

Irish Aubrac Society Newsletter

August- September 2025



AGM:

Our AGM took place in the Abbeyleigh Manor, Abbeyleigh on the 18th May this year. There was good attendance at the meeting where there were presentations on Myostatin in Aubracs, Polled Aubrac Bulls and using ICBF to benefit your breeding on farm. A copy of the presentations was emailed from the society office following the meeting. If you didn't receive one and wish to view the presentation, please contact the office. The accounts for 2024 were presented and a motion was passed to reduce the size of the Aubrac council from 15 to 12 to bring the council more in line with the size of other breed councils.

Aubrac Council:

We welcome 2 new members to the society council, Cathal Ahearne from Dromcollogher, Co. Limerick and Robert Burns from Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. After decades of service between them, there have been a number of very long serving council members who have retired from council this year- Alfie Hanbidge, Francis Butler and Mireille McCaul have all spent many years travelling long distances to meetings and given up many hours of their own time in promoting the breed in Ireland and the breed society owes them a debt of gratitude for their hard work. In addition to these departures Daniel Burke and Grace Lynch who may not have served on council for quite as long but nonetheless made a valuable contribution to the society also stepped down. We would like to thank them for their contributions also.

New Aubrac AI Bull:

A new Irish Bred Aubrac bull is now available in AI. Deepark Ultra (AU2635), bred from the remarkable Deepark Nevin and a Shrubbywood Marchi Dam, boasts impressive genetic evaluation figures with a replacement index of €234 (top 1% within the breed), a terminal index of €146 (top 5% within the breed) and a DBI of €181 (top 5% within the breed). Ultra is marketed by NCBC, and straws are available through Progressive Genetics at www.progressivegenetics.ie or by calling 046-9541230 and Munster Bovine at www.munsterbovine.ie or by calling 022-43228.



French Farmer Group Visit:

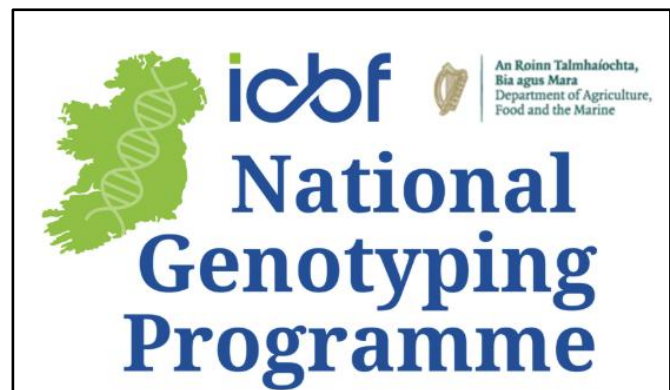
A group of French Farmers will visit Ireland to coincide with the Tullamore show and will remain in Ireland for a few days after the show. On **August 13th at 3.30pm** the group will visit the Teagasc Newford herd who have been using Aubrac AI within their suckler herd to very good effect. Any breeders who might wish to join the group in visiting Newford farm are more than welcome to attend the visit- the Eircode is **F42 AH57**.

Tullamore Show:

The Tullamore show will take place on Sunday 10th August this year. In addition to the showing taking place, the aubrac society will have a stand in the livestock section of the show at stand L58. The stand will include cross bred stock that will focus on showcasing the strengths of the breed -the effectiveness of the breed as a short gestation, easy calving sire for dairy farmers who can deliver on carcass traits for the Dairy Beef producer and highlighting the ability of the low maintenance cost Aubrac cow who can deliver exceptional beefing abilities in her offspring, while requiring much lower input from the herdowner due to her calving and calf rearing abilities. The pedigree cattle will be judged across 6 classes in Ring 14 by experienced breeder and owner of previous Tullamore Show Champion, Ernest Mackey from 12.30pm. We would encourage all breeders to attend the show this year to support those who have spent time training and preparing their stock for showing. It takes a lot of effort, but they do so to showcase the breed, and we would request as many breeders as possible to attend both the aubrac stand and to view the showing of the breed to support fellow breeders in their efforts to promote the breed.

National Genotyping Programme:

The National Genotyping Programme has re-opened for any breeders who have not yet joined the scheme and wish to do so. To participate in the scheme all calves are genotyped at birth using a second tissue tag (white tissue tag vial for BVD as usual and a pink vial for Genotyping). This will ensure all pedigree animals in your herd have the most up to date evaluations and are parent verified before registration avoiding costly errors that may occur at a later date. The cost of this genotyping is subsidised by DAFM and MII/DII and herdowners are charged €4.00 per genotype test plus the cost of posting the tags to the ICBF laboratory. In addition to testing all calves born on your farm as part of the scheme, any breeding stock on your farm at the time of entry to the scheme will be genotyped Free of charge this year. To enter into the scheme, visit www.icbf.com



Tinahely Show Results:

Congratulations to the Aubrac Breed exhibitors who showed their cattle at the 2025 Tinahely show last Monday 4th August with a great display worthy of the breed being shown. Results were as follows:

Class 76- Pedigree Aubrac Weaning Heifer born on/after 01/09/2024: The Pedigree weanling heifer class was won by Leo Dooley of the Altamont Herd with a heifer purchased recently at the Glenford Aubrac Herd Dispersal sale- sired by Whitestown Leyland ET, Glenford Uma took the top spot in this class. Runner-up in this class was bred by Seamus Shortall with his Deerpark Rowe sired heifer, Kayreerk Urcize.

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Left: Glenford Uma (1st Place in weanling heifer class)

Class 78- Pedigree Aubrac Maiden Heifer born on/after 01/09/2023 : Roles were reversed in the maiden heifer class where Seamus Shortall's Johnstown Prince sired heifer, Kayreerk Ursa emerged victorious, with Leo Dooley taking the runner-up spot with Altamont Tilip, bred from his own stock bull Altamont Oats. Ursa went on to take Reserve overall Aubrac champion.

Class 79: Pedigree Aubrac Heifer In-Calf of any age: The in-calf heifer class was won by the stylish Altamont Sunset, from the Altamont herd of Leo Dooley. This October 2022 born heifer was bred from the herd stock bull Altamont Oats and went on to win overall champion Aubrac at the show.



Above: Kayreerk Ursa (1st Place in the maiden heifer class and reserve show champion)



Left: Altamont Sunset (1st Place in the in-calf heifer class and overall show champion)