

WHY USE BLONDE?

* Highest carcase weight and fastest to slaughter (ICBF August 2012)

* Easy calving

* High Kill out percentage - 65%+

* High meat to bone ratio

* Exceptional cull cow values

* In high demand for Italian export market

* The ultimate breed when crossing with Belgian Blue

* Excellent maternal traits

Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle Society

Lisenanagh, Ballinagh, Co. Cavan irishblondes@gmail.com www.irishblonde.com

Secretary: Philip Crowe - **Mobile:** (086) 074 3931 **Tel:** 049 436 7612 **Office hours:** Monday 3.00pm to 7.00pm - Wednesday 10.00am to 4.00pm



Chairman's Foreword

It's hard to believe a year has passed and another new journal on the way. At the moment we have new challenges and changes with the reduction in suckler herds due to the explosive expansion in Dairy.

With increased demand for top quality lean beef, the Blonde is at the fore with its lean meat with excellent taste, excellent carcase grades, very high weight gain, feed conversion, kill out percentages and meat to bone ratio. With the decrease in suckler herds nationally, I am delighted to say that the usage of Blonde Bulls is increasing.

The Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine commercial herd competition has gone from strength to strength with entries rising and the quality of stock improving dramatically each year.

The rapid expansion in dairy has led to less suckler herds nationwide but has also led to more blonde bulls being used on dairy cows. The main reasons for this being the easy calved nature of the blondes and the higher quality calves coming from the blonde bulls, therefore enhancing the value whether selling calves, stores or finishing stock. Blonde X females off good British Fresian cows are always in high demand.

These heifers make great cows that cross well with any breed and especially blonde again. Farmers who produce quality blonde cattle can be reassured that they have the product for the top lucrative home and export markets.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all the people who showed pedigree and commercial blondes this year. Thanks also to all who entered in this year's herd competition and to those who judged it. Keep up the good work!

Again I would like to extend a special thanks to the council members, the secretary, members, breeders and breed enthusiasts who devote their time and efforts to the growth and promotion of the blonde breed. I am looking forward to working with all of you in the future.

John O' Halloran. Society Chairman.



Home to 9 of the top 10 most used Beef A.I. Sires





Stonlea Inzagi BA2308

- 5 star on Replacement Index
- A son of the renowned
 Seaview Barney from a
 Shanvalley Dancer dam
- Long well-muscled bull
- Great temperament



Inzagi's sire -Seaview Barney

Contact 022 43228 munsterai.ie



International Sales 00 353 46 954 1333 irelandgenetics.com Contact 1850 20 20 50 progressivegenetics.ie



Johnstown Blondes



Bulls & Heifers always for sale

Contact James Carey, Johnstown, Enfield, Co. Meath. Est. 1980 M: 086 859 9641

1



Glenwood Blondes

Selection of top quality 4 and 5 star bulls for sale. Exciting new bloodlines from Imported and AI Sires







Pictures of a selction of this years young halter trained bulls. Well muscled, easy calved and exceptionally quiet bulls.



John O'Halloran & Family.

Glenwood, Mullinahone, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

Tel: +353(0)52-9153449 Mobile: +353(0)868334810

glenwoodblondes@gmail.com





Terelton Blondes



Award winning herd with top quality pedigree and commercial stock always for sale
 Many of the young bulls for sale have a 4 or 5 star Maternal/Terminal Index,
 ideal for the Beef Data & Genomics Programme (BDGP)





• Producing cattle with excellent temperament and muscling while still retaining ease of calving and maternal traits.

Top bloodlines from bulls including:

- Ark Diego Eilean Godfather Blackwater Ainsley Blackwater Jockey
- Aramis Uvay Crack Landais Hiver Budore Utah Stonelea Inzagi

Contact Sean Galvin, Sleaveen West, Macroom, Co. Cork M: 086 357 4463 or T: 026 42007 Email: galvinsean@hotmail.com



Stonelea Blondes



• Stonelea Blondes was founded in 2012 when I purchased four females from the Seaview herd and four from the Shanvalley herd in Northern Ireland

• Bulls and females always for sale



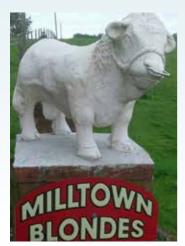
Contact Ollie Naughton, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.
M: 086 811 9142



Milltown Blondes



Bulls for saleHeifers occasionallyCrossbreed and purebred





Contact Ken Hill, Glassleck Shercock, Co. Cavan M: 089 418 2260



Gortnalee Blondes





Contact Willie & Anne Fitzpatrick, Gortnalee, Donaghmore, Co. Laois T: 0505 44128 M: 087 937 3464 E: williefitzp@gmail.com



Brocca Blondes



• All top ai sires used bulls and heifers usually for sale



Contact John Barry Moran, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath M: 087 911 1750



Kilmoney Blondes





Contact Enda & Aisling O'Loughlin, Kilmoney Cottage, Rathangan, Co. Kildare.
M: 087 642 1724



Breeder Focus

Kilmoney Blondes

Philip talks to Enda O' Loughlin of Kilmoney Blondes, who have just sold Kilmoney King Kong into the Gene Ireland programme. I bought the first pure bred blondes onto my farm back in 2007, a cow, a calf and a weanling heifer. They were purchased from well know breeder Stephen Byrne. The cow went on to breed a Tullamore champion Kilmoney Bruce, who then was purchased by Dovea ai. Over the past 10 years I've tried to breed an animal with the temperament and shape that could command a top price. I think I'm my own biggest critic when it comes to the quality of my cattle. I've a herd of 10 breeding cows with the hope to build to about 25 quality animals. I find it very hard to get the type of cow I want so last year I decided to start flushing my best cows with the hope of getting the breeding I want. Recently Kilmoney King Kong entered in to icbf's maternal bull breeding program. Hopefully he'll breed the cows breeders are looking for. The potential of the blonde breed has been proven in feed and finishing trials conducted by icbf's Tully Test Centre, with the breed finishing top of the many tests. Any farmer who wishes for ease of calving, weight gain, growth, kill out % and cattle that finish at a young age the blonde breed ticks all the boxes.



