

Abstract by Andrew Cromie - The Contribution of Animal Recording to Profitability on Irish Farms

The principles of animal breeding are well understood. Genetic gain is founded on three critical components; (i) accurate identification, ancestry and performance data on which to base selection decisions, (ii) an economic index that identifies the most profitable animals as parents of the next generation and (iii) a breeding program that ensure that genes from these best animals are disseminated widely throughout the commercial cattle population (ICBF, 2011).