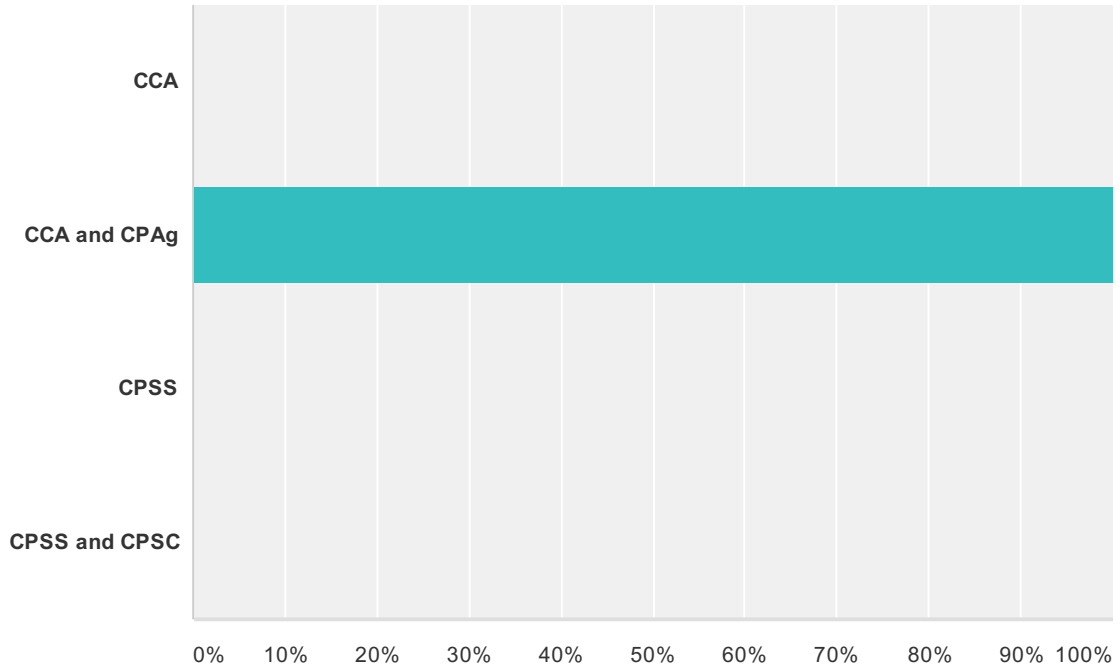


### Q1 Which certification do you currently hold? (check all that apply)

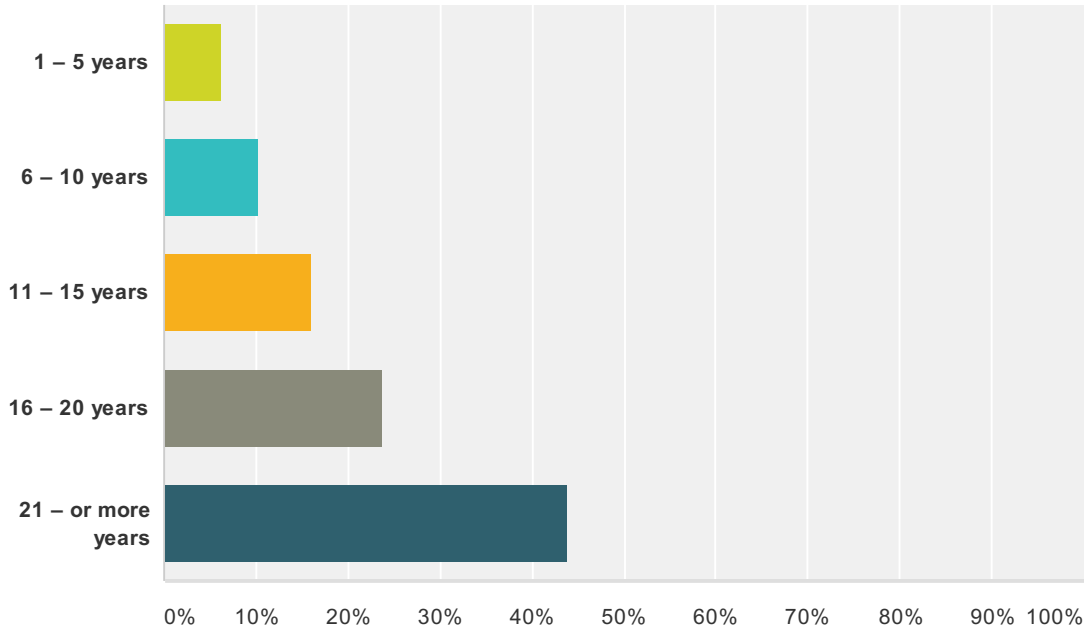
Answered: 256 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
CCA	0.00% 0
CCA and CPAg	100.00% 256
CPSS	0.00% 0
CPSS and CPSC	0.00% 0
<b>Total</b>	<b>256</b>

## Q2 How long have you been certified? (Based on your first certification)

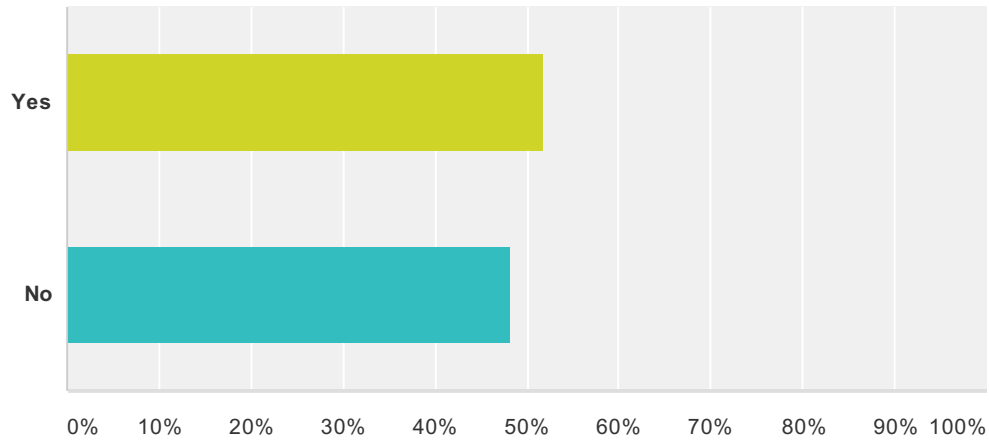
Answered: 256 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses	
1 – 5 years	6.25%	16
6 – 10 years	10.16%	26
11 – 15 years	16.02%	41
16 – 20 years	23.83%	61
21 – or more years	43.75%	112
<b>Total</b>		<b>256</b>

### Q3 Do you currently have difficulty earning the required minimum number of CEUs?

Answered: 255 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	51.76% 132
No	48.24% 123
<b>Total</b>	<b>255</b>

#	If yes, please indicate why?	Date
1	keeping up with formal training records is a hassle. CEU's in certain categories are harder to get than others.	3/16/2014 9:23 PM
2	Distance to meetings, Northern Alberta is a long way from large centers and I cannot attend some of the conferences or seminars offered when they exceed 500 km	3/14/2014 6:51 PM
3	only for the new CPAG requirements	3/14/2014 7:21 AM
4	With my new job I have less time available.	3/14/2014 7:12 AM
5	because of category requirements not relevant to my employment	3/13/2014 9:27 PM
6	CEU's not all offered locally. Have to schedule travel.	3/12/2014 6:15 PM
7	It has become a money making business for local boards such as Florida board to offer CEU's through certain preferred providers such as Southern AgriBusiness Services,LLC( Too expensive, fee and motel,& food due to out of town locations, very short meeting notices.We donot need local boards, get rid off them.Too restrictive.CEU process was better before local board.You should accept CEU's from state trade association's annual conferences, University's local extension edu.courses, self reading and writing technical reports,community service and reduce number of CEU's required for 2 year cycle.Activity should not be required to have prior CEU approval from local board. It has become so hard to earn so many CEU's when you are busy making living. You should make process easy and simple to earn CEU's and not hard otherwise you will loose people interested in future certification.	3/11/2014 10:58 AM
8	Not all meetings I attend apply for CEUs	3/11/2014 6:56 AM
9	A little, just because of time limitations. Not really a problem	3/10/2014 5:15 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

10	I am not a field agronomist/practitioner, but rather am involved in conducting/managing field studies required for the registration of ag-biotech crops. These studies demonstrate the agronomic equivalence of GM crops to conventional non-GM crops. This type of work is so specialized, that most CEU courses offered are not directly applicable to my work. As a result, about the only way I can earn the needed CEUs is by self-study/professional study or by finding board approved symposia at an Annual ASA Mtg (once every other year) which are at least indirectly relevant to my work.	3/10/2014 2:29 PM
11	My business, and my health are NOT geared to farmer education.. I solve problems, the harder to resolve problems, there is no need or time to swit in on many meetings that certify7 credits, and I am usually asked to contribute freely to discussion.. Credits to hear myself???? Many CPAg consultants have told me the same things.. Our work is NOT SALES BASED as is most others	3/8/2014 9:40 AM
12	Definition of what does and doesn't qualify under Professional Service and Professional Development is vary vague	3/7/2014 2:43 PM
13	Time and opportunity to go to where the CEUs are offered	3/7/2014 10:10 AM
14	Few pre-approved CEU's are available in seminars/workshops/conferences here in Hawaii.	3/5/2014 3:09 PM
15	Away from work on 1 year maternity leave. Need to fit 2 years worth of credits in one year. No "hold" or "inactive" status when away from work for extended period of time.	3/5/2014 2:15 PM
16	Don't have issues obtaining the 40 CEU's that were the orginial requirements. With expansion to 50 for CPAg feel was uncalled for and you will lose people like myself to that program. Why? for one you created a professional development requirement and do not even define what that requirement entails. I am close over 30 years into my Ag career and I am not going to chase down a credential that I never needed to start with. I will continue to attend educational meeting with or without my CPAg, the loss will be to the organizations I now belong to not to me.	3/5/2014 9:03 AM
17	Tough to get to all the sessions.	3/4/2014 12:50 PM
18	it is difficult to attend day long meetings that are a long distance away and still take care of customer needs	3/4/2014 8:59 AM
19	Restrictions/expense on approved courses for CPAg	3/3/2014 2:56 PM
20	Yes and no. This time around seemed like alot and more expensive. However I do agree with the presumed concept that if your certified it should require some effort.	3/3/2014 11:57 AM
21	time required	3/3/2014 11:16 AM
22	I have difficulty earning the required minimum CEU's on a line item basis but not the total number of required CEU's.	3/3/2014 10:44 AM
23	Difficult to find	3/3/2014 9:45 AM
24	Job change, so it is difficult in certain categories	3/3/2014 8:55 AM
25	Reqirements of current employment position do not allow for sufficient time to attend relevant training seminars/classes. Addotionally, the avaliability of local meetings/seminars with presentations of information relevant to the required CEU catagoriew is quite limited.	3/2/2014 8:47 PM
26	Would like more board approved credits available through online classes	3/2/2014 6:13 PM
27	Hard to find meetings	3/2/2014 5:26 PM
28	The change in the requirement for a minimum number be preapproved by the board. I work in turfgrass and there are not many event preapproved by the board.	3/2/2014 1:07 PM
29	Too high of % of CEU's that need to be board certified. Plus very non-user friendly to get sessions approved for board certification and time to get approval is unreasonable.	3/2/2014 8:06 AM
30	Current job is very time demanding and have a young family	3/1/2014 6:43 PM
31	CPAg profession	3/1/2014 9:52 AM
32	My profession doesn't always allow me to attend the necessary amount of education events I need in order to keep my certification.	3/1/2014 7:57 AM
33	I am not working directly in the agronomy field and have a harf time attending classes for recert credits	3/1/2014 7:03 AM
34	The new requires for CPAg are difficult for field based agronomist	3/1/2014 5:41 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

