



Professional Standards for IEA Accredited Professionals

IEA Accredited Professionals must uphold professional standards when offering advice on ecological (regenerative) agriculture. These, along with the Code of Ethics and Rules of Conduct, ensure the credibility of consultants, educators and trainers is maintained.

They also ensure that IEA Accredited Professionals are undertaking continued learning and professional development. Ecological (regenerative) agriculture draws on many types of knowledge; therefore, it is important that IEA Accredited Professionals remain open to exploring new beliefs and attitudes. It is expected that IEA Accredited Professionals will share their knowledge, skills and attitudes with the wider community.

An IEA Accredited Professional must satisfy seven out of the ten standards for professionals offering advice in ecological (regenerative) agriculture. Activities can be logged against each standard as relevant. IEA Accredited Professionals will be required to claim the amount of hours spent on each activity. A minimum of 20 hours must be claimed annually; and a minimum of 120 hours over a three year period. There is a cap on the amount of hours that can be claimed per activity; as hours must be claimed from across multiple standards – not all accrued on a single activity. Evidence is also required to demonstrate the legitimacy of the activity recorded; e.g. uploading a copy of relevant documents.

IEA will maintain contact with accredited professionals to ensure their services do not stray from the Code of Ethics, Rules of Conduct and Professional Standards. IEA reserves the right to contact accredited professionals on a regular basis to encourage engagement with this system and ensure that knowledge is up-to-date. IEA reserves the right to suspend or terminate the accreditation status of an individual if they are not meeting these requirements.



Table 1: Professional Standards

Category	Standards	Example activities addressing this standard	Max claimable hours per year
Professional responsibility and conduct Must satisfy a minimum of one standard from this category	Initiates and contributes to discussions affecting ecological (regenerative) agriculture through participation in, and committee membership of, organisations and community groups (including IEA).	Attendance as an elected member of a board, committee or similar for a relevant organisation	Up to ten hours
	Provides sound advice, recommendations, consultations and/or trainings that are in keeping with the IEA Code of Ethics and Rules of Conduct.	Media interviews, press releases or community presentations on ecological (regenerative) agriculture and/or related activities	Up to ten hours
		Bears witness in a court of law based on expertise in ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to five hours
		Develops whole farm management plans; is the main contributor or significant part of the team responsible for the plans	Up to ten hours
	Prepares and provides a demonstrably significant contribution to papers/presentations on the theory and practice of ecological (regenerative) agriculture. These may be given at national conferences, published in journals, or publicly available in reports of a similar standard.	Publishes relevant chapters in peer-reviewed books; writes and presents conference papers	Up to ten hours for primary author; five hours for co-author
		Publishes relevant papers in internationally peer-reviewed journals; Editor of relevant peer-reviewed books; submits peer-reviewed reports to governments or private organisations	Up to fifteen hours for editor-in-chief / primary author; ten hours for co-editor / co-author
		Writes for industry newsletters or journals	Up to three hours



		Contributes significantly to a published government policy document involving ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to ten hours
Professional development / community of practice Must satisfy a minimum of three standards from this category	Expands personal knowledge, skills and understanding of ecological (regenerative) agriculture by continuing professional development activities.	Enrols in and attends post-graduate research or coursework (PhD, Masters, Diploma, Certificate) relevant to ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to twenty-five hours
		Enrols in and attends under-graduate coursework (Bachelors, Diploma, Certificate); TAFE or other professional continuing education program relevant to ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to twenty hours
		Enrols in and attends seminars, conferences, workshops and short courses relevant to ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to ten hours
		Enrols in and attends webinars and distance education programs / e-learning courses relevant to ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to five hours
	Contributes to the IEA community-of-practice through seminars/workshops, interviewing new applicants or by mentoring less experienced agriculturalists.	Mentors less experienced consultants, educators, trainers or farmers (provide name & contact details of mentoree)	Up to five hours
		Develops and presents seminars/workshops/webinars for IEA community	Up to five hours
		Participates in the IEA accreditation committee (interviewing new applicants)	Up to five hours
	Maintains a network of experienced consultants, educators, trainers and farmers in	Membership and involvement with relevant organisations outside of IEA	Up to five hours



	ecological (regenerative) agriculture outside of IEA.	Develops and conducts collaborative projects in regenerative (ecological) agriculture; across organisations	Up to ten hours
	Contributes to community groups and generates material for them (e.g. papers, books, podcasts or blogs) that assists them to grow in their understanding of ecological (regenerative) agriculture.	Attends workshops/meetings or involvement with extension programs to explain ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to five hours
		Develops and presents seminars/workshops/webinars or papers, books, podcasts and blogs related to ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to ten hours
		Involved in Landcare, NRM or similar groups	Up to five hours
		Receives recognition for work with community groups; i.e. Farmer of the Year Awards; Nuffield/Churchill Scholarships; Landcare Awards etc.	Up to three hours
		Assists with the set-up and management of communities of practice in ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to ten hours
	Maintains and applies up-to-date knowledge of research findings in ecological (regenerative) agriculture and across the accreditation knowledge circles.	Peer-reviews academic publications, book chapters, reports or similar on ecological (regenerative) agriculture	Up to five hours
		Maintains up-to-date knowledge of relevant research findings and/or practices (describe how)	Up to five hours
		Co-publishes articles in print/online media with others in the IEA community who have different expertise (i.e. in another knowledge circle)	Up to five hours
Training and education	Engages with farmers through seminars/presentations, workshops,	Develops and delivers field days, field excursions, group discussions, seminars, lectures and demonstrations	Up to ten hours



<p>Must satisfy a minimum of one standard from this category</p>	<p>conferences, webinars and field days/excursions to expand their knowledge and skills in ecological (regenerative) agriculture.</p>		
		<p>Designs, develops and delivers education and/or training programs for farmers in ecological (regenerative) agriculture</p>	<p>Up to ten hours (can apply for a higher allocation based on teaching workload)</p>
		<p>Prepares and delivers a presentation for a field day, workshop, webinar, seminar, conference or television / radio media</p>	<p>Up to five hours</p>
	<p>Contributes to primary, secondary or tertiary courses that are connected with ecological (regenerative) agriculture.</p>	<p>Teaches ecological (regenerative) agriculture principles to students at primary, secondary or tertiary levels</p>	<p>Up to ten hours (can apply for a higher allocation based on teaching workload)</p>
		<p>Prepares and delivers original and relevant course material in ecological (regenerative) agriculture</p>	<p>Up to ten hours</p>
		<p>Prepares and delivers an original and relevant lecture related to ecological (regenerative) agriculture</p>	<p>Up to three hours</p>
		<p>Supervises research students at a university</p>	<p>Up to ten hours</p>