**AI**

A picture containing grass, tree, outdoor, mammal

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**Rocky**

Following the great success of the new French AI catalogue translated to English, the Society has ordered more straws from France. These will include some new bulls. For these new bulls it might take a short while before they can be used as we wait for new codes, genotyping etc.. The order is due to arrive very shortly and includes the following bulls: Heritier, Hussard, Oxford, Otto (polled-sexed female only), Indigo, Ocean, Rocky, Jubilatoir, Pacha, Dauphin. For some of these straws, there will be a cap on the number available to each breeder due to availability issues in France. For more information on availability and to order please contact the office. Videos of some of those bulls will be available on our new website when it is completed.

Work has been ongoing with ICBF to link the French figures to the Irish database and try and improves both the figures and their reliability.

**Breeding Workshop**

A French technician from Auriva is due to visit Ireland probably in April (dates to be confirmed). A couple of gatherings will be

organised so that the breeders can obtain information on the French AI bulls and ask him questions. A possibility being considered is to have a gathering at 2 marts in different locations in the country with a number of animals by the AI bulls and organise a talk and Q&A. Further notice will be given as the dates are confirmed.

**Spring Sale**

The date for the Spring Aubrac Sale has been re-arranged for May 7, in Tullamore Mart. If you are planning to enter stock for this, you need to be preparing them already. Ensure they are on a high level of feeding, keep them clean, and start halter training.

**Genomic Testing**

Ensure all animals are genomic tested well in advance of selling, whether male or female, and whether at the sale, or private. Buyers need to know before sale that the back pedigree of stock they are buying is correct so Genomic test in time and it will help sell your animals, give buyers accurate information and it will give you repeat business going forward.

Imported stock bulls needs parentage verification before they can be used for Pedigree herds.

All genomic kits can be ordered on line or call icbf.

**Myostatin Testing**

We would like to encourage all farmers to myostatin test their stock, it can be done from the genomic sample, Please contact weatherby to arrange it. (045-875521)

**Letter for 2022 is S**

**New Website**

The new website will be going live very, very shortly. You will get a text when that happens,

so be sure to log on and see what you think. We are sure you will like it.

We would like to encourage all our members to put up pictures and a profile on our news site.

We plan to have a section on the website for members to be able to ask question and get information about future breeding.

If you have any suggestions please email it to the office. [info@aubrac.ie](mailto:info@aubrac.ie)

**Hall of Fame Awards**

A picture containing grass, cow, mammal, field

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Derry and Sean O’Driscoll were nominated two years ago to receive the Aubrac Award at the Hall of Fame Awards. Unfortunately, Covid caused this event to be postponed, and it has

now been re-arranged for the Sheraton Hotel, Athlone on the 1st of May.

For newer breeders that may not know, Derry and Sean were the first two breeders to bring Aubracs into Ireland back in 1992 and have continued over the years to be. Strong supporters of the

breed. This award is long overdue!

A group of people standing next to some cows

Description automatically generated with low confidence

**Young Handlers**

We hope to plan a few events this year and we look forward to being invited to work shops during the year. (more details to follow) For more information please contact subcommittee,

Francis Butler 0861647442 or James Whelehan 0877947569

**Show Season**

Tullamore Show and many of the regional shows will be back again this year, after the long Covid break. If you are interested in showing cattle this year, please let the office know. If you have never showed before, maybe this year you might start.