35	attend 10X more training that are not Certified. It is the Certified ones that are hard to find.	2/28/2014 10:10 PM
36	Too many separate categories. An "all day" meeting should give more than 4-5 hrs of CEUs	2/28/2014 7:53 PM
37	Had to take online exams and also document new category courses and training- seems to be more than necessary.	2/28/2014 6:59 PM
38	Cost way to much, Need to keep my clients happy (which I have for 25 yrs)not spend time in meetingsgaining CEU's . My experience is gained in the field looking at issues.Your costing me money.	2/28/2014 5:40 PM
39	Some categories not offered or content is not relevant	2/28/2014 3:09 PM
40	First question does not needed ethics for CPSS. I made it today!	2/28/2014 3:00 PM
41	Isolated location, high requirement for board approved CEUs, lack of employer support	2/28/2014 1:35 PM
42	No problem with the CCA credits, occaisional issues with the CPAg requirements due to my work schedule.	2/28/2014 12:05 PM
43	In my position, opportunities and commitments may make it difficult to make meetings that allow the majority of CEU's to be received at one time.	2/28/2014 12:05 PM
44	Most of the self-reported CEUs came from work that I do through employment. Currently, companies and government agencies are cutting back on training and special assignments that used to lend themselves toward CEUs. These CEUs were available to the certified person at no cost because they were part of the job. The certified person now must take on the added cost of these CEUs. The situation of company and agency cutback has placed an added burden on the certified person, and results in an overall higher cost to maintain the certifications.	2/28/2014 12:04 PM
45	soil and water is only category I have trouble with. Not a broad enough category.	2/28/2014 11:29 AM
46	Being a location manager, it is rather difficult to get to all the scheduled meetings, since my job requires me to be at the location most of the time	2/28/2014 10:05 AM
47	I am an agronomist with and OEM Equipment Manufacturer and cannot maintain the CEU's. I just let my Certification expire after 26 years as a CPAg. Disappointing but cannot maintain what is needed in my current roll.	2/28/2014 9:56 AM
48	As job roles have changed, harder to justify enrolling in CEU requirements for technical categories that don't apply to my current position.	2/28/2014 9:14 AM
49	My job title & work has changed. My schedule is busy with managerial & supervisory duties. Attending field days, workshops, and professeional meetings is limited. Webinars assisted me in achieving CEU hours last year.	2/28/2014 8:59 AM
50	CEU's vs serving my clientele's 38,000 acres.	2/28/2014 8:28 AM
51	cpa increased the hours and some are not offered in MS .Not many CPA in MS.	2/28/2014 8:10 AM
52	a bit of difficulty with revised CPAg requirements	2/28/2014 8:05 AM
53	ethics ceedit	2/28/2014 7:22 AM
54	the changes to the CPAG program are not favorable	2/28/2014 7:17 AM
55	CPAG--5 CEUS of professional membership is a problem	2/28/2014 7:10 AM
56	Retired and not aware of the programs that offer the needed ceus	2/27/2014 11:10 PM
57	PD HOURS ARE HARD TO EARN	2/27/2014 9:20 PM
58	Hard to find requirements in area. Self employed \$.	2/27/2014 9:13 PM
59	Professional development hours hard to obtain	2/27/2014 8:29 PM
60	The CEUs that count are limited--e.g., a few sessions at the annual meetings	2/27/2014 8:22 PM
61	CPAg requirements for "Professional" Service, Development, Study are difficult/ worthless. These categories need to be modified or eliminated.	2/27/2014 7:31 PM
62	i will drop cpag. too many hours	2/27/2014 6:52 PM
63	work schedule and lack of employer cooperation	2/27/2014 6:49 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

64	It is difficult to obtain Soil & Water and Nutrient Management CEU's	2/27/2014 6:10 PM
65	CPAg - professional writing and meetings	2/27/2014 5:51 PM
66	Extra credits needed for cp Ag are going to be nuisance	2/27/2014 5:49 PM
67	Unavailability of state scheduled opportunities and the cost of doing so on line.	2/27/2014 5:02 PM
68	Hard to find meetings that a certified by CCA	2/27/2014 4:50 PM
69	The board approved requirements are too high, expensive, and hard to obtain	2/27/2014 4:04 PM
70	I own an ag retail and consulting business and I find it very hard to get away to meetings to get my CEU's. I know I can do it online, but again it is just a matter of timing.	2/27/2014 3:37 PM
71	I am no longer working and even though I go to all of the updates and the January conference in Madison it os near impossible to get the number I need in the areas I need them.	2/27/2014 3:21 PM
72	CCA hours are a little tougher to schedule	2/27/2014 2:44 PM
73	I get the minimum number of CEUs in Agronomy but not always in the areas that are requested because of my job.	2/27/2014 2:28 PM
74	I switched carreers and have trouble getting PM credits	2/27/2014 2:26 PM
75	Time constraints	2/27/2014 2:11 PM
76	Being self employed, I spend a lot of money and time to earn CEU's. Sometimes I feel like I am being educated when I should be working.	2/27/2014 1:56 PM
77	Category changes and the physical task of entering the CEU is difficult to keep up with.	2/27/2014 1:39 PM
78	The Prof Development are hard to obtain	2/27/2014 1:38 PM
79	I get more than enough in total, just not in each required category	2/27/2014 1:25 PM
80	very time consuming	2/27/2014 1:22 PM
81	California is now only beginning to offer CCA credits at CE meetings, and they are still mainly IPM units.	2/27/2014 1:21 PM
82	retired, moved	2/27/2014 1:03 PM
83	A lot of my CEU work has been voluntary participation and leadership at the regional and state level - for example I am on the NRCS STAC sub committee to re-write the 590 Nutrient Standard; Lower Yakima Groundwater Management Area; these are highly complex and technical challenges, yet I routinely suffer a 50% deduction in hours/credit, WHY?????	2/27/2014 12:57 PM
84	Jobs demand on time	2/27/2014 12:32 PM
85	Professional Service, if not part of a board, etc.	2/27/2014 12:06 PM
86	I am a advisor for a grain marketing company. There is not as many industry type meetings that offer CEU's. I want to keep my certification current but agronomy is not the main focus of my work today.	2/27/2014 11:46 AM
87	no board approved turfgrass ceus!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	2/27/2014 11:41 AM
88	Professional Service category is tough to get done	2/27/2014 11:41 AM
89	I am retired and am not able to attend as many meetings as before.	2/27/2014 11:29 AM
90	Most of my work is international development	2/27/2014 11:26 AM
91	Just certain parts, like soils and some minor areas.	2/27/2014 11:20 AM
92	I cover 4 states and as such attend several different CEU meetings. Getting the right mix is difficult. I'm also a TX pesticide applicator and have to manage those requirements that don't always overlap.	2/27/2014 10:55 AM
93	few soil and water hours	2/27/2014 10:53 AM
94	I travel for my job and training opportunities are difficult to reach. Plus, the Nebraska Agribusiness Association makes it difficult to register for their training.	2/27/2014 10:51 AM
95	Timing and availability of CEUs	2/27/2014 10:49 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

96	Courses not offered locally, Recent changes not fully communicated and generally unobtainable.	2/27/2014 10:34 AM
97	Board approval for some conferences is time consuming for the sponsors	2/27/2014 10:33 AM
98	I'm semi retired and don't travel to attend as many conferences as I did when I was working full time.	2/27/2014 10:32 AM
99	Retired, not convenient, expense	2/27/2014 10:28 AM
100	The CEUs, which have been accepted by the board in previous yers, are not accepted by the present evaluators. They changed the rules to make professional certifications a 'Money Making Business' for the certified people. Agronomy is for helping the swiftly growing world population to eat food, but not to collect money from these hungry people before giving food.	2/27/2014 10:25 AM
101	Employer does not recognize the value of certification	2/27/2014 10:21 AM
102	I have CCA CPAg, and CPSS (It says to check all that apply but you can only check one). Some of them don't overlap so it is difficult to maintain all three.	2/27/2014 10:20 AM
103	Some of "Board Approved" CEUs are not readily available except via specific Self-Study Courses when made available by ASA. Vigilence is required to find the SSCs needed to meet the Board Approved requirements in each of the four technical areas for CCA certification.	2/27/2014 9:57 AM
104	Tough to get Professional Service and Development. Not enough events for Professional Development	2/27/2014 9:53 AM
105	I can acquire the totals, it is the category minimums that cause the biggest challenges.	2/27/2014 9:52 AM
106	not on the CCA, but the CPAg I have had to let go because their are essentially no CEU's to cover your requirements without making special trips for that purpose only. This is not cost effective and makes not sense to continue my CPAg certification	2/27/2014 9:52 AM
107	too busy trying to earn a living	2/27/2014 9:50 AM
108	Required minimums in various categories are difficult to reach if annula society meeting is not attended	2/27/2014 9:46 AM
109	Failed to pay attention to "Professional Service". Earned the CEUs, but wasn't really clear on what needed to be done until I looked into it inDecember.	2/27/2014 9:45 AM
110	There are requirements that no longer pertinent to my work. These rules may be applicable to CCA's but not CPAg.	2/27/2014 9:41 AM
111	just some categories	2/27/2014 9:38 AM
112	I own my own Crop Insurance Agency and need to do 80 hrs of CEU's for that License	2/27/2014 9:36 AM
113	alot of the webinars are held at times that are not convenient for me. usually mid afternoon is bad.	2/27/2014 9:35 AM
114	Sometimes the soils and nutrient related credits are hard to obtain unless I do some self studies. Most meetings/conferences have a heavy focus on crops and nutrition.	2/27/2014 9:35 AM
115	The process is prohibitively expensive, far too time consuming, and you get nothing of direct benefit to add value to what we do. If there was a program for say 4 days, for a reasonable price that would actually get you TSP certified and CNMP plan certified for a cost of less than \$2500. That would be beneficial. Chasing all over the country to find board approved CEU's for most of us to maintain a voluntary certification which adds little if any direct benefit to our bottom line is too much. It was fine when it was self reported for CPAg, we get that in the meetings we regularly attend in the right areas but the cost, both economic, in time, and in mental anguish trying to figure out what I need and when I need it is too much. Hence I retired, that was the ONLY reason I ceased practice.	2/27/2014 9:34 AM
116	CEU opportunities offered by ASA are too costly	2/27/2014 9:34 AM
117	No sure what to do in the new extra categories (used to be 40 - 50 now)	2/27/2014 9:33 AM
118	Overall ok, some categories are thought.	2/27/2014 9:32 AM
119	Time and travel	2/27/2014 9:32 AM
120	sometimes, The frustation is usually trying to find the exact fit of board-approved in a certain category for the CCA part, ie less flexibility than what the CPAg and CPCS used to be.	2/27/2014 9:31 AM
121	Too many meetings required	2/27/2014 9:31 AM