Lattin Blondes



Pedigree registered herd using top A.I bloodlines for the past 25 years
 Currently 66% of females In the herd are rated 4 or 5 star on the replacement index
 Selection of pedigree registered bulls for sale



Contact Pauline or Pat Finnan, Lattin, Co. Tipperary
M: 086 820 7568

Results 2017

OSSORY SHOW:

Golden Heifer:

1st Shane Naughton, Doohan, Ballydangan, Athlone, Co Roscommon

2nd Creed Family, Derryleigh, Inchigeela, Macroom, Cork

3rd Creed Family, Derryleigh, Inchigeela, Macroom, Cork

4th Creed Family, Derryleigh, Inchigeela, Macroom, Cork

5th John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath

Pedigree Bonde d'Aquitaine Bull or Heifer calf born after 01.08.16

1st John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath. Broccagh Kingfisher ET, IE361509090059, 28th Sept 2016, Aramis, Brockagh Winnie

2nd Oliver Naughton, Doohan, Ballydangan, Athlone, Co. Roscommon Stonelea kaden, IE311056309100, 3rd Sep 2016, Sire: Stonelea Inrique, Dam: Maxboley Empey

3rd Michael C Creed, Derryleigh, Inchigeela, Macroom, Co. Cork Kimego Kreed, 191848330345, Sire: BA Ballycraddack Henry, Dam: BA Kimego Cindy



Ossary Champion Brocca Kingfisher et



Golden Heifer at The Ossory Show



TULLAMORE SHOW:

Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Male/Female Born on/after 01.08.16

1st John & Stephen Lynch, Ballinascraw, Ballinalee, Co. Longford Ballinascraw Lady in Red, IE251388760612, 20th Jan 2017, Sire: Gazou, Dam: Glory

2nd John Galvin, Moyasta, Kilrush, Clare Stonelea Kira, IE311056380099, 30th Aug 2016, Sire: Kilmoney Bruce, Dam: Shanvalley Emo

3rd John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath Broccagh Lisa McHugh, 372226059520080, 3rd Jun 2017, Sire: Lockhead Tyson, Dam: Broccagh has it all



Champion at the Tullamore Show (Gazou x Arawn) bred by John Lynch, Ballinalee, Co. Longford

Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Male/Female Born on/between 01.08.2015 & 31.07.2016 1st Robert Tormey, Lisduff, Errill, Rathdowney, Co. Laois
Lisduff Katie, IE221394020164, 9th Jul 2016, Sire: Tito, Dam: Clondown Candy

2nd John O' Halloran, Glenwood, Mullinahone, Thurles, Co. Tipperary Glenwood Jojo, IE341052721420, 22nd Aug 2015, Applecroft Van, Glenwood Bernadette





Tullamore Reserve Champion 2017 from Eddie and Robert tormey

2nd prize winner at Carrick Winter Fair - Creed Family. 425kg €1920

3rd Michael Creed, Derryleigh, Inchigeela, Macroom, Co. Cork BA, 141735531029, 18th May 2016, Sire: Ballycraddack Carlos, Dam: Ardebook Dina

Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Male or Female on/before 30.07.2015

1st John & Stephen Lynch, Ballinascraw, Ballinalee, Co. Longford Ballinascraw Glory, IE251388790466, 6th Jan 2012, Arawn, Ballinascraw Ballerina

2nd John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath Broccagh has it all, IE361509050014, 18th Dec 2013, Ark Diego, Toarlisnamore Wonda

3rd John Galvin, Moyasta, Kilrush, Co. Clare Doncombe Let It Go, UK328495400848, 18th May 2015, Sire: Doncombe Coolibah, Dam: Doncombe Free Spirit

AIB National Livestock Show Blonde d'Aquitaine Champion

Champion: John & Stephen Lynch, Ballinascraw, Ballinalee, Co. Longford Ballinascraw Lady in Red, IE251388760612, 20th Jan 2017, Sire: Gazou, Dam: Glory

Reserve Champion: Robert Tormey, Lisduff, Errill, Rathdowney, Co. Laois Lisduff Katie, IE221394020164, 9th Jul 2016, Sire: Tito, Dam: Clondown Candy

TULLOW SHOW

Champion: John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath Broccagh Has It All, IE361509050014, 18th Dec 2013, Ark Diego, Toarlisnamore Wonda

Reserve Champion: John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co.Westmeath Broccagh Kingfisher ET, IE361509090059, 28th Sept 2016, Aramis, Brockagh Winnie

VIRGINIA SHOW

Champion: John & Stephen Lynch, Ballinascraw, Ballinalee, Co. Longford Ballinascraw Glory, IE251388790466, 6th Jan 2012, Arawn, Ballinascraw Ballerina

Reserve Champion: John & Stephen Lynch, Ballinascraw, Ballinalee, Co. Longford Ballinascraw Lady in Red, IE251388760612, 20th Jan 2017, Sire: Gazou, Dam: Glory

IVERK SHOW

Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Bull and Heifer Calf born after 01-08-16

1st John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co.Westmeath Broccagh Kingfisher ET, IE361509090059, 28th Sept 2016, Aramis, Brockagh Winnie

2nd Michael C Creed, Derryleigh, Inchigeela, Macroom, Co. Cork Kimego Kreed, 191848330345, Sire: BA Ballycraddack Henry, Dam: BA Kimego Cindy

Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Bull and Heifer Calf born after 01-08-16

