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# Professional Accreditation of Agronomists in Spain

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# Mission

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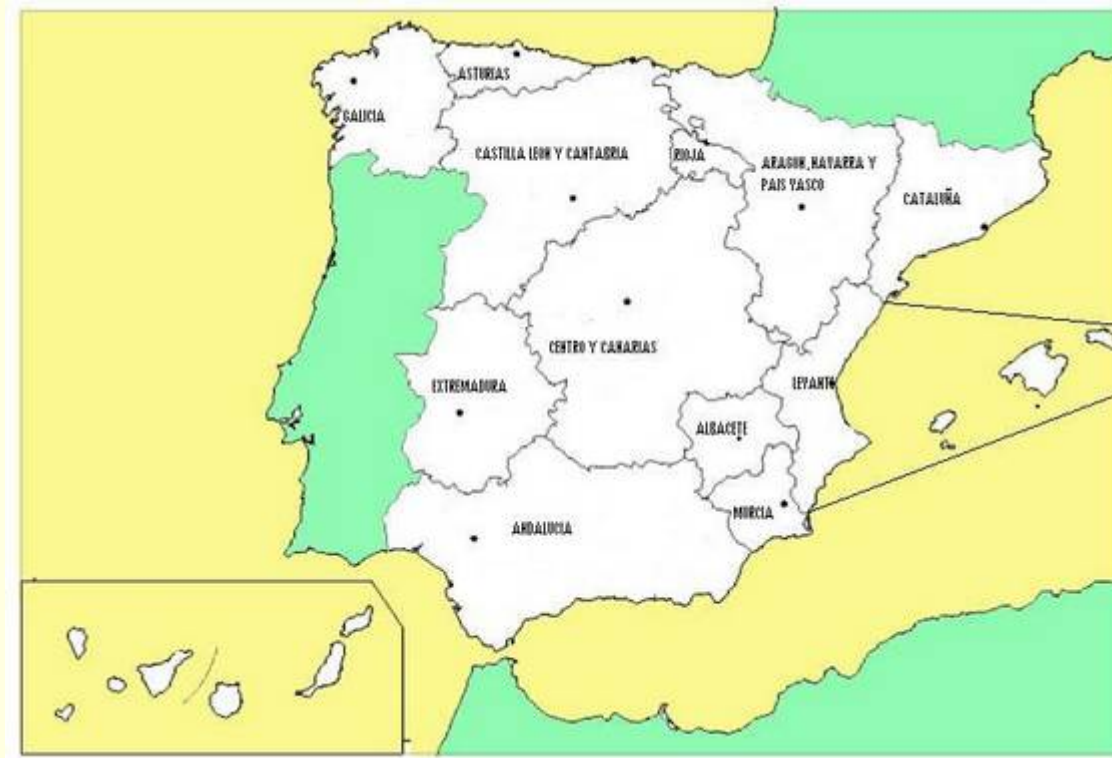
- The main objective of the Spanish National Accreditation System is to promote and ensure that professionals working in Agronomist fields across country have the technical required level to execute the different projects specified by law. Legal requirements of regulated profession.



# National Organisation of Professional Accreditation

## ■ Professional Associations (2009)

General Council of Professional Associations (CGCOIA)



National Association of Agronomists (ANIA)



# National Organisation of Professional Accreditation

PROFESSIONAL ACREDITATION

*Regional Professional Agronomist Associations*  
*CENTRO – LEVANTE – CATALUÑA - etc.*

ACTIVITY COORDINATION OF PROFESSIONAL AGRONOMIST ASSOCIATIONS

*CONSEJO GENERAL DE COLEGIOS OFICIALES DE INGENIEROS AGRÓNOMOS*

INTERPROFESSIONAL COORDINATION

*UNIÓN PROFESIONAL*  
*UNIÓN PROFESIONAL DE COLEGIOS DE INGENIEROS*



# The Process

- Accreditation is an evaluation process. This process stimulates continuous and innovative improvement of continuing education programs in technical aspects.
- A certification of agronomist from an accredited program is assurance that the graduate will meet standards for certification endorsed by the Spanish General Council of Agricultural Agronomist Associations.
- This accreditation ensures recognition and mobility in the national and international workplace.



# The Process

## General Accreditation Procedure

- A professional with a diploma from a recognised school of agronomy requests accreditation for a regional agronomist association;
- Upon review and approval, the board of the professional association review if the degree is a complete program for an agronomist and if the school is recognised by the Ministry of education;
- The graduated is notified for the accreditation and with the recognition can work all over the Spanish regions



# Requirements

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- A degree of agronomist from an academic program aproved by the Professional Association
- A recognition from the Ministry of Education: homologation of International degree.





# Requirements

## ■ Professional in Agronomy

Professional able to plan, project, organise and control productive processes and systems developed in the agro-food industries, including infrastructures and construction needed for the efficient functioning of related activities. The main activities may respect the protection and conservation of the environment and the development and improvement of the rural areas.



# Agronomist Profession

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- Concept of services:
  - All activities which serve to execute a professional service, in public administration and private services related to agronomic fields.
  - The professional must be accredited in the region of Professional association where he/she will give professional services or where the professional has his/her home residence.



# Agronomist Profession

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Agronomist accreditation is regulated by:

- Law 2/1974, 13 February, modified by Law 74/1978 26 of December, Professional Associations
- R.D. 2716/1982, 24 September, General Bylaws of Professional Associations of Agronomist and their General Council
- Bylaw 7/06/1996 modified law 2/1974
- Regional regulations



# Rights of Accreditation

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- Main rights of associated members:
  - Practising the profession
  - Legal defence of professional interests and rights
  - Participation in the legal turns of tribunal
  - Assistance and participation of the different activities related to the Association (Participation in laws related to profession, common insurance, working groups, etc.)

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# Obligations of accreditation

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- Main obligations:
  - To respect the bylaws
  - To present all the works and projects to be certified by the professional association
  - Payment of fees and corresponding rights
  - To defence the profession
  - To respect the discipline decision of the Board of specific associations
  - To notify the contact address when moving to new one



# Competences

- Attributions by law:
  - Economical and functional evaluations of agricultural lands, constructions, associated industries and hydraulic projects
  - Projects of agricultural activities and associated industries
  - Projects, Direction and execution of agricultural building and construction
  - Education in agricultural fields
  - Review of agricultural statistics
  - Legal intervention agronomic on irrigation and water distribution
  - Cleaning of marshy lands
  - Environment related to agronomic fields, soils, water, atmosphere, landscaping, etc.
- Legal attributions by court decisions (Electrification, vapour generators, cold store installations, pesticides and manure spread, etc)



# Competences

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## General competences:

- Agricultural engineering
- Plant Sciences
- Animal Sciences
- Agricultural Economy
- Agricultural Industries
- Environment



# Certification of work

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Projects and documental certification:

Each regional professional association must certify the documents related to the agronomic work of the associated professionals. The certification includes the following aspects:

- The person responsible for the work is an agronomist
- The internal regulations have been accomplished
- The legal aspects of the work are considered
- The professional has technical competence to do the work.





# Evolution

- Beginning of first degree in agronomy: 1855
- First national association: 1891 (109 agronomist)
- 1953-2000. Regional Professional Associations – 12
- 1986 – 2010 – Unification of professional requirements in Europe
- 2008 - National Association held the IV World Congress of Agronomist
- 2008-2012 – Presidency of the World Agronomist Association. Globalisation of professional requirements for all professionals in agronomy.

[www.agronomista.org](http://www.agronomista.org)



# Still a lot of work to do.....

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*Thank you for your attention*