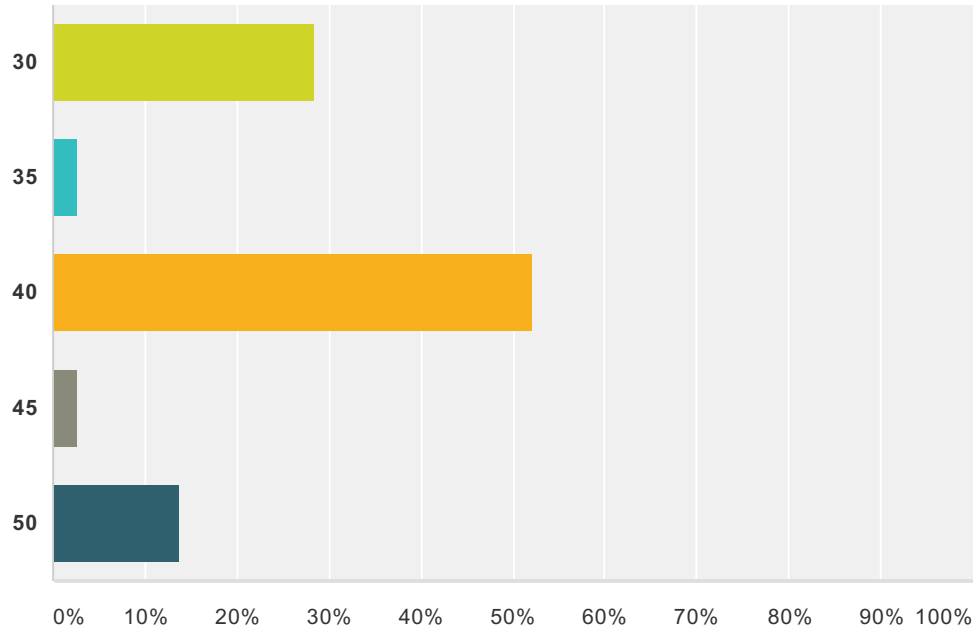
## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

122	I need to self certify usually to meet the requirements - if have a conflict with a major meeting or conference it is difficult in meeting the CEU requirements.	2/27/2014 9:30 AM
123	-Calendar conflicts, lack of quality CEU opportunities	2/27/2014 9:29 AM
124	Less hour on classes	2/27/2014 9:28 AM
125	Recently retired, but in my Industrial Agronomist (Research Scientist) position it was somewhat difficult to obtain CEU's, due to heavy seasonal workload at times CEU granting events were scheduled.	2/27/2014 9:28 AM
126	Time conflicts with employer & allocating time for CEU mtgs	2/27/2014 9:27 AM
127	I'm retired	2/27/2014 9:27 AM



### Q4 What should be the total number of CEUs required every two years?

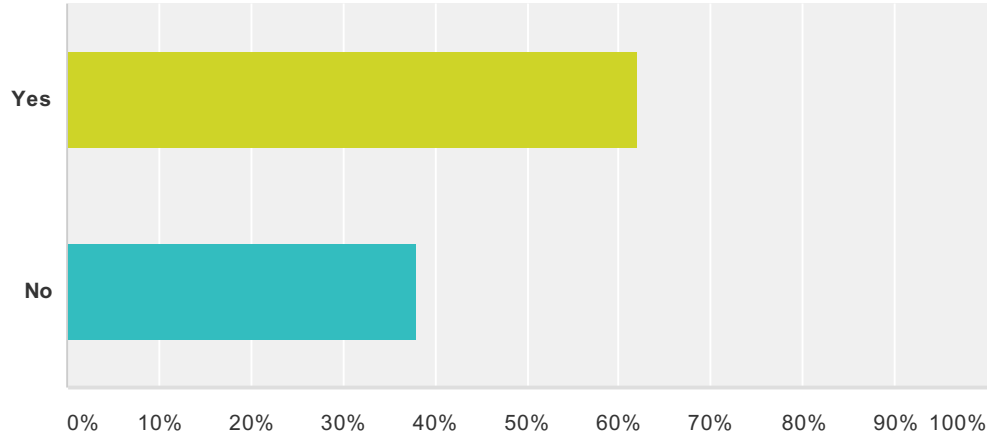
Answered: 253 Skipped: 3



Answer Choices	Responses	
30	28.46%	72
35	2.77%	7
40	52.17%	132
45	2.77%	7
50	13.83%	35
<b>Total</b>		<b>253</b>

**Q5 Should there be category requirements? For example, CCA requires at least 5 CEUs in each of the 4 technical categories.**

Answered: 255 Skipped: 1



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	61.96% 158
No	38.04% 97
<b>Total</b>	<b>255</b>

**Q6 If you said no to #5, (Should there be category requirements?) why should they be eliminated?**

Answered: 91 Skipped: 165

#	Responses	Date
1	I already need to comply in meeting the CCA category requirements. Why add more categories?	3/14/2014 8:52 PM
2	As I become more specialized in my career some categories do not apply or have the relevance as it once did.	3/14/2014 7:15 AM
3	because you need to get ceu's in some categories that are not relevant to your education needs for your current employment	3/13/2014 9:31 PM
4	It is good to have a broad understanding as in each category, however, agriculture is becoming very specialized and some consultants only work in a certain category.	3/12/2014 6:16 PM
5	Categories should be like Journal articles read, community service, Technical reports or presentation made. Follow the format used by the American Society for Horticultural Sciences for their certification,	3/11/2014 11:02 AM
6	Every area has different issues and the CCA may not be dealing with certain categories while they need more	3/11/2014 6:58 AM
7	As in my case, my work is so specialized, that work in a single (or two at the most) category is often all that is applicable to my work	3/10/2014 2:30 PM
8	People are focused on a segment of the industry not broad scope as a college student is	3/8/2014 9:41 AM
9	Simply because some of us are very focused in one area of agronomy. I am an IPM specialist not a researcher.	3/7/2014 2:45 PM
10	I'm OK with category requirements, but in some cases it might be tough to chase down the CEUs in a particular category.	3/7/2014 10:10 AM
11	Tough issue, need diversity but also flexibility. I was ok with 4 basic need areas, with a little more flexibility. Many area's hard to get Soil & Nutrient as an example. Where you crossed the line with me was the Professional Development Professional Service requirement for CPAg..... No real definition of what those topics were required. A person in Madison working at the office for CCA with no field experience determines the relevance of the professional experience I submit ????? I will continue my CEU's the same I have done for 20 years now, but if I don't reach the professional 5 credit undefined requirement for CPAg, then I'm done with that credential.	3/5/2014 9:17 AM
12	Board approved difficult to find/fund	3/3/2014 2:57 PM
13	CEU's are dictated by the meetings attended and not all meetings have CEU's available for all categories. Most of the meetings that I attend are crop focused which may or may not have soil & water topics at the meeting. Also, although I understand the requirement for professional service and study, the requirement for professional development should be discontinued as it is a personal decision as to whether or not someone wants to engage in personal development. ASA should not act as a quasi-regulatory body in the management of human resource-related issues such as professional development; that should be up to the individual and/or their employer.	3/3/2014 10:48 AM
14	I am attending certification meetings that I don't need or want to spend money and time to attend.	3/3/2014 9:46 AM
15	Maybe not eliminated but lowered in each because it is difficult to get all the ceu's in certain categories	3/3/2014 8:56 AM
16	Yes there should be requirements, however, the number of hours/CEU should be reduced. The expense involved with obtaining the currently required number of CEUs is out of hand. The costs associated with obtaining the required number of CEUs through the currently accepted avenues is to high. Neither my employer or myself can justify the current expense.	3/2/2014 9:08 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

17	people specialize. i find the ceus tend to be repetative. often you are spending time to get one ceu out of a program. i tend to collect up over 2x the requirement and then be half a credit short somewhere. hows about having the category requirement for the first 5 years, then waiving it. for a total of 40	3/2/2014 7:58 PM
18	Certain requirements lend themselves more easily to the people working in the main stream agronomic applications. Those of us who work in less traditional farm crops or alternative crops, such as turfgrass, find fewer offerings in each area. This is particularly true for the events that need to be pre approved by the board. I find myself grabbing CEU's in areas which have little impact on my activity just because they are board approved.	3/2/2014 1:10 PM
19	I believe for CCA holders without a BS, there should be requirements to ensure they are rounded in their education. However, for a CPAg, it should be as it was before with meeting the number requirement without category requirements.	3/2/2014 8:45 AM
20	MANY OF US ARE SPECIALIZED AND PREFER TO FURTHER EXPERIENCES AND GROWTH IN OUR SPECIALIZED FIELD OF INTEREST.	3/1/2014 6:15 PM
21	I think there should be category requirements, but I think that there should be more flexibility in the amounts of CEUs particularly in the professional service and professional development sections.	2/28/2014 8:20 PM
22	Categories Yes, but more general grouping. Separate out IPM. I'm not a PCA	2/28/2014 7:55 PM
23	Over lap often occurs with CPAg CEU's.	2/28/2014 7:36 PM
24	Yes, but maybe allow for some kind of exception to allow carryover credits or time for people to make up for missing credits (catch-up option).	2/28/2014 7:01 PM
25	Not of interest to me or my clients. I need hands on tech training (GIS) Give us credit for 60 hour weeks in the field, researching new gadgets, looking at problems as they arise.	2/28/2014 5:43 PM
26	Very difficult to find CEU's in the specific areas. Especially with CPAg with Professional Services and Professional Service	2/28/2014 3:49 PM
27	Some category content is not commonly available, ill defined, and irrelevant	2/28/2014 3:11 PM
28	Maybe not eliminated but modified. There is no sense in requiring specialists to spend valuable time and education \$ for CEUs outside of their specialty. CCAs may be generalists bur many CPAgs who have bee swallowed up by the CCA program are not. The categories are too restrictive	2/28/2014 1:37 PM
29	Some folks specialize in soils rather than insecticides	2/28/2014 1:24 PM
30	specialization in fields today directs many people towards a single focus discipline	2/28/2014 10:26 AM
31	As job roles change, some categories are no longer applicable to career path. Would it be possible to require minimum requirements in 3 of the 4 categories, with the individual choosing the three most applicable to their job?	2/28/2014 9:17 AM
32	Not once has my certification had anything to do with my clients desire for my services. Also, each individual specializes in a different area making multiple disciplines unnecessary. Because of the time constraints to earn CEU's and what I find as not needed to continue my business I will be dropping my certification. This will take myself off the NMP list/ thank the Lord!!!	2/28/2014 8:32 AM
33	Some are difficult to find training such as soil and water.	2/28/2014 8:10 AM
34	Different people benefit from different areas more depending on what they do for work. It would encourage people to obtain information in the right area rather than simply attending to get the required credits.	2/28/2014 7:17 AM
35	Agronomists specialize--especially those at universities. We don't have broad knowledge in many different areas--like both nutrient management and pesticides. To publish, one has to focus on a small area and read the journal areas in that one small area. Highly qualified people are being eliminated from certification (i.e., those who publish in the tri-Society journals) because of the broad requirements. They don't have time to know NW, SW, PM, and CM.	2/27/2014 8:28 PM
36	Offerings for some categories are less or not accounted for in other CE courses. This is determined by the organization offering the course.	2/27/2014 7:53 PM
37	soil and water fertilizer not offered enough compared to pests	2/27/2014 6:53 PM
38	Current market requires specialization so I tend to fall short in off target cue categories	2/27/2014 6:51 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

