Dear Sir/Madam,

If you can, please send to me for the Irish Republic the number of dairy herds which are populated, contain one or more animals, and existed in each year from 1998 to 2009 inclusive. If this number represents a snapshot in time, please also state the month in the year on which the number applied. If a number for 2009 is not yet available, please supply me with numbers for years up to 2008.

I hope this is clear. Obviously please let me know if clarification is required.

If you are unable to reply promptly, a confirmation of receipt would be very much appreciated.

All responses by email will be fine.

Yours faithfully,