

# Cow Own Worth – synergising data to provide a new tool to aid in culling decisions in seasonal dairy herds

M.M. Kelleher, D.P. Berry, P.R. Amer, A. Cromie, R. Evans

**Speaker: Margaret Kelleher** 



**ICBF** Database



**Bord Bia Irish Food Board** 

> Vet labs

**Farmers Abattoirs** 



Dept. Agri

Calving Ease Heat & Al / Serve Pregnancy Diagnosis Dry-Off Live Weight Health & Disease **Body Condition Score** Mark for Culling Purpose Jumbo / Freezebrand Missing Slaughter Milking Temperament Survey

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HerdPlus Profit through Science

**HerdPlus** 

**ICBF Database** 

Al companies

Milk recording

**Teagasc** Research





Milk Co-ops

**Breed Societies** 





## Cow's Own Worth (COW)

## Designed to represent more closely the future phenotypic performance of dairy females

A new system to rank females on predicted profit potential

- Spring-calving system
- EBI Economic Breeding Index (national breeding index)
- Centralised database
- Reward data recording herds with an added value service





**EBI €200** 



EBI €100



EBI €200 Parity 5



EBI €100 Parity 2



EBI €200 Parity 5 Calved April



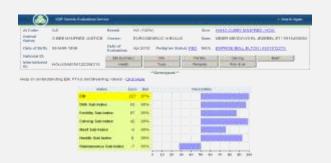
EBI €100 Parity 2 Calved Feb



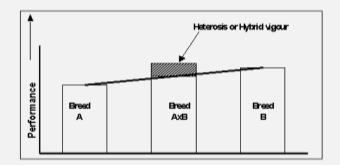


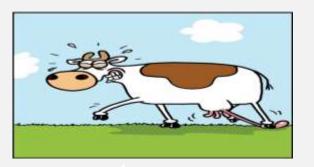


## Cow's Own Worth (COW)









## **Expected profit from:**



Cow's Own Worth

#### **Current Lactation**

- •Milk
- Management
- Health
- Maintenance
- Fertility (calving date)

