA	2,693	3.4%
HE	2,441	3.1%
SH	1,911	2.4%
AU	1,585	2.0%
BB	733	0.9%
BA	668	0.8%
PT	501	0.6%
DX	168	0.2%
PI	22	0.0%
Total	78986	

## COUNCIL MEMBERS 2024

<b>Council Member</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Phone #</b>
Ann Hester                      President	Northwest	087 2238252
Michael McInerney          Vice-President	Clare	087 8552379
John O'Reilly                      Joint Treasurer	Southeast	086 2617188
Pat Sheahan                      Joint Treasurer	Southwest	087 2500311
Brendan Curtin                  Communications	National seat	087 3850399
Karol Connell	National seat	086 3705729
Arthur Lambert	Northeast	087 1365341
Ger O'Brien	Southeast	087 2379466
Gerry O'Connell	Northwest	087 9681787
Michael Phillips	National seat	087 2862285
James Wycherley	Cork	086 0740427
Open Position to be filled by club election. (William Smith resigned from Council on Nov 5 <sup>th</sup> ).	Northeast	

Thanks to outgoing Council members Brid Cronin and William Smith for their contributions to Council.

### **Condolences to Sarah, Joe and Eoin McElligott.**

The Southwest club and the wider Limousin community would like to express their deepest sympathies to Sarah McElligott, sons Joe and Eoin on the recent passing of MG. May his gentle soul rest in peace.

### **DON'T GET LEFT BEHIND**

This newsletter (with active links to access more information) is available on the website and was also emails to all breeders. To ensure you receive all communications, please supply your email address to the office.

### **OFFICE CLOSING TIMES OVER CHRISTMAS**

The Society Office will close on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and will reopen on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025.

The Limousin Society Council & Office Staff –Veronica, Marie and Creina would like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas & Prosperous New Year

### **Contact details:**

Irish Limousin Cattle Society Ltd,  
Kilglass, Mitchelstown,  
Co. Cork

Office: +353 (0)25 85036

### **Emails**

**Office:** [admin@irishlimousin.com](mailto:admin@irishlimousin.com)

**PRO:** [pro@irishlimousin.com](mailto:pro@irishlimousin.com)

### **Heavy birth weight notifications:**

[birthweight@irishlimousin.com](mailto:birthweight@irishlimousin.com)