39	It hinders learning subject matter. That is someone trained in soils science should be permitted to expand their background in entomology.	2/27/2014 6:34 PM
40	As a pro I will seek out the info important to my needs and if that includes multiple categories then I will do so	2/27/2014 5:38 PM
41	No, the CCA CEU's should concentrate on the latest research findings that will possibly effect the farmers. The basic principles of soil and crop science should already be known by the CCA.	2/27/2014 5:04 PM
42	Just get 30 hours in material related to agronomy	2/27/2014 4:51 PM
43	Obtaining board certified ones are difficult and certain ones, like professional development and nutrient management, have v. limited offerings.	2/27/2014 4:05 PM
44	You will take what they offer, which isn't always in the area required.	2/27/2014 3:22 PM
45	Some people are specialized.	2/27/2014 3:02 PM
46	In some areas there is nothing new to learn and while it may be a refresher for some but not everyone. Hard to listen to the same presentations year after year when there is nothing new in that category.	2/27/2014 2:48 PM
47	If the hours were structured properly they should already cover all categories.	2/27/2014 2:44 PM
48	With my present job I do not always get the min number of CEU's in soils. Some years yes and some no. If I am able to attend the ASA Annual Meeting I can meet these. I have company meetings during the ASA Annual Meeting so it is presently difficult for me to attend. Some seminars and meetings cover different categories and I do not always get those categories populated for on line reporting	2/27/2014 2:36 PM
49	Sometimes the category I need is not available when I have the time to earn CEU's. And sometimes when the CEU's offered are for education on a current interest or problem, I will go to the seminar and then become overloaded in 1 category.	2/27/2014 1:59 PM
50	Professional experience can be difficult to put into these categories. I may be primarily responsible for one category and saturate that category in my work life, but not for others categories.	2/27/2014 1:41 PM
51	Teach all topics more often	2/27/2014 1:30 PM
52	When CCA and CPAg were combined, I now have to take credits in categories that are not of interest to me nor in an area in which I work.	2/27/2014 1:24 PM
53	So many of the CEU hours are actually a blend of 2 or more, often more categories; in the current form it's hard to split this out and tedious and time consuming as we will end up with a lot of small fractions.	2/27/2014 12:58 PM
54	Some CCAs have told me they miss trainings they need just to meet the requirements	2/27/2014 12:37 PM
55	Most CCA's & CPAg's are people that continue to want to excel in their careers. This being the case they would and the industry would benefit from them concentrating in the area they work within. Those touching all the areas currently required would most likely want to stay abreast of a wider selection of areas while those more centered (i.e. Chemical Rep) would zero in on the areas they need training in.	2/27/2014 12:36 PM
56	If a CCA does not work in an environment that focuses on the category, it may not pertain to their work. Also it seems that some categories are not offered as frequently as others. S & W for instance seems to be difficult to attend on a regular basis.	2/27/2014 11:49 AM
57	The only one I have issue with is the professional development all others are fine.	2/27/2014 11:49 AM
58	Soil and Water is an example, same people give same talk over and over for same credits at multiple meetings, only reason to hear them and not someone else with better or newer info for no credits is for the credits.	2/27/2014 11:43 AM
59	the categories don't apply to turfgrass CPAg	2/27/2014 11:41 AM
60	If there were equal opportunity for each, maybe. In addition, it increases the actual demands while not significantly adding to the education of the attendee.	2/27/2014 11:31 AM
61	I do not find 5 CEU's for the Professional Development benefiting me as a CCA, CPAg. The other categories could remain in place in order to get educational information from several disciplines.	2/27/2014 11:30 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

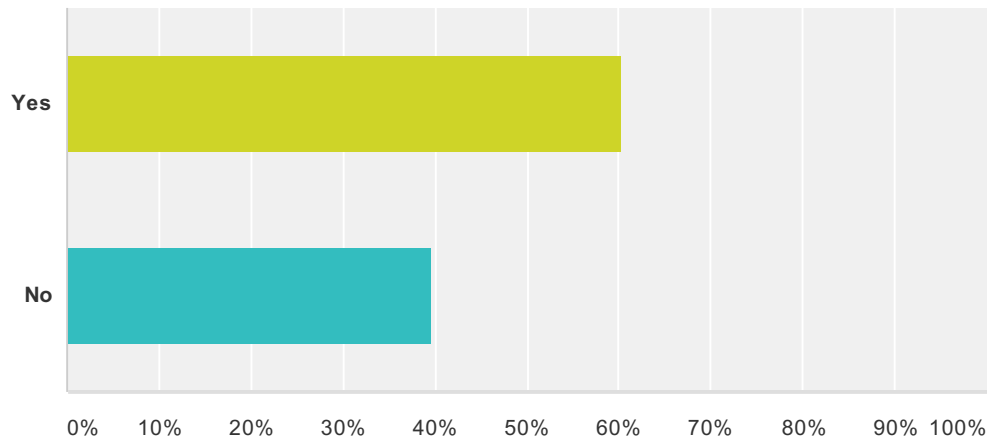
62	Some are difficult to get. The Professional Service category is very difficult and outside of a university setting is a joke. I hate wasting a day sitting in a hot convention hall listening to a presentation on a bug or a disease that I have heard three times. I want to learn new things and having to sit in on a presentation just to earn the credit is a massive waste of time and money. A lot of the trainings I attend just have people playing on their iPads or reading a newspaper and only look up when the sign in sheet is making its way around.	2/27/2014 11:08 AM
63	Timing and availability of required CEUs	2/27/2014 10:50 AM
64	Should have very minimal category requirements	2/27/2014 10:42 AM
65	Many of the potential credits in the crops area are more focused on the Midwest corn belt, wheat belt, soybean ..... This is fine for those agronomist who cater to Midwest crops this is very good. I can't say that I'm not interested but rather my time is better spend learning about crops on my region.	2/27/2014 10:37 AM
66	Most CCA's focus on an area of specialty, not all encompassing. As a CpAg, I got sucked into new requirements that are unnecessary and unrelated to what I do. It would be OK to decouple the two for me.	2/27/2014 10:36 AM
67	Should be in the area of practice	2/27/2014 10:28 AM
68	No need of eliminating, but the categories should be based on the areas required for helping the farming community.	2/27/2014 10:26 AM
69	Some of us work in specialized areas. We know what we need education in - we don't need someone to decide that for us. It is a waste of my time to get CEUs in subject matter that I don't work in and will likely never work in. If we are not working in certain areas of subject matter and not applying the knowledge in a practical sense everyday, then we don't retain the information anyway. It becomes just an exercise to fulfill the requirements, but that does not benefit us professionally.	2/27/2014 10:22 AM
70	Depending on what you are involved in for any given year it would be nice to have some flexibility.	2/27/2014 10:19 AM
71	Category requirements may be appropriate, however, the weighting for each one should be flexible. For example, a total of 20 CEUs for the four categories with a minimum of say 2 CEUs in each. Doing so allows the professional to concentrate on CEUs more related to the needs of the clients.	2/27/2014 10:10 AM
72	we often need to go to a special presentations/conferences just to get a CEU in one area so we can check off that box.	2/27/2014 10:01 AM
73	Here may be some people not working within the area that categories apply to. One size does not fit all. If one is selling fertilizer their knowledge base needs to be different from the herbicide district salesman. The CCA fertilizer salesman has a building conflict of interest from the beginning as he is paid to move product, if the farmer needs it is of no consequences. This person has no interest in learning about professional ethics.	2/27/2014 9:50 AM
74	Those are the tricky part. I sometimes have exceeded the total requirement by far, yet still have to go search a particular category.	2/27/2014 9:43 AM
75	Because in my case, I have a 20+ year history as a CCA and now my other career is asking for a high number of CEU's as well.	2/27/2014 9:40 AM
76	for individuals with subject matter specialization, it is a waste of time to attend some of these sessions as many have little application to a specific field of study.	2/27/2014 9:40 AM
77	Some categories do not pertain to certain real life professional jobs that CCA hold on a day to day basis.	2/27/2014 9:39 AM
78	I would say that most CCA people will attend events that relate to their specialty. As long as I am getting 40 credit units that should be good. I don't find there is much value in me getting credits in categories that do not help me out in my professional career. I believe it should not be a requirement.	2/27/2014 9:37 AM
79	They are nice in an academic environment or perhaps for a CCA in general practice. My primary practice was legal consulting, in state courts, in Kentucky, followed by technical consulting on the farm. We ARE professionals, we know what we need in our area and our area of practice.	2/27/2014 9:35 AM
80	Burdensome and complicated	2/27/2014 9:35 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