1st John & Stephen Lynch, Ballinascraw, Ballinalee, Co. Longford Ballinascraw Lady in Red, IE251388760612, 20th Jan 2017, Sire: Gazou, Dam: Glory

2nd Robert Tormey, Lisduff, Errill, Rathdowney, Co. Laois Lisduff Lollie, IE221394050167, 9th Jan 2017, Sire: Stonelea Gino, Dam: Lisduff Flirt

3rd John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath Broccagh Lisa McHugh, 372226059520080, 3rd Jun 2017, Sire: Lockhead Tyson, Dam: Broccagh has it all



Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Female born after 1-08-15 to 31-07-16

1st John O' Halloran, Glenwood, Mullinahone, Thurles, Co. Tipperary Glenwood Jojo, IE341052721420, 22nd Aug 2015, Applecroft Van, Glenwood Bernadette

2nd Michael Creed, Derryleigh, Inchigeela, Macroom, Co. Cork BA, 141735531029, 18th May 2016, Sire: Ballycraddack Carlos, Dam: Ardebook Dina

3rd Robert Tormey, Lisduff, Errill, Rathdowney, Co. Laois Lisduff Katie, IE221394020164, 9th Jul 2016, Sire: Tito, Dam: Clondown Candy

Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Cow

1st John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath Broccagh Has It All, IE361509050014, 18th Dec 2013, Ark Diego, Toarlisnamore Wonda

2nd John & Stephen Lynch, Ballinascraw, Ballinalee, Co. Longford Ballinascraw Glory, IE251388790466, 6th Jan 2012, Arawn, Ballinascraw Ballerina

Pedigree Blonde d'Aquitaine Championship

Champion: John Barry Moran, Brocca, Fardrum, Athlone, Co. Westmeath Broccagh Has It All, IE361509050014, 18th Dec 2013, Ark Diego, Toarlisnamore Wonda

Reserve Champion: John O' Halloran, Glenwood, Mullinahone, Thurles, Co. Tipperary Glenwood Jojo, IE341052721420, 22nd Aug 2015, Applecroft Van, Glenwood Bernadette



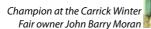
Glenwood jo jo Heifer class winner at Piltown



Champion at Iverk Show, Brocca has it all! pictured with Lisa McHugh

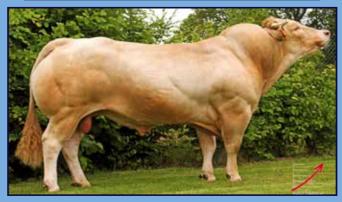


First prize winner in Roscommon Winter Fair sired by Brockagh Eddie





GAZOU (BA2300)



- ◆ Progeny are Very Impressive Combining Length, Size & **Exceptional Musle**
- **Average Calving Difficulty Ideal for Cows**

BALTRA ICEMAN (BA4131)



- Iceman Comes from an Excellent Cow Family
- ♦ He Combines Length, Muscle, Style & Exceptional Weight for Age





Dovea, Thurles, Co. Tipperary | Tel: +353 (0) 504 21755 | E: info@doveagenetics.ie | www.dovea.ie



Evolution France



- Marketing worldwide the very best proven and qualified bulls from the French beef and maternal programmes
- Hashtag our most complete sire for the Irish market, easy calving, muscle, milk and docility

Contact Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle Society, Lisenanagh, Ballinagh, Co. Cavan T: 049 436 7612 M: 086 074 3931



- Progeny excelling in the show / sales rings (Sired: Royal Highland Show Champion 2017)
 - Exceptional conformation & consistent thickness throughout
 - Powerful bull with growth and correctness
 - Flashy pedigree with Abricot & Ashtonlodge Jet
 - Large selection of Blonde Sires available

Contact Eurogene Al Services, Carrigeen Commercial Park, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
T: 052 744 2940, 1800 60 40 20 E: sales@eurogeneaiservices.com W: www.eurogeneaiservices.com



Lisduff Blondes





• Bulls for Sale • Heifers occasionally for sale • Top Al Sires used: Aneto, Tito

Contact Robert Tormey, Lisduff, Errill, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. M: 086 851 7412



Mountbrown Blondes



• Using top UK genetics, with foundation cows selected from the very best herds in UK

• Bulls, females and cross bred Blondes always available by top UK AI sires Ainsley, Lance & Destiny

Contact Martin Lyons, Sandyhill, Westport, Co. Mayo M: 087 2574097

Ballinascraw Pedigree Blondes



Top Ai sires used from France and UK
 Ballinascraw Glory Champion Tullamore Show 2016 (4 times Champion)

Contact John Lynch, Ballinalee, Co. Longford. M: (086) 806 1568



Ballycraddock Blondes





Large selection of bulls and heifers always for sale
 25 years of top French genetics used

Contact Jimmy, Ballycraddock Blondes, Ballycraddock, Kilmeaden, Co. Waterford M: 087 967 8298



Togher Blondes



- Top AI sires used: Arawn, Ainsley, Aneto, Tito and Lance
 - Bulls usually for sale
 - Blonde and Blonde X Freisian heifers available

Contact Padraig & Connie Costigan, Templetuohy, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

M: 086 314 9474

Kingdom Blondes



- 100% PBR Herd all bred on own farm
- 100% A.I. from top bloodlines since 1991
- Photo of Kingdom Emma sired by Tokapi and her current calf Kingdom John sired by Elgean Godfather
- Kingdom John weighed 425 Kgs at 270 days fed on mothers milk and grass!
 - Bulls/Heifers for sale

Contact Ann & Mike Healy, Clogherane East, Lauragh, Killarney, Co. Kerry M: 086 375 3959 E: mhealypass@gmail.com



