

## Agricultural Engineer

### What is it?

An agricultural engineer applies engineering principles and technology to improve farming and agricultural processes. They work on a variety of tasks, including designing agricultural machinery and equipment, developing irrigation systems, and optimising farming methods for efficiency and sustainability.

### Qualifications/Experience Required:

To become an agricultural engineer in the UK, you typically need a degree in agricultural engineering or a related field such as mechanical engineering or environmental engineering. Practical experience gained through internships, placements, or entry-level roles is highly beneficial.

### What the Work Involves:

Designing and developing agricultural machinery, equipment, and structures to enhance farming productivity and efficiency.

Creating and implementing irrigation, drainage, and soil conservation systems. Conducting research and testing to improve agricultural practices, focusing on sustainability and environmental impact.

Advising farmers and agricultural businesses on the best technologies and methods to optimize crop yields and livestock production.

### Future Prospects – Labour Market Information:

The demand for agricultural engineers is expected to grow as the agricultural industry continues to evolve and adopt new technologies. There are opportunities in various sectors, including machinery manufacturing, environmental consulting, government agencies, and research institutions. Career progression can lead to senior engineering roles.

**Average annual Salary - £22,000 - £50,000**

**Typical weekly hours – 39 – 41 per week**

### Type of person who may be suited to this job:

This job may be suited to individuals who are innovative, problem-solvers, and have a strong interest in both engineering and agriculture. Agricultural engineers need to have strong analytical skills, practical thinking, and the ability to work both independently and as part of a team.

### Money/Wage Guide:

Entry-level agricultural engineers can expect to earn around £22,000 to £30,000 per year. With experience and specialisation, this can increase to £30,000 to £45,000 or more. Senior engineers or those in managerial roles may earn upwards of £50,000 per year.

### Related Opportunities:

- Environmental engineer
- Agricultural technician
- Farm manager
- Agronomist

### Further Information:

Institution of Agricultural Engineers (IAgrE): <https://iagre.org/>

The Royal Academy of Engineering: <https://www.raeng.org.uk/>