81	Professionals are going to keep current in all categories anyways and will attend as many meetings or conferences as possible. I tend to miss important sessions to attend others just for CEU's on topics I already understand well.	2/27/2014 9:34 AM
82	I think that the professional service category either needs to be eliminated or broadened to include other types of service. The items that count seem a bit too limited for everyone to be able to achieve them.	2/27/2014 9:34 AM
83	Each of us as professional's have different applications in agronomy and having the CEU requirements in all fields is not relevant to all.	2/27/2014 9:34 AM
84	Some are not applicable to my work making it difficult to include outside my specialty.	2/27/2014 9:32 AM
85	Because of the areas that I primarily work in (crop protection), I find it difficult to get the minimum soil related categories. While the idea of a minimum level of competency in these areas is an admirable idea, in reality, I find it just more of a chore to get these credits than what I get out of it. There are times at professional meetings where I find myself attending a session just to get credit for a category that does not relate to what I am doing and miss a session that would be much more useful in my job. I personally find this counterproductive.	2/27/2014 9:31 AM
86	You train and acquire more knowledge in those areas you participate ie pest or nutrient management. if your not doing irrigation work soil and water is not particularly valuable. I agree all knowledge is good for the industry and the individual.	2/27/2014 9:30 AM
87	Not everyone certified may need all categories "covered", perhaps may need emphasis on "field oriented" area as opposed to academic category.	2/27/2014 9:30 AM
88	Some of the categories are difficult to find. At some point, there isn't much more that is said about a few of the categories.	2/27/2014 9:30 AM
89	Maybe not eliminate the requirements totally, but if you specialize in an area (i.e. Pest or Crop Mgt) limit your time to those categories. Soil & Water Credits are the most challenging to acquire for myself, and I am the least interested in the meeting topics that provide credit in those categories. Just one example. Thanks for your time!	2/27/2014 9:29 AM
90	Reduce to CM. IPM. Professional development Put soils under CM	2/27/2014 9:29 AM
91	yes	2/27/2014 9:28 AM

**Q7 If the total number of CEUs was lowered from what it is today and all exceptions would also be eliminated - you have to earn the minimum or the certification is terminated except for hardship appeal to the Board – would you agree with that approach?**

Answered: 254 Skipped: 2

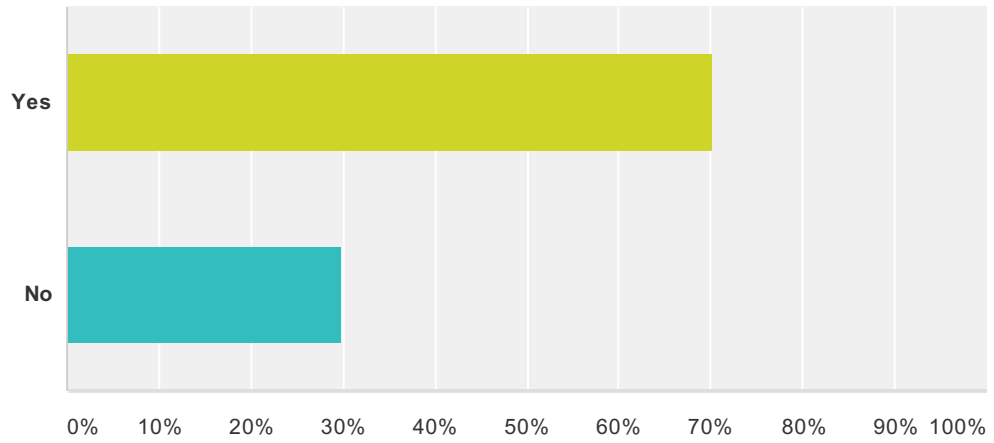


Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	60.24%	153
No	39.76%	101
<b>Total</b>		<b>254</b>



### Q8 Should all certifications have an ethics CEU requirement?

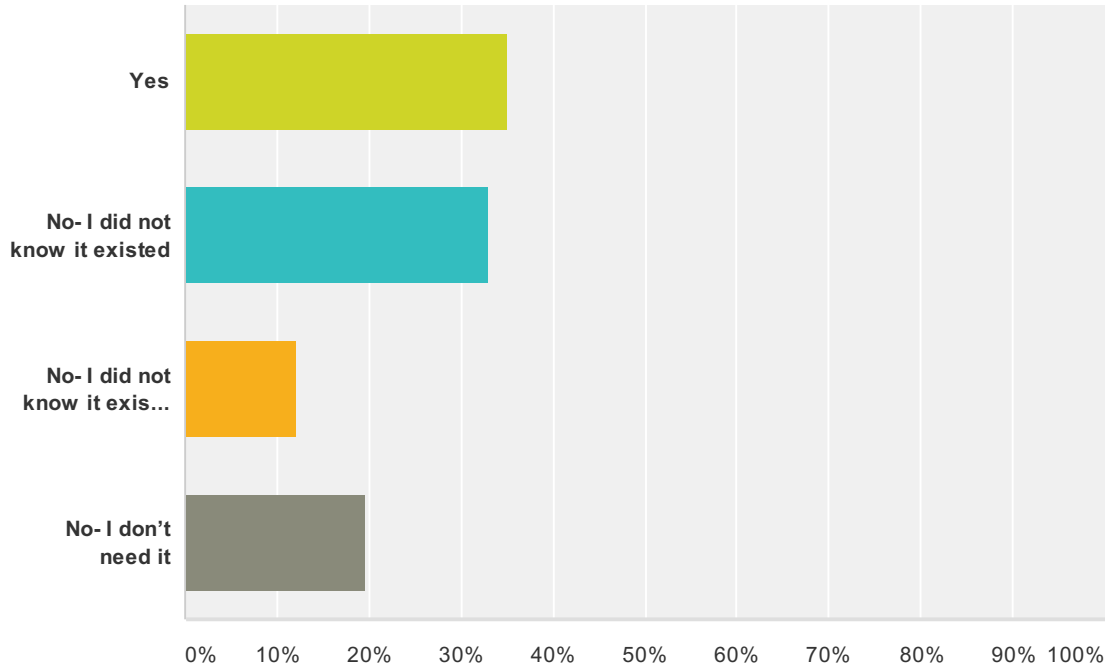
Answered: 252 Skipped: 4



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	70.24% 177
No	29.76% 75
<b>Total</b>	<b>252</b>

### Q9 Do you utilize the online, CEU calendar available through the web site?

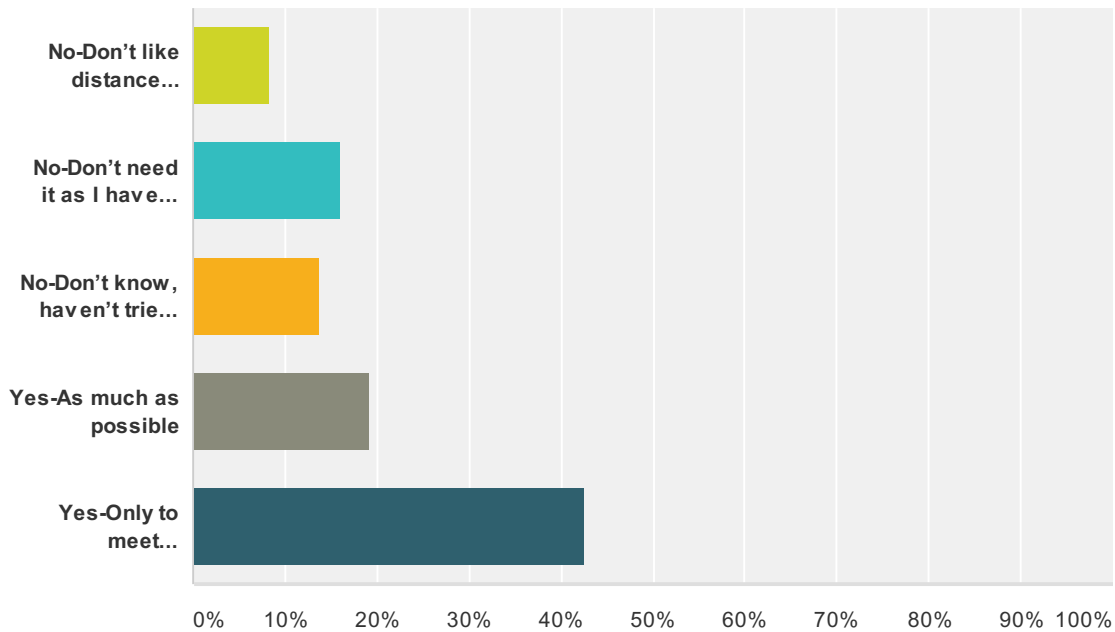
Answered: 254 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses	
Yes	35.04%	89
No- I did not know it existed	33.07%	84
No- I did not know it existed but would use it if I had.	12.20%	31
No- I don't need it	19.69%	50
<b>Total</b>		<b>254</b>

### Q10 Do you utilize online CEUs?

Answered: 254 Skipped: 2



Answer Choices	Responses
No-Don't like distance education	8.27% 21
No-Don't need it as I have plenty of in-person opportunities	16.14% 41
No-Don't know, haven't tried it	13.78% 35
Yes-As much as possible	19.29% 49
Yes-Only to meet requirements if I am short	42.52% 108
<b>Total</b>	<b>254</b>

#	If you answered yes, also tell us how often.	Date
1	rarely only when I am short CEUs they rarely apply to my area of expertise	3/14/2014 6:56 PM
2	At the end of a cycle as needed.	3/14/2014 7:18 AM
3	5 times in last 2 year cycle	3/13/2014 9:35 PM
4	Usually at the end of my cycle to get what i need	3/11/2014 7:01 AM
5	Three CEU's in the last cylce just because of the new Professional development category	3/10/2014 5:18 PM
6	once	3/10/2014 5:02 PM
7	for ethics training and info on topics I am working on that are controversial	3/8/2014 9:46 AM
8	3-4 times a year for subjects like S&W	3/6/2014 5:28 PM
9	Currently registered for 5 CEU's this month	3/5/2014 3:12 PM
10	one time, I have difficulty paying for an internet course	3/4/2014 9:01 AM
11	Just occassionally if a topic catches me and while I am reading it I go ahead and apply for CEU	3/3/2014 7:08 PM
12	couple of times in december if needed	3/3/2014 5:07 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