Scaughmolin Blondes



Contact Des Greene, Wexford
M: 086 831 3672 E: dessiegreene@hotmail.com



Gleenwood Fagan



• Glenwood Fagan recently exported to UK



• Aramis daughter sold for beef at Paris show 2017 at 19€ / kg



Derryleigh Blondes



Specialising in breeding top class Blonde cross breeding heifers
 Blonde heifers always for sale
 We attend Carrick Winter Fair every year



Contact Micheal Creed, Derryleigh Blondes, Inchigeela, Macroom, Co. Cork M: 086 862 4467

Commercial Herd Competition

OVERALL WINNER

Shane Naughton, Athlone, Co. Westmeath

Shane farms 100 suckler cows , half sping calving and half autumn calving. His cows are a mixture of blonde, limousin and blue x cows all well muscled. Shane runs 3 stock bulls at the minute, he has 2 blonde stock bulls and 1 Belgian blue. Both Blonde bulls were breed by his brother Oliver from his stoneleigh herd. Stoneleigh jasper he has been using this past 3 years with some exceptional calves including this years €3000 "Golden heifer " at Ossary Show.

Jasper is a grandson of Seaview Barney and a drop mother. Shane's newest Stock bull is Stoneleigh Inzagi, a son of Seaview Barney. Inzagi was of coarse standing in the national cattle breeding centre until recently. First calves are very promising!! He farms 300 acres 1/2 rented 1/2 owned. Shane targets to sell his weanlings bulls at 10 months and his heifers at 12/14 months. Last year he averaged €1250 for his calves, he sells privately to shippers or in the local mart but is always targeting that export trade.

This year shane has kept back a bunch of blonde bull calves to finish under 16 months he believes the growth of the blonde breed and carcase traits will prove to generate extra income.



Commercial Herd Competition

LEINSTER REGION WINNER

Carmel Lawlor Co. Laois

Winner of the Leinster region herd competition was Carmel Lawlor from Co. Laois. Carmel farms 200 acres, with 90 Blonde cross cows producing weanlings. She calves 40 in autumn and 50 in spring time.

Carmel has 3 stock bulls, the best known of these is of coarse Clondown Eddie, former Ai sire with Bova genetics Limerick. Recently she has purchased her 3rd blonde bull Kilmoney Kasbian a Gumdrop son from Enda O'Loughlins Kilmoney herd in Co. Kildare.

Carmel produces some of her own replacements out of her best cows but mostly she buys her replacements from last years overall winner Micheal, Creed, Co. Cork. These replacements would be mostly 1/2 blonde, 1/4 blue x 1/4 dairy blood.

The reason Carmel started to use Blondes was for calving ease, but also the versatility of the breed, she can sell weanlings, finish or keep as replacements.



Carmels senior stock bull Clondown Eddie

Commercial Herd Competition

MUNSTER REGION WINNER

Donat O'Brien Kilfenora, Co. Clare

Donat farms 350 acres of land in the centre of the Burren, Co. Clare. Not your typical grassland farm, By law Donat cannot spread fertiliser or spray weeds etc. It is a beautiful setting with cows grazing high on the mountains.

Donat farms 50 blonde x cows and runs 2 blonde bulls, 1 the Northern bull as he calls him was purchased from William Mcelroy, Co. Antrim and is a son of the famous Druk Lance, the other an oulou son bought from Sean Galvin, Co. Cork.

The interesting part of this herd is the consistency of the cows like peas in a pod, very much medium sized and selected with the type of farm in mind.

The ease of management is a major part of why Donat uses Blondes, his cows calve out on the mountain side unattended as he lives 15 miles away!! He tells the story of a couple of years ago 7 cows calved the same night, there was wind and rain, 2 of the calves were not from the blonde but another breed I'l not name here, the following morning the 5 blonde calves has sucked but he had to take the other 2 outfits down of the mountain, hardship!!

Donats blonde calves are famous in the local mart for there style and shape. They are renowned for the thrive they do for repeat buyers.

Donat believes the blonde x cow is the key, use whatever bull you like on her but she is the key. If you want the real consistency go blonde x blonde.





Terelton Feature

Sean Galvin and his daughter Áine, run a pedigree and commercial Blonde D'Aquitaine herd in Macroom Co. Cork on a 40 acre holding, calving most of the year but trying to avoid may - July. Sean believes strongly in performance recording and using the best Ai bulls whether that be French, British or Irish based bulls and is a member of Herd plus and the new Whole herd recording scheme.

Years of using top high index genetics combined with recording and predicted performance figures has put his herd in a strong position. Last year he sold the high maternal index Terelton Isaac a son of French maternal sire Hiver, into the gene ireland programme with Semen now available for use. Sean sells pedigree bulls to commercial farmers and has been up until last Autumn 2016 selling the bottom end of the pedigree and his commercial calves for the export weanling market. In a change of practice he decided to keep on these bull calves and finish them himself, to utilise the full potential of the Blonde breed, he wasn't disappointed. The below table shows the results.

It proves that blonde sires can increase the out put of any suckler farm explosive weight for age, massive kill out % and top grades achieved. The other interesting thing about Sean and Aine's herd is the strong maternal performance it is achieving using 100% Blonde Ai. Every cow has a calf every 362 days. With 0% mortality at calving !! These are the kind of figures suckler farmers need to aim for both maternal but powerful terminal power that only the Blonde D'Aquitaine breed can deliver.

