



ERIAFF Agroecology Working Group

Extremadura profile

Main information:

- Country:
➔ Spain

- Regional capital:
➔ Mérida

- Population:
➔ 1.054.779

- Contact(s)¹:
 - María Ramos García
 - Organic Fruit Department Head of Unit. Mountain and Organic Agriculture Center (CAEM), belonging to Scientific and Technological Research Center (CICYTEX)
 - maria.ramos@juntaex.es

 - Carlos Cabo Dominguez
 - Project Manager at FUNDECYT-PCTEX
 - carlos.cabo@fundecyt-pctex.es



- What are the main agricultural sectors in your region?
➔ Extremadura is a European region located in the southwest of the Iberian Peninsula, with 41,634 Km² and 1.096.421 inhabitants (28,6 population density).

The region is characterized by a rich natural and cultural heritage and an economy strongly linked to the tertiary sector, with a lower weight of the industrial sector, mainly related to the agri-food industry. On this



¹ Not to be published in ERIAFF Website



regard, after the services sector (almost 60%) the farming sector is the second largest one, with 16.6% of all employed people in the region.

Organic farming has become a relevant sector over the last years. There is a wide diversity of different organic farming and livestock productions, reaching 104.000 hectares throughout the region and more than 3000 producers.

CAEM Institute. Center for Organic and Mountain Agriculture (mountain crops).

The main goal is to develop applied research to the Extremadura agroecosystems, to work in a participatory approach with local stakeholders and to transfer them the scientific knowledge.

The research groups based on The CAEM Institute work in three main areas:

- Biodiversity and Organic Farming,
 - Phytopathology (soil fungus) and
 - Irrigation strategies.
- What are the main issues farmers are facing in your territory?
- ➔ The main challenges to be tackled by farmers during the following years are:
- The sustainability of organic products food chain, animal and vegetal (Olive tree and Olive oil, Fruits and Horticulture);
 - The promotion of local organic production for local/territorial consumption;
 - Close productive cycles at territorial level;
 - ICT Implementation to improve the efficiency in organic farms.
- Can you present 1 or 2 agroecological good practices led in your region?





OBAEX: Observatorio de Agroecología Extremeño.

The observatory is a meeting point for professionals in livestock and agriculture sectors, as well as consumers, scientifics and other profiles related to organic sector. The observatory promote the Regional Agro-Ecology Congress. Other activities they share in the observatory are: Publications, newsletters, etc.

<https://obaex.org/>

Technology Platform of Organic Agriculture Extremadura (PTAEEx).

An Operational Group belonging to the European Innovation Partnership on Agricultural Productivity & Sustainability (EIP-AGRI), aims to group the entire value chain of organic farming into a regional technological platform promoting cooperation between agents and interested parties in the science-technology-company system of the sector. The aim of PTAEEx is to contribute to the improvement of the sustainability and productive efficiency, orienting the technical-scientific policies towards ecological agriculture and livestock.

One of the obtained results is the elaboration of a Research & Innovation Agenda, which identifies the main priorities and challenges of the sector with the objective of reaching a sustainable organic sector and its optimal development in the region of Extremadura.

www.ptaeex.org

