Higher and Technical Agricultural Education in France
Agricultural Education comes under the authority of the French Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery.

- **Agriculture and agro-food industry in France**
  - France is one of the world's leaders in this technical and economic sector
  - A sustainable farming so as to respect and preserve the environment is implemented

- **Agricultural Education involves the following domains under the authority of the Ministry**
  - Agriculture and food (production, processing, marketing)
  - Research
  - Forestry
  - Landscaping, rural and coastal development
Basic legal documents

- **Decree of Oct 3rd 1848**: at the eve of industrial revolution, the Ministry of Agriculture sets the basis of agricultural education.

- **Law of August 2nd 1960**: France defines and sets a modern agricultural education adapted to the challenges and requirements of the implementation of the Common Market.

- **Law of July 9th 1984**: the missions and responsibilities of agricultural education are enlarged.

- **Guidance law of July 1999**: General law on agriculture including agricultural education.
Five missions

guidance law of July 9th 1999

- General education, technical, basic, vocational and further training
- Cultural and social actions in rural areas
- Vocational, social and educational integration
- Development, experimentation and research
- International cooperation
Fields of competence for agricultural education

- Production (crops, animals, aquaculture, horticulture, viticulture...)
- Food processing (agro-food industry and bio-industry)
- Services in rural areas (marketing, services to people and enterprises)
- Landscaping (landscape, forests, water management)

Students in technical agricultural education
3 types of educational systems

- Basic secondary and higher education
- Further education / Training
- Apprenticeship

Students and pupils in the 3 systems:

- General & technical
- Short higher
- Higher course
Schemes of technical courses in agricultural Education

18 years

17 years

16 years

15 years

Certificate in agriculture 2nd year (CAPA)
Certificate in agriculture 1rst year (CAPA)
National Certificate 2nd year (BEPA)
National Certificate 1rst year (BEPA)
Vocational "A" Level 1rst year
Vocational "A" Level 1rst year
Techno "A" Level 1rst year
Scientific "A" level 1rst year

HND or Higher Education

Vocational "A" Level
Technical "A" Level
Scientific "A" level

General or technological course

2 years course integrating possibility

Vocational route
Technical route
Agriculture or general education
Higher courses in agricultural education

- **Vet doctorate**
  - 3rd year
  - 2nd year
  - 1st year

- **Doctorate**
  - Engineer diploma
    - 5th year
  - Master of sciences
    - 3rd year
    - 2nd year
    - 1st year

- **HND**
  - 3rd year
  - 2nd year
  - 1st year

- **A level**
  - 2nd year
  - 1st year

- **Preparatory course**
  - "A" Level + 2

**Short route**

**Long route**
Technical agricultural education

Figures on schools and colleges


173,908 pupils and students (from 13 to 19 ans)

28,469 apprentices

123,545 trainees

225 entreprises and 17 technological halls

847 public and private schools
Specificity of public schools

- Autonomy of schools
  - juridical identity
  - financial autonomy
  - an elected Board of directors involving managers and a nominated director

- Specific structure
  - boarding facilities
  - technological halls or own entreprises
  - integration of the assessment of abilities and knowledges along the course development
Short higher course: HND (BTSA)

- A vocational diploma: the HND (BTSA)
- A course related to a job including training periods in entreprises
- A two year course in an agricultural college
- 13 different options are available
Long higher course

- 13,822 students
- 26 institutes under the authority of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery: 19 public and 7 private
- 5 regional centres for pedagogy and research
Higher Education:

- **Engineer** (agronomy, agro-food industry, forestry, water management and environment) 73%
- **Vets** 20%
- **Landscape** 2%
- **Teachers in technical agricultural education** 5%
Higher education: doctorate route

Association of schools and research institutes

- Higher research organisms like the INRA (agronomy), the CEMAGREF (environment), the CIRAD (agronomy for development), the AFSSA (food hygiene and security) or the IFREMER (oceans and seas)... work with schools colleges
- Common work, means and teams

Receiving PhD students in PhD programs linking Universities and schools of engineering

5 schools deliver doctorates

- INAPG (Paris)
- ENSAM (Montpellier)
- ENSAR (Rennes)
- ENSIA (Massy)
- ENGREF (Paris)
An education aware of the economical challenges and purposes

🌍 Training periods in France or abroad (in entreprises, in a public or private organisms)

👥 Seminars and sessions (organized by the students in the colleges, meeting days with entreprise managers)

📝 Engineering studies for students within the frame of their practical work for public or private organisms
Further Education

Courses for people working or having worked
Adaptation to the eventual employment, new job or new higher qualification
Delivery of assessments from training period recognition to vocational diploma

In:
- 156 Public centres (Centres de Formation Professionnelle et de Promotion Agricole – CFPPA)
- 361 private centres
Apprenticeship

- Apprenticeship is based in a sandwich course education
  - it involves all the levels of agricultural education
  - enables to prepare most of the diplomas of agricultural education.
- An apprentice is a salaried worker aged between 16 et 25.
- Time schedule:
  - off the job, the course is delivered in one of the 162 centres of apprenticeship
  - on the job the apprentice works in entreprise.
Distance learning

- A personal guidance and curriculum is available
- A regular guidance of lessons, exercises, courses is made, as well as a log book tutoring and training periods and group obligatories sessions
- 7000 people in France and overseas are involved in this training
International cooperation

- Educational and scientific cooperation between schools
  - Training periods, exchanges of students, teachers and searchers
  - Research programmes or common modules

- Educative actions in the exchanges

- Actions with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or in the frame of multi lateral programmes (European Union, World Bank….)
To know more ...

@ The internet adress of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fishery: