

Agronomist

The crop doctor. You walk fields, read soil tests, and tell farmers what to plant, feed and spray.

TYPICAL PAY

\$83,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$53k to \$115k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

4 to 5 years

after high school

DEMAND

Good

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

No

anyone can do it

WHERE YOU WORK

**Farm fields, seed and fertilizer
retailers, research stations, gover...**

How you get there

- 1 High school diploma** Grade 12
Biology, chemistry and math. A summer job on a farm or at a grain elevator matters as much as the marks.
- 2 Agriculture degree** 4 years
Crop science, plant science, soil science or general agriculture. Guelph, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Alberta, Dalhousie and Laval all run them.
- 3 Co-op or summer field work** Every summer
Crop scouting, plot trials, soil sampling. This is where you learn to identify weeds, pests and deficiencies on sight.
- 4 First agronomy job** Year 1
Usually at a farm retailer, a co-operative, a seed company or a research station.
- 5 Certify** 2 to 4 years of work
Earn the Certified Crop Adviser designation and register with your provincial institute of agrologists.

Pros and cons

- + Outdoors and in an office in roughly equal measure
- + Strong demand across the Prairies and Ontario
- + Company truck and bonuses on top of salary
- Spring and harvest mean 12-hour days, 6 or 7 days a week
- Huge driving distances in rural areas
- If you work for a retailer, selling product is part of the job

Good to know

Quebec closed the profession

Quebec is the only province where giving agronomic advice is restricted by law to members of a professional order, the Ordre des agronomes du Quebec. Everywhere else the title is protected but the...

Canada grows most of the world's canola

Canola was bred in Canada in the 1970s from rapeseed at the University of Manitoba and Agriculture Canada. The name is short for Canadian oil. It is now one of the country's biggest crops by acres an...

Optional boosts

Certified Crop Adviser. Professional Agrologist (P.Ag.). 4R nutrient stewardship designation. Precision agriculture skills.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Agronomist in Canada, wages (updated Nov 2025)
Ontario Institute of Agrologists
Certified Crop Adviser program
Ontario Agricultural College, University of Guelph

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/agronomist>



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