#### **Net Culling Cost**

- Cull cow value
- •Replacement cost

#### **Future Lactations**

•Milk

Management

Health

Maintenance

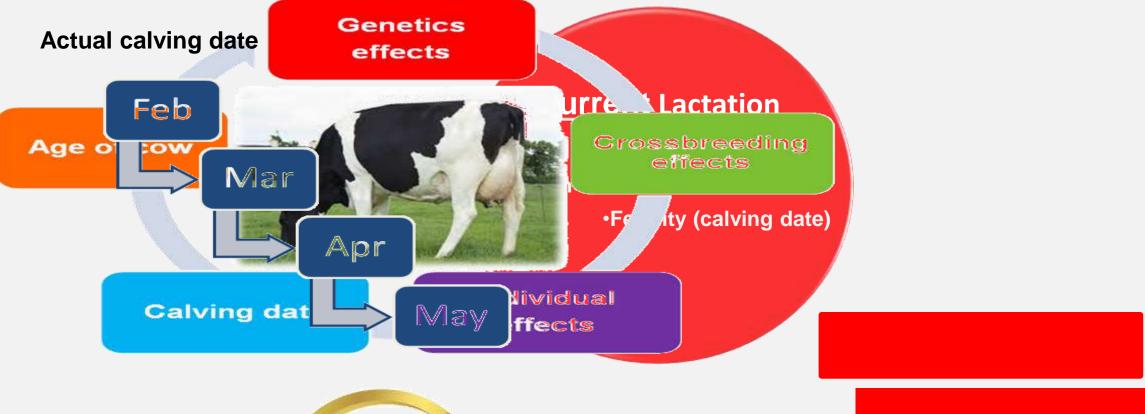
Beef

- Fertility
- Calving
- Descendants

+ predictions on fertility, survival and SCC performance



**Current lactation profit** 







## **Expected profit from:**



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•Milk

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#### **Future Lactations**

•Milk

Management

•Health

Maintenance

•Beef

- Fertility
- Calving
- Descendants

+ predictions on fertility, survival and SCC performance



Genetics effects

Age of cow



Crossbreeding effects

**Calving date** 

Individual effects

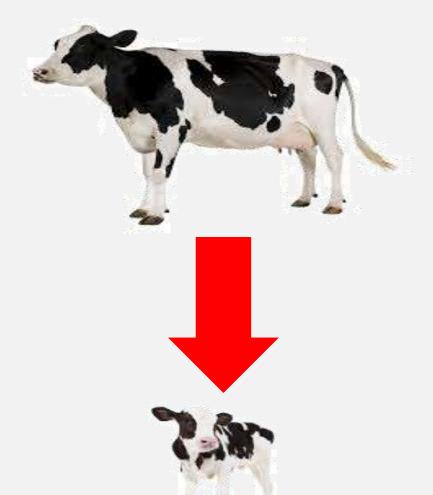


#### **Future Lactations**

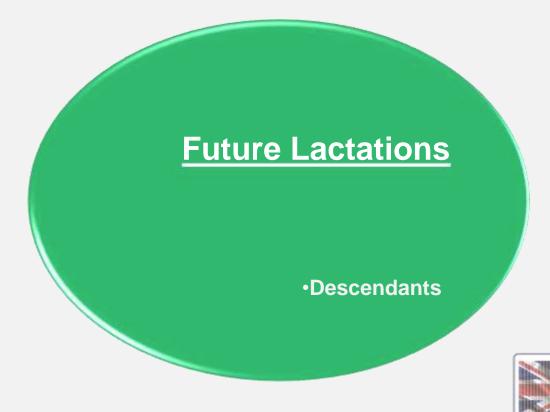
- •Milk
- •Health
- Beef
- Calving

- - Management Maintenance

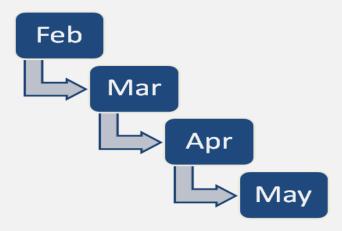




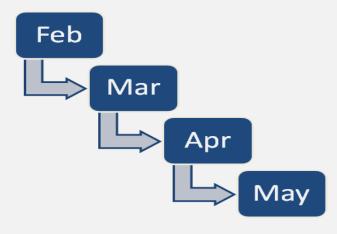
EBI times
Cumulative Discounted Expression



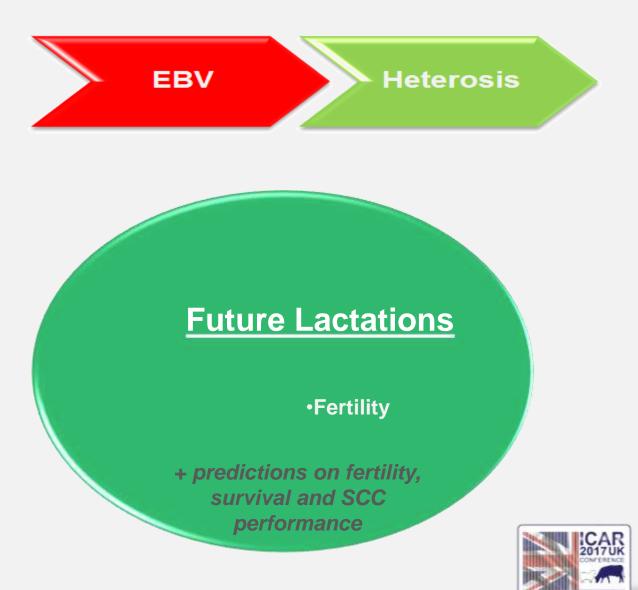
#### **Actual calving date**



#### **Next calving date**



#### **Genetic effects**



## **Future fertility performance**

#### **Transition matrices**

Best Genetics		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May			
	Proportion	0.14	0.53	0.22	80.0	0.03			
	Cost (€)	0.00	0.00	-151.00	-210.00	-437.00			
	∑Cost (€)	-63.13							
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May			
	Proportion	0.13	0.39	0.25	0.15	0.07			
	Cost (€)	0.00	0.00	-151.00	-210.00	-437.00			
	∑Cost (€) -99.84								