DOB	Age	Tag	Slaughter Date	Carcass weight	Grade
31/08/2015	14 mths	436	10/11/2016	390kg	U+ 2+
15/08/2015	14mths	435	10/11/2016	414kg	U+ 3-
05/02/2016	14mths	456	24/04/2017	465kg	E= 2=
24/01/2016	14mths	452	24/04/2017	491kg	E= 2=
21/10/2015	19 mths	444	07/06/2017	495kg	E= 2+



Parental Performance of the Terelton Blonde



Beef Calving Statistics (01/07/2016 --- 30/06/2017)

Call 023-8820452

1. Summary Data

(Embryo births excluded)

Total Beef Calvings

No. of Calves - Live at Birth 26

Herd Owner: SEAN GALVIN Herd Number: D2341132 Page: 1(3)

Report is based on beef cows with a calving record in the cattle breeding database and where the calving date is between 01/07/2016 and 30/06/2017

No. of Cows not calved

No. of Calves - Live at 28 days 26

All

1

All Heifers

8

24 8

No. Calves - Dead at Birth 0 0		No.	of eligible female	s ¹	25
No. Male Calves - Live at Birth 12 4 No. Female Calves - Live at Birth 14 4		A			Cows Heifers
		Ave	erage age at calvir	ig	6y 11m 2y 0m
2. Top 5 Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)				
				Achievable	Top 15%
Calving Interval (days) Average number of days between successive calvings for cows calved during the period	Your Herd National Average	362 days 400 days	437 days		362 days
2. Mortality - Dead at Birth (%)	Your Herd	0%	7.1%		2.1%
Number of calves born dead (0) as a proportion of all births during the period (26)	National Average	4.6%			T
3. Mortality - Dead at 28 Days (%)	Your Herd National	0% 5.7%	9.1%		2.5%
Number of calves born dead or dead within 28 days, (0) as a proportion of all births recorded during the period. (26)	Average				
Calves per cow per year ² Number of calves per cow per year,	Your Herd National	1.05 0.82	0.65		0.98
expressed as a proportion of all eligible females in the herd. (25)	Average				
5. % of Heifers calved 22-26 months	Your Herd	75%	0%		50%
of age The number of heifers calved in the period (8) that were between 22 and 26 months of age. (6)	National Average	24%			
1.Eligible females are defined as:					

- All females that calved, at any time, before 01/07/2016, did not calve in the report period and are still in your herd on 01/07/2017.

- All females that calved, in your herd, in the period from 01/07/2016 - 30/06/2017.

- (365 / Your calving interval figure) x (No. of calves alive at 28 days / No. of eligible females)

2. The calves per cow per year figure is calculated as follows:

Parental Performance of the Terelton Blonde

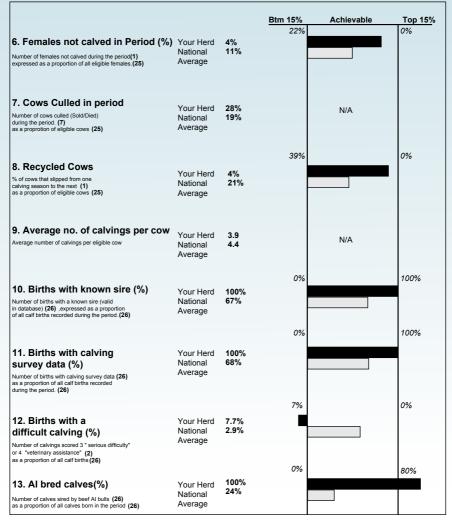


Beef Calving Statistics (01/07/2016 --- 30/06/2017)

Call 023-8820452

Herd Owner: SEAN GALVIN
Herd Number: D2341132
Page: 2(3)

3. Other Performance Indicators



French Trip

In June this year myself Dessie Green Scaughmolin Blondes and Martin Lyons Sandyhill Blondes flew to Toulouse in the south west of France for 3 days of farm visits, to view what the French Blonde programme could do for Irish breeders. With the new beef data genomics scheme the focus has become more maternal and we arrived hoping to find 1 or 2 new bulls that could add maternal qualities. You will see on page 32 the detail this program goes into to select 2/3 of the top bulls every year (costing €600000 per bull to test !!)

We arrived in Toulouse at 16.00 French time, wow what a day 36 degrees. Our guide Cyril (who works for Evolution France, the export arm of the French program) was dressed in a t-shirt, shorts and sandals!!

FARM 1

We drove straight to the first farm owned by the father of the head technician with Auriva France (the company that arrange the whole maternal test program) Ludo Izard.

This was a large farm 250 hectares, 140 for grazing, 80 for hay, 20 for maize, 20 Lucerne and 10 Barley. 95% of feed produced on the farm.

100 pure bred Blonde cows and 20 montebeliarde cows, plus 180 ewes of the Romanie bred. 100% ai on this farm with year round calving. The top 20% of cows are mated to the best maternally tested sires Frenchy, Aramis and Fuxeen and from these the replacements are retained. The other 80% are ai'd to proven beef sires Gazou, Vivaldi and Aneto. After replacements are selected everything else is for veal production, slaughtered at 6 months of age, calves are kept inside on concentrates with the mothers let in twice daily. (calves are not allowed access to grass because it will turn the meat red). All the veal and lamb are sold in the farm shop at a premium price (€8.50 kg)

Cows graze from march to June when the temperature reaches 40 degrees the cows are

rehoused on silage until September time. This farm culls 30% of its cows yearly and this is a major part of the income, Cull cow prices for blonde cows at 500 kg carcase are \in 6 / kg. Interestingly the calving index on this farm is 366 days. After this farm we drove back to our hotel.

FARM 2

The following morning we had an early start and drove 2 hours to the first farm of Mr. Alain Terrell.

Again all the cows were housed. This farm was 80 hectares (20 grazing, 20 crops, 40 hay/silage) with 70 Blonde cows, 18 incalf heifers and 18 yearling heifers all by maternally tested sires out of the highest index cows in the herd. Everything in this herd was performance recorded and high importance put on the figures.

100% artificial insemination again, maternally tested blonde on the best 25 cows and beef blonde on the rest. All calves not for replacements are sold to Italy at \leqslant 3 / kg. Very nice calves by Gazou, Cabrel and Aramis. 374 day calving interval (100% ai remember) Next farm was close by.