13	I thought cost excessive	3/3/2014 2:59 PM
14	as much as possible	3/3/2014 12:03 PM
15	On an as-need basis	3/3/2014 10:52 AM
16	I have tried to use online sources, however, I have found it very difficult to sufficiently modify my work schedule to match the presentation timing.	3/2/2014 9:31 PM
17	once or twice a year	3/2/2014 7:59 PM
18	I take advantage of the free online CEU's as often as possible. The ones that cost hundreds of \$ from ASA are outside the budget of me or my company.	3/2/2014 1:12 PM
19	I will say the online CEU options are good but need to be refreshed regularly.	3/2/2014 8:23 AM
20	Only when short in a category	3/1/2014 10:36 PM
21	Once or twice per year - very expensive	3/1/2014 6:47 PM
22	Usually the CEU's that are offered by suppliers at no cost. It is good to offer on line through the CCA program in the event people are not in contact with suppliers or in the case where specific categories are needed to maintain certification. I don't use on line CEU's very often but they should be offered for those who like the on line offerings. On line programs offer a lot of very good training.	3/1/2014 3:27 PM
23	2-3 times/year	3/1/2014 7:59 AM
24	For several credits towards the end of the cycle	3/1/2014 7:05 AM
25	1 every few months	2/28/2014 10:13 PM
26	Only if the topic will provide personal professional development	2/28/2014 8:13 PM
27	not very often	2/28/2014 5:49 PM
28	At the end of each cycle period	2/28/2014 3:19 PM
29	I had to do the ethics thing.	2/28/2014 3:01 PM
30	very often use ASA and other online CEUs because there are very limited opportunities for quality education within my commuting distance	2/28/2014 1:43 PM
31	2 a year	2/28/2014 1:39 PM
32	As often as possible	2/28/2014 1:25 PM
33	As needed to obtain the required CEU count.	2/28/2014 12:19 PM
34	I've only used it for a few soil and water credits that I was short in the past	2/28/2014 12:08 PM
35	for 1-2 CEUs per cycle	2/28/2014 11:31 AM
36	3-5 Units/Year	2/28/2014 11:00 AM
37	1 every couple years	2/28/2014 10:06 AM
38	I am on conference calls and computers all day long at work, not going to spend time at night also doing computer learning.	2/28/2014 10:00 AM
39	3-5 times per cycle, to pick up CEUs in categories I have difficulty attaining.	2/28/2014 9:22 AM
40	At least twice a month.	2/28/2014 9:15 AM
41	at the end of a two year cycle	2/28/2014 7:19 AM
42	Several times a year	2/28/2014 7:18 AM
43	I believe I only used once.	2/28/2014 7:16 AM
44	2-3 HOURS PER CYCLE	2/27/2014 9:24 PM
45	Almost every cycle	2/27/2014 9:18 PM
46	Couple of times to meet minimum requirements	2/27/2014 8:32 PM
47	when needed	2/27/2014 6:54 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAG, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

48	I utilize free webinars	2/27/2014 6:50 PM
49	Once in a great while	2/27/2014 5:52 PM
50	minimal	2/27/2014 5:52 PM
51	They are a good source but I think I need to network with my fellow pca's also	2/27/2014 5:45 PM
52	Due to the per hour expense.	2/27/2014 5:06 PM
53	rarely	2/27/2014 4:37 PM
54	Maybe use it every other cycle	2/27/2014 4:23 PM
55	Maybe 6 times over the last two cycles.	2/27/2014 3:41 PM
56	When I am made aware of their availability	2/27/2014 3:20 PM
57	Depends when they are offered and on what topics, probably 1 every 1-2 months.	2/27/2014 3:08 PM
58	Used to get my PM credits this year	2/27/2014 2:49 PM
59	Every two years, it gives me a better education of different subjects than meetings.	2/27/2014 2:47 PM
60	I am poor to put in my CEUs in a timely manner. I keep record of seminars, webinars, meetings, field days, etc and enter them once or twice in the two year peroid. For events that I attend I do not always fill out the attendance sheet for my CPAG number.	2/27/2014 2:39 PM
61	once every two or three years	2/27/2014 2:13 PM
62	first time this past Jan, 2014. Ethics CEU for CSSS	2/27/2014 2:01 PM
63	Twice per year	2/27/2014 1:32 PM
64	I have taken 2 on-line courses and would take more but often cannot block out the required dates/times	2/27/2014 1:29 PM
65	seldom	2/27/2014 1:07 PM
66	1 or 2 per cycle	2/27/2014 1:05 PM
67	ONce per cycle, but may have to utilize it more often since work load has increased	2/27/2014 12:38 PM
68	When it is possible for me.	2/27/2014 12:14 PM
69	Use if i see a course that meets the need for my job	2/27/2014 12:08 PM
70	Usually end up doing 1-3 CEU's per cycle depending on what I require for minimums.	2/27/2014 11:53 AM
71	I use them when interested in reading and learning about the specific research written. Sometimes I pay for the CEU's and sometimes I just 'catalogue' the information.	2/27/2014 11:52 AM
72	occasionally - maybe once a year about	2/27/2014 11:51 AM
73	once a year or two	2/27/2014 11:50 AM
74	I max it out, its easier to do an online CEU at night than miss a half day of work	2/27/2014 11:47 AM
75	How about a PhD with 25+ years of experience teaching/mentoring international colleagues and gvernment agencies?	2/27/2014 11:32 AM
76	Too expensive	2/27/2014 11:32 AM
77	This is becoming the only way to earn credits. They are too expensive to get all hours that way.	2/27/2014 11:10 AM
78	two	2/27/2014 11:06 AM
79	2 or 3 times a year	2/27/2014 11:06 AM
80	Three hours for last term	2/27/2014 11:02 AM
81	sometimes - once or twice per year if needed	2/27/2014 11:02 AM
82	2 x per year	2/27/2014 10:57 AM
83	I received two credits last year.	2/27/2014 10:39 AM
84	Once or twice	2/27/2014 10:36 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

85	Twice per year?	2/27/2014 10:25 AM
86	Occasionally.	2/27/2014 10:24 AM
87	Once every 2 years to fill in what is missing.	2/27/2014 10:21 AM
88	When one of interest is offered	2/27/2014 10:13 AM
89	Onoly once so far	2/27/2014 9:54 AM
90	3 or 4 times, depending on my work load	2/27/2014 9:53 AM
91	If they are conveniently scheduled, 3-6 a year	2/27/2014 9:42 AM
92	1 or 2 times a year	2/27/2014 9:41 AM
93	1 or 2 times a year	2/27/2014 9:39 AM
94	As long as I don't have a scheduling conflict	2/27/2014 9:37 AM
95	Monthly	2/27/2014 9:37 AM
96	when it works with my schedule	2/27/2014 9:37 AM
97	1-2	2/27/2014 9:34 AM
98	I have done this only once or twice over 15+ years	2/27/2014 9:33 AM
99	Infrequently; just when I am in a pinch to acquire credits.	2/27/2014 9:31 AM

**Q11 Any additional comments you would like to share with the review committee?  
Thank you!**

Answered: 132 Skipped: 124

#	Responses	Date
1	Enjoyed during certain times of the year to attend research and field trips. Thanks for asking for my input. Certified since 1983 for NSCS	3/16/2014 9:26 PM
2	The only reason I would like to see the number of CEU reduced to 40 is due to the distance we are from large centers. If I was more centralized 50 is a better representation. I also would like to see a credit card system for presentation that record time of signing in and signing out that would keep everyone a lot more honest about their presence in the seminars	3/14/2014 6:56 PM
3	Do not like the additional requirement for CPAg. They are extremely hard to obtain and require too much added effort for the time and benefit.	3/14/2014 7:24 AM
4	For self-reported ceu's, it would be useful to have a form to take to meetings with multiple talks to choose and record the competency area right after each talk. There are many competency areas to choose from and the choice is best made at the time of the talk while it is fresh in one's mind.	3/12/2014 10:08 PM
5	Change the minimum on certain categories for example Professional service. Sometimes there are not opportunities in that area to earn these in a two year time frame.	3/12/2014 2:08 PM
6	Please look my comments above. Follow other society's format like ASHS. Get rid of local board. They are not very helpful but hinderance in smooth, fast, effective and user friendly certification process. I did not know they existed until this year. How this came about? Who they are, how they got elected or appointed? Are they on salary? and make process easy without local boards's interference. Lower number of CEU's needed or you will loose lot of people who are dissatisfied or frustrated. The process was better in the past. Why did you changed good thing ?	3/11/2014 11:14 AM
7	I value my CCA but am considering letting it go if I am to far away from the ending number. It is expensive	3/11/2014 7:01 AM
8	Not sure we need to change anything on the requirements, just a few more options with on-line CEU's for professional development	3/10/2014 5:18 PM
9	I believe strongly that CPAg should be a separate certification from CCA, especially if there is a large proportion of current CPAg-CCAs who are not field practioners, but rather are researchers in a very narrow field of study (as is my case).	3/10/2014 2:34 PM
10	no	3/10/2014 8:40 AM
11	A great program. More online opportunities.	3/9/2014 9:48 AM
12	The requirements fit some people, newly out of school or just high school, but are not applicable to Professional non sales based problem solving Agronomists with post grad education and degrees, who are not in the fert spray sales business wearing consultants hats	3/8/2014 9:46 AM
13	These questions were answered based on my attending the Maryland Crop Management School. It gives me almost all the CEUs I need in one meeting. I will say if it wasn't for this meeting, obtaining the required CEUs would be much more difficult. My answers would be different if I did not attend this conference every year.	3/8/2014 7:56 AM
14	I have always appreciated the help received from the office when it comes to getting CEU's accepted. The application form/process needs some work to avoid some of the confusion and unnecessary time spent as a result	3/7/2014 2:48 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