Difference of €36.71

## **Expected profit from:**

Cow's Own Worth

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#### **Net Culling Cost**

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#### **Future Lactations**

•Milk

Management

•Health

Maintenance

Beef

- Fertility
- Calving
- Descendants

+ predictions on fertility, survival and SCC performance



Net culling cost



Salvage value + Genetics<sub>CWT</sub>



Long term replacement requirement



**Net Culling Cost** 

Replacement cost Replacement cost



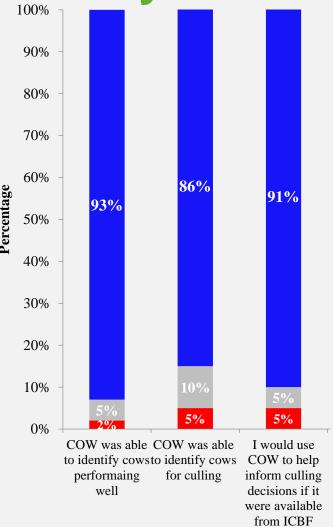
#### **Results: Milk production**

€360 more value per cow per lactation for cows in top 25% versus bottom 25%

	Tor cows in top 23 /6 versus bottom 23 /6								
	Milk (kg)		Fat (g/100g)		Protein (g/100g)				
Group	COW	EBI	COW	EBI	COW	EBI			
Best	6965	6674	4.07	4.11	3.57	3.57			
(Top 25%)	(6.17)	(6.32)	(0.003)	10.000	(0.001)	(0.003)			
Good	6695	U.	€9000			3.52			
Good	(6.45)	(0.			(0.001)	(0.003)			
Door	6512	6530	4.01	4.00	3.49	3.49			
Poor	(6.18)	(6.27)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.001)	(0.003)			
Worst	6164	6467	3.97	3.93	3.44	3.44			
(Bottom 25%)	(6.08)	(6.24)	(0.003)	(0.003)	(0.001)	(0.003)			

Survey results 2016 pilot

- COW was able to identify cows performing well within my herd.
- 2. COW was able to identify cows for culling within my herd.
- 3. I would use the COW to help inform my culling decisions if it were to become a routine service from ICBF.
- 4. I found the report easy to read.
- 5. The summary tables were useful to highlight specific areas of production (EG: Top 10 and bottom 10 on COW, Top 10 and bottom 10 on milk solids, High SCC cows).
- 6. The colour coding of the top 10% and bottom 10% on important traits useful.



Question

- 7. My milk recording information has more value now that I can receive a COW ireport.
- 8. I would like the COW to be generated for my herd from now on.
- 9. I would recommend the national extension of the COW to all dairy milk recording herds in 2017.

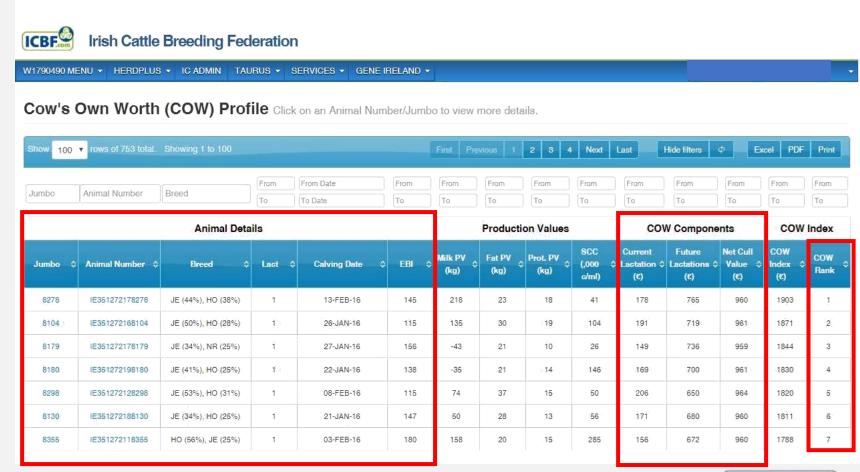


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Disagree

## Profile development 2017

- Development underway
- Pilot phase scheduled July
- Farmers testing screens and accuracy of COW rank
- Potential to encourage more data recording with data completeness dash bars





## **Current data recording**



## Conclusions

- Complimentary to the EBI (national breeding index)
- Added value service
- Prospects to improve herd profitability
- Multiple sources of data available
- Live system
- Maximise COW accuracy by;
  - Recording MORE data
  - Recording ACCURATE data
- Pilot phase of on-line service July 2017
- Commercial roll-out September pending results of pilot phase





Cow's Own Worth





#### **Our Farmer & Government Representation**







#### Our AI & Milk Recording Organisations









#### **Our Herdbooks**







































**Acknowledging Our Members** 

## **Questions?**