FARM 3

Owner Marty Jerome, 65 hectares and 100 pure Blonde cows. Highly intensive farm, little or no grazing but a lot of maize grown. This was a real breeders/ show type herd, big cows but with power and width. Again very much into the performance data and using the right proven maternal bulls.

What was retained was sold to Italy and the growier males were slaughtered locally. Exceptional females here by the sire Edison, big but with muscle We were told that the Edisons females change after 12 months and grow a bit plain for the Irish market. Calving index here was 375 days. After a beautiful french style lunch, we travelled 1 hour to the next farm.



French Trip





• Required Signage on French Farms

French Trip

FARM 4

This farm is owned by Coq Bernard. A smaller farm for this area of 50 hectares, with 60 pure Blonde cows. 15 replacement heifers are retained every year, cows are culled for poor performance or when they reach 10 years old.

Label rouge approved farm so all calves except the bottom end which are sold to Italy are sold as veal under 7 months of age approx 350 kgs, which equates to 235 kg carcase @ €6, over €1400.

Again a big part of this farms income was the Cull cow targeting 550 / 600 kg carcase. 100% artificial insemination, very good cows here by anis and Angelo, with best calves by fuxeen and gazou. This breeder really liked Gaelic for growth and weight but they really were not our type (to big) Calving interval 373 days. Our last farm of the trip was near the town of Brive where we were staying the night.

FARM 5

45 hectare farm, with 45 cows. 30 hectares grass, 15 hectares cereals. Again label rouge approved so all calves targeting the veal market. So calves always inside cows in by night out by day. The cows here were the least quality we saw, plain types, but maybe one of the best farms in terms of calf quality.

Again using 100% Ai, the best calves here were gazou, Vivaldi and Aramis. This farm was a 1 man show, making a good living on 45 cows.

Bull Stud

The following morning we drove to the bull stud, owned by Auriva France where we viewed some of the beef bulls most notably Gazou. And were given a presentation of the whole French testage system and the bulls that we might find interesting for Ireland.

It was a very busy 3 days but we saw alot and I believe we have seen 2 or 3 bulls that can do a job here in Ireland. On the beefier type Gazou stood out, rated as good for calving, his progeny as very

thick and easy fleshing he really suits the plainer type cows. Gazou is the heaviest used beef blonde Sire in France 2017.

Glacon is another bull that will be useful, extreme muscle but not the power or fleshing of Gazou but more style. On the maternally proven bulls, 1 bull stands out as the next big thing.

Hashtag, a son of Aramis who we also saw very good progeny on the trip, out of an Angelo cow (the Angelo daughters were outstanding in France absolute power houses). Hashtag stands out in 5 vital areas, extremely easy calving, exceptional milk ability of daughters (the highest of his year), medium sized but very beefy, the best bull for docility of progeny on test and and excellent high performance pedigree.

Aramis, Progeny stood out wherever we saw them, very correct types with square pelvic areas. He is easy calving and produces very milky daughters. Maybe not as good as his son Hashtag though.

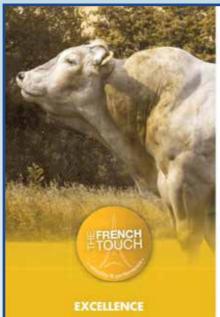
Cabrel was another stand out bull, he breeds super cows but he's harder calving and has less milk than maybe is needed. But definitely a good bull.

Edison was another super cow breeder, the No1 bull used by the top breeder to produce cows, but again this is a big bull, with later maturing cattle that may not be suitable for Irish conditions.

So we selected these 6 bulls and have sent Semen straws for genotyping, with a view to importing Semen of Hashtag and Glacon this autumn through Ncbc and possibly a small amount of Edison and Cabrel on a pre order basis only. I would like to thank Auriva France and Evolution France for a very interesting trip and for the fantastic hospitality we were shown. The French system gives us another option at least.

Philip Crowe

Breed Secretary



The best genetic

RELIABILITY

Animals with proven-

DIVERSITY

A range of different bulls which sulfaty all expectations

THE FRENCH BLONDE D'AQUITAINE

BLONDE D'AQUITAINE SELECTION

- > The most reliable breeding programme in the world
- 65 000 dams in performance testing
- Progeny testing on each sire distributed

A UNIQUE BREEDING PROGRAMME

Selection pressure taken to extreme lengths to achieve excellence:



We are the only ones to do it! No bull is distributed unless his progeny has been tested on station.

With the on-station testing, the environmental effects are controlled. What is measured is the real genetic potential of our sires.

PROGENY TESTING

25 daughters per buil are tested on station for their maternal qualities Color and fertile, and Hundrinds of som one ested on form for their freel oblition.

2/3 📑

3/4 ==

Further to these results, only the best 5-5 builts are chosen to become Al buils

PROOFS LEGEND

CALVING EASE

IFNAIS Calving Ease



MATERNAL QUALITIES

CRqms	Growth
OMqms	Muscular Development
OSqms	Skeletal Development
ANCIONAMIN	Type Growth
PREComa	Early Sexual Development
IFERque	Fertility
IVELopms	Calving Ability
IMERque	Incidence Dam At Wearing
PLATform	Milk Production
IOM	Maternal Qualities



BEEF ABILITIES

Growth w
Muscular Development
Skeletal Development
Carcass Weight
Killing-Out Rate
Conformation
Fat
Beef abilities
Carcasa growth
Carcass conformation
Total merit for beef abilities
Economic proof for beef abilitie



IBOVAL

CRsev	Growth
DMsev	Muscular Development
DSsev	Skeletal Development
ISEVR	Wearing Proofs
AVel	Calving Ability
ALait	Suckling Ability
IVMAT	Total merit for maternal qualities

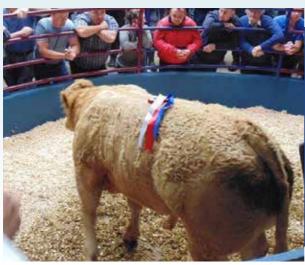




A Young Farmer in the Making!