15	First, I think the CEU credits in the newsletter are over priced. We pay for certification and membership in the societies and then have to pay \$20 or so to send in a test of our reading comprehension for credit. Must be a good money maker for the societies. I preferred the three year cycle. There will always be exceptions - if a CCA is in the National Guard and is deployed for 18 months, they can't really earn CEUs, so if there were no exceptions then we'd be screwing these people for serving our nation by making them re-certify when they come off of deployment - that should be a non-starter. I don't use the online resource for CEU opportunities because I was not really aware of it, but I think I've seen it, and I don't go to the Societies' web site very often - too many others I HAVE to visit to do my job.	3/7/2014 10:17 AM
16	Eamed my degree already. Do not like attending seminars where I learn very little yet need to attend to get the CEUs. Numerous times I have gone to hear the same speaker thinking it was a different topic but ending up for the most part hearing the same talk all over again. The appearance to me is someone is earning money on the CEUs at my expense.	3/6/2014 7:07 PM
17	I would really like to get a job again in agriculture	3/6/2014 5:28 PM
18	Webinars that are supported by industry, there by decreasing the cost, are much appreciated.	3/5/2014 3:12 PM
19	Again to my previous comment about having an "inactive" status when away from work for an extended period of time.	3/5/2014 2:18 PM
20	My issue is not with continued education, its the "picky" academic approach that seems to have entered the CCA program the recent years. Caution, loss of flexibility with the program will only lead to the loss of membership. For board members who say "So what" must be living in a different world than myself. I am a past board member and still a strong supporter of the certification programs.	3/5/2014 9:25 AM
21	Question 7 I don't understand what you are asking. I believe in a code of ethics and have signed it don't know what a CEU requirement like that would do. Just a waste. You either agree to the code of ethics and believe in professionalism or you don't. I believe in being a professional.	3/3/2014 7:08 PM
22	Frank Marcello 02905. I have friends that are engineers and in the medical field that aren't required HALF the CEU's that I am. What's this latest area...human development?? trying to keep me well rounded; guess what I'm grown up and not in college anymore. I'm 52 and am well aware of what meetings I have to attend to stay current as an indep. crop consultant on over 20 crops. I would not lose ONE (1) customer if I dropped my CCA/CPAG. Gov. workers don't care about certifying themselves. And how in the hell does a retired prof. (w/o any certification) get to put on a meeting and charge me \$100 and read me outdated info. off an overhead!!!!!! I want to support MI. agriculture and stay educated and support my fields of education(agronomy, pathology and IPM) but try to convince my wife why I should spend all this time and MONEY on CEU's instead of going on vacation in Florida. Cut the CEU's back to 30. Certification is voluntary and gov. workers in many ag. fields are protected from suits and/or just haven't kept up to date with current ag. practices. We need to get some teeth in being certified. I want to make this work. Call me(989) 751-5631.	3/3/2014 6:29 PM
23	Need a quickeasy way to apply for credits. The process feels cumbersome. There are several that I have spoken with in the industry that don't feel their certification is bringing any value to them and have let it expire. We need to do more to create realized value to our CCA's!	3/3/2014 3:53 PM
24	Found it difficult to get response back from certification staff as to what was lacking in my renewal.	3/3/2014 2:59 PM
25	The CEU system prompts the lazy to gain more education as they progress in their careers. The rest seek out opportunities to learn, regardless of whether they accrue CEUs. T.W. Crawford, Jr., PhD, CCA-CA, CPAg	3/3/2014 2:40 PM
26	Don't make it too easy. This certification separates us from the "rest of the industry". I like this tool.	3/3/2014 2:30 PM
27	I also belong to the Gcsaa. It would be nice if they would also accept your ceus.because they are usually as informative as theirs.	3/3/2014 12:03 PM
28	Re the question regarding ethics requirement; how are you going to accomplish this goal? Some sort of online training seminar such as the video for safe athlete requirement that many athletics (such as USA Swimming) require? How are you going police this requirement? Also, the CEU calendar is not nearly extensive enough as not all ASA or local Extension meetings where CEU's are offered are posted on the CEU calendar. Please let me know if you have questions. Thanks, Doug Snyder	3/3/2014 10:52 AM
29	If the process is simplified, you will keep more CCAs and get more new CCAs	3/3/2014 8:58 AM
30	On-line Training needs to be recorded so we can access as needed.	3/3/2014 7:19 AM



## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

31	I have probably not seen all of the posting for CEUs available through the CEU Calendar, most of online offering I have seen advertised are either to expensive or presentation schedules are to limited to allow me to utilize them.	3/2/2014 9:31 PM
32	The Board with the input of long term industry members like myself need to seek ways to make it easier to get sessions and training we participate as professionals for business approved timely. It also needs to be more user friendly to submit this information for approval. Once a session is Board approved ASA needs to provide or establish a case # for that session so members submitting this session for credit have a mechanism to highlight rather than a date or in the case of one last year i had to email to confirm well after the date of training. The ability to obtain CEU credit online through papers and articles and then testing out is a great add for obtaining CEU to stay active in your area. Make sure you refresh those articles frequently so every year at least 30% of the articles have been refreshed with new research being done.	3/2/2014 8:23 AM
33	All CEUs are quite costly. More work needs to be done with CCA accreditation being recognizedd with acknowledgement and compensation.	3/1/2014 6:47 PM
34	The number of credits needed should not be lowered but they should also not be increased by much. Quality of credits should be closely monitored and credits should always come from the best sources. I do not use the online system much because they can get expensive and I currently am able to get enough at a reasonable cost without going on line. Some of use fortunate enough to work with employers who support the professional CCA program but for those who are maintaining certification as individuals the accreditation would be more sacrificial.	3/1/2014 3:27 PM
35	I have not had a problem filling the ceu requirement for the public service but I could see how that might be a significant problem for some and does not have anything to do with the competence of the professional. They should be dropped. This requirement had to have been developed by an academic type not somebody in production agriculture.	3/1/2014 8:01 AM
36	The NE region offers good training at a reasonable price where I obtain most of my recert credits. I have also been able to self certify.	3/1/2014 7:05 AM
37	For people that are serious about agriculture, the CEU bar isn't that high right now. Keep this an elite group - don't lower the bar to add members.	3/1/2014 6:14 AM
38	I'm disappointed in the Boards decision last year to change the CPAg requirements. While I support the need for CEUs and a different level of expertise for CPAg certification, the new requirements make it difficult for field level CPAg certified agronomist who work for private companies to remain certified. I'm no less qualified then I was before the changes in CEUs, yet because I don't publish or serve on industry boards I'm no longer considered worthy of holding the certification. Its disappointing. I consider myself to be a good agronomist and when I received my CPAg certification was VERY proud of it, however I becomes more and more difficult to maintain, because I'm field based.	3/1/2014 5:46 AM
39	Keep the certification requirements we now have. Lowering them just lowers the real and perceived professional level of our certifications.	2/28/2014 10:13 PM
40	I like the ability to self report. I generally get 2X the number of required CEUs in each two year credit cycle. The requirements at the present time maintain a strong program with a high degree of credibility. Please do not dilute it!	2/28/2014 8:13 PM
41	California ag is different than Midwest ag.	2/28/2014 7:57 PM
42	Need more options for each "drop down" areas.. The drop downs - need to more closely match the descriptions in #1 of the CCA/CPAg "reporting form".	2/28/2014 7:39 PM
43	You need more balanced number of online courses/exams for all categories. Some don't have any and others just a couple hours. Some fairness is needed if your going to require all these categories and minimum hours.	2/28/2014 7:04 PM
44	For a small company like mine- requiring online \$750 courses is just not economical. Also using a hammer like kicking us Agronomists out for missing CEU's- I would then need to push the state for a license and go that route. I like the CPag/CCA please give us credit for retaining clients for 25yrs plus. Free online CEU's and make it easier to get approval for local CEU's. Please don't kick us out, i have promoted certification for years.	2/28/2014 5:49 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAG, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

45	Separate charges for ASA, CCA, SSSA, CPAG, CPSS, simply make them too expensive. Add to these, required licenses that cost hundreds of dollars a year I am spending almost \$2000 per year, not counting meeting and convention attendance costs that double that number. Offer a combined or discounted fee for those holding multiple certifications, or lose membership to required certifications and licenses. This is especially significant for those who are not company employees and don't get the benefit of having employers pay for such certifications.	2/28/2014 3:19 PM
46	The biggest problem for me is the board certified CEU requirement that was imposed when CPAGs were incorporated into the CCA program. There are so few CCAs and CPAGs in AK that there are not many board approved CEU opportunities particularly if you are looking for more technical educational opportunities. MANY of the CEUs offered in AK are actually targeted toward growers.	2/28/2014 1:43 PM
47	Over the years that I've been certified, the overall cost of certification has increased, while the return I receive from employment has leveled off. I'm thinking the value of certification may be greater for a person in early career, and less so for mid and later career persons. Since my employer doesn't require me to be certified, I'm wondering if it's really worth maintaining it into the future.	2/28/2014 12:19 PM
48	Excellent program overall and updates to prairie study guide were good and long overdue. Would just recommend to either broaden the SW category to include more topics or reduce the CEU requirement in the category.	2/28/2014 11:31 AM
49	Question 1 does not allow multiply answers Currently CPAG,CCSS, and CCA	2/28/2014 11:00 AM
50	If you insist on equalizing CCA with CPAG, you should at least require equal CEU's and effort for both Certs. Requiring more for CPAG is ridiculous when you are not differentiating between the two.	2/28/2014 10:31 AM
51	I am disappointed that I could not fulfill the CEU Requirements. I promoted and pushed for Certification my entire career and included it on My Case IH and CNH Business cards. Often asked what it meant and was a very good promotional tool for the program.	2/28/2014 10:00 AM
52	I think its important to have CEUs in more than one categories to stay more broadly current. However, earning CEUs in 3 of the 4 categories would allow individuals to diversify their education, but still enroll in a majority of courses that apply to their job role (and help justify the time required to their employer).	2/28/2014 9:22 AM
53	Please reach out to USDA-NRCS Agronomy training instructors. Stream-line the process of approval for CEU's for training seminars for internal (NRCS) and external customers in Texas. Prepare an on-line system for instructors to report attendee's sign-in sheet for credits. Seems like it takes 60 days to 6 months from seminar attendance until CEU's are credited to my account. Work with organizers to get participants 5 CEU's for a 5-hour workshop, not just 2 or 3 CEU's. I am willing to drive 3 hours or 150 miles one-way to get CEU's, but I want it to be worth-my-while, especially if I am not spending the night.	2/28/2014 9:15 AM
54	give me enough test to make a comment. I have one that does not fit. Short summary, new CPAG CEU requirements are not practical. jbultemeier@algreatlakes.com	2/28/2014 7:32 AM
55	i am letting my cpag and cpss go due to ethics credit requirement	2/28/2014 7:25 AM
56	I am not in favor of down grading the certification. The ethics category is more difficult to obtain. A signed code of ethics may be good enough.	2/28/2014 7:16 AM
57	Keep the CEU'S HIGH or even raise them.. The certification needs to mean more than it does today.	2/28/2014 6:43 AM
58	Any time you all become aware of a ceu course that is in the state where we live, send us an email with contact information so that we can decide if we can attend to get the ceus offered.	2/27/2014 11:13 PM
59	FOR A CCAg consider dropping requirement for PD. This category can be difficult to earn and is not related to agronomy.	2/27/2014 9:24 PM
60	I am a independent crop consultant I teach everyday. It is hard to get professional development for an independent. There is no reimbursement for \$ spent.	2/27/2014 9:18 PM
61	If there is going to be an ethics CEU, please have several opportunities to achieve this	2/27/2014 8:32 PM
62	I appreciate the help of headquarters.	2/27/2014 8:30 PM
63	CPAG should not be required to get as many CEU's as CCA, as most agronomists have the training in many of the subjects during their undergraduate years.	2/27/2014 7:37 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAG, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

