

# Meeting of the SWG SCAR AKIS Strategic Working Group on Agricultural Knowledge and Innovation Systems

## The role of education and training in the EU AKIS

Webinar

20/1/2021

Member State: Catalonia

**SCAR**  
Standing Committee  
on Agricultural Research



# The role of education and training in Catalonia

1. Escola Agrària of Alfarràs
2. Our training activities
  - Young training
  - Continuous training
3. Experimentation and research
  1. Research centres
  2. Companies and associations
  3. Editing training materials
4. Future challenges



# 1. Escola Agrària of Alfarràs

- EA Alfarràs is an agriculture educational institution of Generalitat de Catalunya, located in the Lleida area of western Catalonia.
- Vocational education and training for young and adult students.
- Specialized in fruit farming: peach, nectarine, apple and pear.
- Transformation from conventional farming to organic farming.



What makes us different: lifelong training from young new farmers to experienced professionals. Different modalities: face-to-face, semi-distance and on line.

## 2. Our training activities

### Young training

- Young training offer:
  - Producció agroecològica. Professional profile of organic farming. Intermediate level training course. 2.000 hours.
  - Paisatge i medi rural. Professional profile of agricultural management. High level training course. 2.000 hours.
- Practice learning at the 22 ha school farm: GIIP project.
- On-farm practice in agricultural companies: 380- 800 hours.
- Visits to leading companies.
- Practice in research centers.
- Erasmus projects: Finland, Italy and France.



## 2. Our training activities

### Continuous training

- **Monographic continuous training courses** for professional farmers to obtain compulsory certifications or to expand their agricultural knowledge.
- **Technology transfer seminars** and field days on up-to-date topics.
- **Innovation demonstration platforms.**
- **Mentoring** for young farmers.
- **On line training courses:** mentor on line and an on-site teacher. E.g. Workshop, Equipment, phytosanitary products.
- **Teachers continuous training.**



# 3. Experimentation and research

## Research centres

- **Partnership between AKIS and education centres:**
  - Advising: Oficina del regant, EA Tàrrrega and IRTA.
  - Innovation: EA Borges and EA Alfarràs.
  - Demonstration platforms, EA Solsonès.
  - Entrepreneur farmers program: EA Empordà and EA Mas Bové.
- **Participation of IRTA researchers in training in specialized courses and seminars.**
  - Courses done in research centers.
  - Helping schools to publicize their training activities.



### 3. Experimentation and research Companies and associations

- Strong feedback between advising services and Escoles Agràries.
  - Practice test with Plant Defense Associations (ADV).
  - Connecting our schools with advisers, input suppliers and farmers in the area.
- Trials for agricultural companies.
- Stages in trade unions and other agricultural organizations.
- Support to rural women associations, *Dones del món rural*.



### 3. Experimentation and research Editing training materials

- Education and training materials for on-line courses.
- Specialists from AKIS prepare the subject matter of some courses.
  - E.g. monographic course on caudophagy.
- Editing team makes the didactic and language revision, layout and last edition.
- Collaboration between AKIS and education centres in the publication of technical papers and newsletters: *Dossier Tècnic*, *Fitxes tècniques*, *Butlletí de l'Oficina del Regant*.



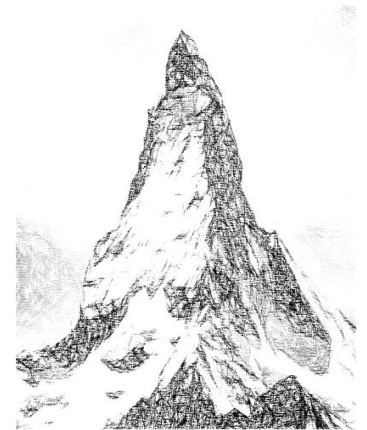
Butlletí de l'Oficina del Regant	
Butlletí 48 - Octubre 2020	
Sumari	Recomanacions de reg setmanals
1. Recomanacions de reg setmanals	Recomanacions Lleida
2. Notícies	Recomanacions Terres del Ebre
3. Article d'opinió	Recomanacions Girona
4. Agenda d'activitats	Recomanacions Barcelona
	Recomanacions Catalunya central



## 4. Future challenges



- Be a meeting point of stakeholders in AKIS, education, advising and production.
  - Incorporation of a networker/relationship builder profile to enhance collaborations between stakeholders.
  - Become a living lab for technology testing and transfer.
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- Provide lifelong training adapted to farmers needs.
  - Attend the demand of new profiles in the agricultural sector.
  - Close the gap between formal education and the actual needs of the agricultural sector.
  - Continue improving our facilities and equipment: modern farms.
  - Give prestige and define intermediate jobs.



**Thank you for your  
attention!**



  
Generalitat de Catalunya  
**Departament d'Agricultura,  
Ramaderia, Pesca i Alimentació**