Caitlin Creed from Macroom Co. Cork at Iverk Show Piltown Co. Kilkenny.





Congratulations to
Eamonn and Ned
O'Mahoney, Kiskeam
on winning the
Autumn Born Weanling
Show and Sales.
With an 8 month old
Blonde D'Aquiltaine Bull
weighing 430kgs selling
for €1,620 (€3.76/kg)

Using Blondes to Maximise Farm Profit

Andrew Carleton from Co. Monaghan has been using Blondes sires in his 50 cow suckler herd for the past 15 years. He runs 2 Blonde bulls, a son of the ever popular Fronfedw Arawn and other by Rayneside Brett.

This is a Birth to beef operation, with all calves reared to beef. Andrew feeds a 4 way blend with 36% Maize. All bull calves are finished as young bulls under 16 months, but normally from 13 to 15 months. Carcase weights of 360 kg to 400 kg are achieved, all e and u grade. The heifers are finished between 16 to 20, at 330 kg to 390 kgs. Interestingly 95% of what Andrew finished in 2017 have achieved a fat score of 3.

Andrews admits the bulls do have a better kill out than the heifers with bulls averaging 65% & heifers around 60 to 62%.

Andrews cows are either shorthorn or shothorn cross blonde. He sights along with the exceptional growth and carcase of the blonde calves, that the ease of birth is a major advantage with calves up and suckling within minutes of birth. The calves only get creep for 3 weeks before weaning, if a cow can't feed her calve andrew culls her no 2nd chances here!



Why Blonde?

When Andrew is asked why he only uses blondes sires his reasons are clear. Andrew says the Blonde breed is easy calving, with excellent temperament. On the performance side he believes nothing performs like a Blonde when fed, for Feed conversion, growth rate, Kill out % and grades the Blonde cannot be beaten. Andrew believes the breed is very under estimated and believes blonde genetics can improve profit margins for many Irish suckler farmers. We agree with you 100% and wish you continued success using the Blonde D'aquitaine breed.





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Mark Quinn

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Patrick Cadden,

Churchside, Loughduff, Co. Cavan. 087 936 6003 Loughduff blondes

Kenneth Hill

Glassleck, Shercock, Co. Cavan, 089 418 2260 Milltown blondes



The following pages contain basic information on Blonde Sires available through Irish Ai stations and private breeders. These bulls represent the best of French, British and Irish genetics.

The Eurostar index's are not published as they are constantly changing in value and accuracy, but are available on the bull search www.icbf.com or on the Live herd book link on

www.irishblonde.com

Irish Blonde d'Aquitaine Cattle Society Lisenanagh, Ballinagh, Co. Cavan irishblondes@gmail.com

Secretary:

Philip Crowe - Mobile: (086) 074 3931 / Tel: 049 436 7612
Office Hours: Monday 3.00pm to 7.00pm - Wednesday 10.00am to 4.00pm





Gazou

- Progeny tested in France for beef traits
- Excels for growth, carcase confirmation and fleshing ability

Available Dovea Ai Thurles, Co. Tipperary T: 050 421 755



Baltra Iceman

- Irish bred test bull
- First progeny due autumn 2017
 - High muscle and growth
 - Excellent pedigree

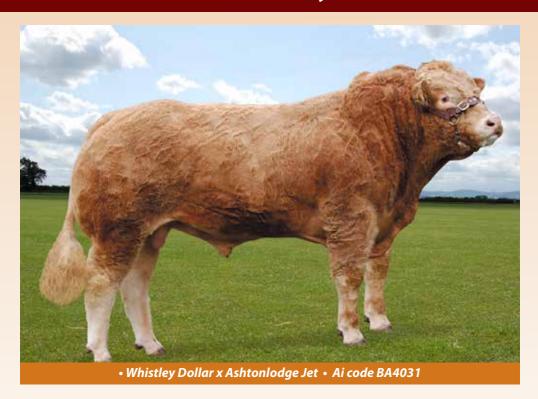
Available Dovea Ai Thurles, Co. Tipperary T: 050 421 755



Silverwood Mark

- N.I bred test bull
- Progeny due 2018
- Mark was junior bull class winner at the N.I pedigree calf fair 2016

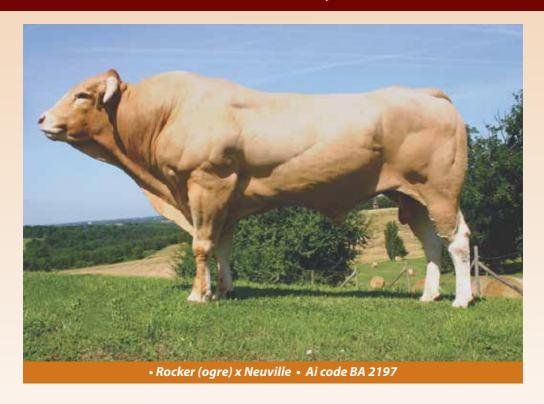
Available Bova Genetics Ballyart, Brittas, Limerick M: 087 790 6085



Ark Diego

- Well bred British bull
- Good growth and carcase
 - Well haired progeny

Available Eurogene Al Services, Carrigeen Commercial Park, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
T: 052 744 2940, 1800 60 40 20 E: sales@eurogeneaiservices.com W: www.eurogeneaiservices.com



BA 2197 Adonis

- French maternally tested bull
- Big long progeny lacking muscle
- Exceptional for milk index 117 in France

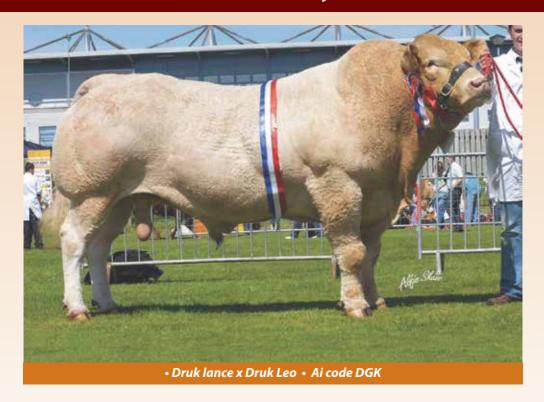
Available Eurogene Al Services, Carrigeen Commercial Park, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
T: 052 744 2940, 1800 60 40 20 E: sales@eurogeneaiservices.com W: www.eurogeneaiservices.com



Courtwood Aidan

- Irish bred bull
- 3 generations of proven French Genetics
 - Progeny have nice length and shape

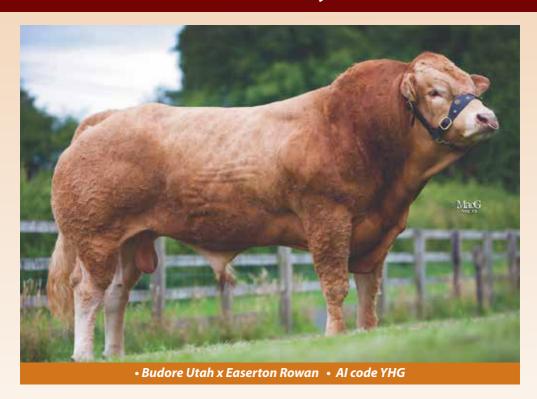
Available Eurogene Al Services, Carrigeen Commercial Park, Cahir, Co. Tipperary T: 052 744 2940, 1800 60 40 20 E: sales@eurogeneaiservices.com W: www.eurogeneaiservices.com



Doncombe Aga Khan

- British bred bull by the famous Druk Lance
 - · Very successful show career behind him
 - Progeny excel for growth and carcase
 - Mature cows only

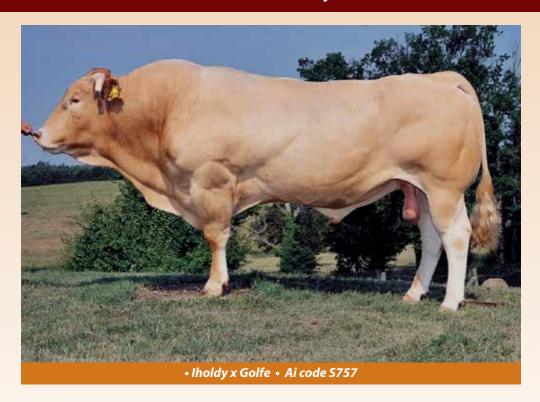
Available Eurogene Al Services, Carrigeen Commercial Park, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
T: 052 744 2940, 1800 60 40 20 E: sales@eurogeneaiservices.com W: www.eurogeneaiservices.com



Glenvale Harry

- Northern Irish bred bull
- Medium size with plenty of muscle
 - Excellent carcase traits

Available Eurogene Al Services, Carrigeen Commercial Park, Cahir, Co. Tipperary
T: 052 744 2940, 1800 60 40 20 E: sales@eurogeneaiservices.com W: www.eurogeneaiservices.com



Romarin

- French proven bull
- Very easy calving (110 French index)
- Good muscle and growth with medium size
 - Daughters come on heat at a young age
 - Below average Milk



Hashtag

- Star of the 2017 French maternal programme
 - Very easy calving (118 French index)
 - Good muscle and carcase
 - Highest Milk index of the test group 113
 - Full package easy calving, muscle and milk



Faust

- French progeny tested sire
 - Easy calving (105)
- Red bull with good carcase traits
 - Correct bull and thick



Blacwater Ainsley

- Highly proven British bred sire
- Sons are topping UK sales year in year out
- Good carcase and growth, excellent fleshing ability



Aneto

- French beef tested sire
- Easy calving (108 French index)
- Excellent muscular development
 - Poor skeletal development



Arawn

- Highly proven British bred sire
 - Easy calving
- Excellent carcase and growth
 - Medium sized



Aramis

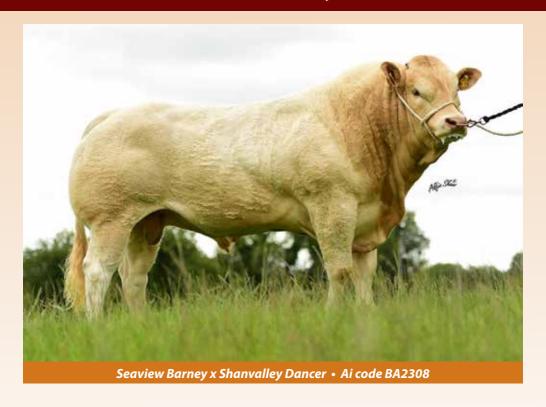
- Proven high maternal sire from French maternal programme
 - Easy calving
 - Medium sized with good muscle development
 - High milk (114 French index)



Eilean Godfather

- British Bred bull
- Former champion at British Blonde society premier sale Carlisle
 - First son sold to Dovea ai Baltra Iceman
 - Progeny are heavy and very thick

Available Dessie Donhoe, Oldcastle Co. Meath Contact M: 087 681 3483



Stoneleigh Inzagi

- Irish bred bull
- Son of super carcase bull Seaview Barney
 - First reports are positive on progeny