64	CEU's should be required. No question. But the "Professional" categories for CPAG do nothing to enhance or maintain expertise in any necessary discipline that reflects the certification.	2/27/2014 7:34 PM
65	If I earn the required number of CEUs, including the category minimums by the end of my first year, my renewal cycle should be reset. This would encourage continued education rather than encouraging me to "take a year off" with CEUs. I find it silly that by the end of my CEU cycle I am 3x - 4x the minimum requirements.	2/27/2014 6:50 PM
66	A graduate degree should count for something.	2/27/2014 6:36 PM
67	Ethics requirements are beneficial, but should not be a required CEU. Short Presentations on ethics would be sufficient.	2/27/2014 6:19 PM
68	I am CCA and Cp Ag. I think the CEU requirements for these should be the same. You can distinguish one from the other base on degrees, years of experience etc.	2/27/2014 5:52 PM
69	I think over all the program CEU is working. Wondering why the questions??	2/27/2014 5:52 PM
70	I was a cca years ago but let it lapse due to not being used, now I have it again and am not sure about tracking hours. I sure like the way capca does it and wish it could be handled the same way	2/27/2014 5:45 PM
71	Thanks for the opportunity to respond!	2/27/2014 5:37 PM
72	Online CEU's (Webinar) education is very convenient in regard to utilization of time, cost effective, and eliminates travel expenses for those needing certification, presenters and the ASA.	2/27/2014 5:01 PM
73	Maintaining certification should be MORE strenuous for CCAs, and LESS strenuous for CPAGs (because they college degrees!). You have it backwards. I'm for helping people reach higher, not dumbing down!	2/27/2014 4:37 PM
74	Cpag has difficulty meeting couple of sections of ceus	2/27/2014 4:10 PM
75	Please consider reducing/eliminating board certified CEUs. These are difficult and expensive to obtain.	2/27/2014 4:07 PM
76	There needs to be minimum required CEU's just to maintain accreditation. Maybe there are too many required at this time for two years.	2/27/2014 3:41 PM
77	I do not think an Ethics CEU should be required because we have all signed the code of ethics. I do however think that the CCA board should do a better job enforcing the Code of Ethics - especially #3 in Article 2. There are lots of CCAs who are selling products that scientifically don't live up to the marketing claims. This hurts the credibility of the entire organization.	2/27/2014 2:49 PM
78	Too many of the meetings are duplicated. Two eight hour sessions per year should cover all of our legal updates. Label updates should be optional meetings.	2/27/2014 2:47 PM
79	I participate on many on line webinars to help keep up with my CEUs but do not always account for them. Because of my current position and being in the office managing people and processes I am not able to attend as many Face to Face meetings presently as I would like to.	2/27/2014 2:39 PM
80	Enforce the ethics code - ASA should be directly involved in advertising the benefits of certified professionals to the end users (Farmers). Ad Farm can be hired to put together professional 30 second commercials and have them aired on RFD TV. Farmers will notice them!	2/27/2014 2:25 PM
81	1st - Question #1 wouldn't let me select all my certs - I am CCA/CPAG/CPSS. 2nd - 40 CEU's is appropriate for ALL certifications. 3rd - As Certified Professionals, our ethics is the only thing that can maintain the integrity of the certifications. Therefore, ALL Certifications need to require an ethics CEU, period. 3rd - Keep the categories of CEU's for all certification. 4th - The requirements for CCA's (without a CPAG) should remain as is with 1 change, add 1 CEU min in Ethics. Although I am absolutely 100% positive the overwhelming majority of the CCA only folks will want to drop the CEU categories, that would be a HUGE mistake. The categories ensure we stay in tune with current crop advising issues. Yes they can be difficult at times to get, but to maintain credibility of the CCA standards are required. Just because it's a bit difficult is not a valid reason to make it easier. If difficult was a valid excuse then you might as well drop the exam requirements and just let everyone call themselves a CCA. 5th - Going to 50 CEU's for CPAG's is counter-intuitive and will reduce the CPAG numbers. Because CPAG's have a higher education level, they typically move up the ranks faster and are more likely to become more specialized, which reduces the value of gaining CEU's in all categories. They should NOT be required to have 5 CEU's in all the same categories as a CCA. The CPAG's education already has covered the basics in all those areas. CPAG's should however still have some minimums. CPAG requirements should be as follows: - 40 CEU's/ 2 year cycle - Min of 5 CEU's in 3 of the categories - Min of 1 CEU in Ethics	2/27/2014 1:48 PM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

82	Earning the required CEUs has turned into a big hassle and often expense for me. I almost gave up my certification because of it and would not blame others who do give up their certification. Professionals have enough to deal with without more hassles from the organization that is supposed to be helping us.	2/27/2014 1:29 PM
83	CPAg requirements should be greater than CCA, otherwise what's the point in having both categories? How do you differentiate a CCA from a CPAg? Perhaps with payment of dues a CE online course could be included, one per year (e.g. one online CE class worth \$15 per calendar year with certification payment). Should be able to go on-line and correct/edit/delete self-reported CE units.	2/27/2014 1:28 PM
84	So many missed opportunities - the difficulty is getting APPROVED hours...when so many great participatory educational opportunities exist. Overall this is not serving well a significant portion of the certified professionals, and causing a lot more to not get certified. It seems oriented around Land Grant, educational and extension type stuff - all good, but very limited. I spend an AVERAGE of \$6K a YEAR on CEU mostly to attend a number of State, Regional, National or International meetings. As a self employed private consultant that is a WORLD AWAY from big company or govt. expense accounts...this money comes RIGHT OUT OF MY POST TAX POCKET. Please be mindful of these factors, which are significant to persons in my line of work. The Certification programs are good, but could be much better and take in a much broader audience with a little more flex on the CEU part in particular. I can't count research publications since my clients all own the data and it is all highly confidential, another problem.	2/27/2014 1:04 PM
85	I think the hours need to be kept at the current level or raised. There is value in the program, lowering the hour requirement only lowers the programs standard.	2/27/2014 12:14 PM
86	Would be nice to be able to enter and view the 2014 year's CEUs in January instead of having to wait until mid-March 2014. I would rather enter them as I complete the CEUs even early in the calendar year. Currently, the 2012-2013 listing of CEU shows when I try to "view".	2/27/2014 11:54 AM
87	A CCA should be able to roll extra CEU's from one cycle to the next if you have extra as well. For instance I will probably have more than 45 this cycle and would like to roll the extras forward. Especially for those categories that are harder to obtain the minimums.	2/27/2014 11:53 AM
88	The high amount of CEU's needed almost demand attending a seminar or workshop or meeting once a year. This should place the CCA in an environment to learn and interact with Ext specialists. He/she should walk away with at least one more 'tool' to use, weather they realize it or not.	2/27/2014 11:52 AM
89	The cost of the CCA-CPAg increased dramatically recently. It now costs me more to be a CCA-CPAg than for my husband to keep his certification as a Certified Professional Engineer. That really doesn't make sense to me - he makes much more than I do and his work involves things like designing multi-million dollar roads & bridges-tremendous public safety impacts in comparison....why is our certification so much more? I have to pay it out of pocket as a University employee too (and am not eligible to write it off on taxes as self-employed people may be able to more easily). I debated really hard on dropping my certification as it is not a requirement of my job.	2/27/2014 11:51 AM
90	The CEU meeting calendar is not updated or doesn't seem to be kept up to date, plus we no longer get email notices of meetings with approved CEU's. in a timely manner to make arrangements to sign up and get off work to go.	2/27/2014 11:47 AM
91	Do presentations and authored articles count as CEU's?	2/27/2014 11:46 AM
92	I have to sit through board approved CEU's that have nothing to do with my area of expertise just to maintain my certification. I have learned a lot about corn and soybeans, but that is not relevant for my profession. The board approved requirement is a real problem.	2/27/2014 11:45 AM
93	I am sorry that the CPAg was downgraded to CCA. It has less value to me.	2/27/2014 11:34 AM
94	Your CEU's report page can only list one page for the two years (appears that way to me) which I do not like. I will be ending my career in about five years. I can't say the certification has really helped me. It is a hassle reporting. Try not to have too much control on what qualifies for CEU's and in what area of study it is taken for. Private industry will dictate the direction the professionals need to take in order to keep up with their education. Your on line webinars are too expensive.	2/27/2014 11:33 AM
95	The certification MUST upgrade the process to allow colleagues working as free-lance consultants, internationally advisors, and others acquiring incredible amount of knowledge and experience. Agronomy is not just college professors and technicians.	2/27/2014 11:32 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

96	Maybe this is too difficult, but make the CEUs about learning NEW things and not going over the same info year after year. One professor uses the same presentation over and over yet he is always a speaker. I am beginning to lose the value of being certified and the current system is one of the reasons why. I was asked point blank by a coworker why I was still certified and I had to answer, "I don't know anymore."	2/27/2014 11:10 AM
97	CPAg Professional Development should not be a mandatory category. If hours are allowed that's okay but not mandatory. This area is my business not this groups. Stay within agronomy!	2/27/2014 11:06 AM
98	Need more professional development courses	2/27/2014 11:06 AM
99	A statement somewhere regarding applicable self-reported hours for non-course activities (e.g. public speaking, writing, public service) would be helpful.	2/27/2014 11:02 AM
100	I appreciate your good work. Tom K	2/27/2014 10:57 AM
101	Review committee should know that farmers have more practical experience than certified professionals. By attending more and more seminars, workshops, and field days conducted for farmers (person to person) the certified person learns a lot about the practical problems the farmer faces. This help him find solutions to his problems. The review committee should also note that 99.9% of farmers in this world do not read journals. By becoming a member of regional, national, and international societies, the certified person learns a lot in his life. These societies' conferences give great opportunity to the certified person to learn the latest research results and also to interact with farmers dealing with different crops, which the certified person has never seen in his life. When you visit a farmers you a learn a lot from him, which you will never learn from journals. But these are not considered by the reviewers. I am a member of 9 (nine) agricultural societies and I pay more than \$500 from my own pocket and I don't take any money from my research project. I brought more than \$5 million for my research project and conducted conservation research on 37 crops, more than any other scientist. I am the only person in the world who delivers information on horticultural crops for erosion prediction, nutrient management, and conservation planning on horticultural lands, based on the C-factor (cover and management) research I have been doing in the US since 1992. This program is for the application of Agronomy on horticultural crops. I am doing FREE consultancy for several countries around the globe for the last several years. I represented the US four times and I have been to 23 countries. I have trained hundreds scientists and conservationists around the globe. I never collected not even a single dollar from anybody. I worked in the field of agronomy on three continents (ASIA, AFRICA, and the US) within the last 42 years of my international experience. For my contribution, I received the highest honor of India, 'The Pride of India 2011 Award'. I get minimum 100 e-mails everyday from around the globe. I received several awards at regional, national, and international level. But, according to the reviewers of certification, I am unqualified!!!! I have a humble request: Agronomy should be for helping the world community of living organisms to eat food, including birds and animals. There are millions of people hungry around the globe. Even in the US, one out of six families is worried about tomorrows food. If Agronomy society want to use the certification for helping certified professional to make addition income, other than their monthly salary, I don't want to be a member. I am a member of the ASA for the last 30 years. Girish K. Panicker, Ph.D. Director Center for Conservation Research (The largest C-factor databank on horticultural crops in the world with more than 130,000 readings on 37 crops) Alcorn State University Mississippi	2/27/2014 10:55 AM
102	I am not voting for the Ethics CEU requirement due to the fact I don't think you can teach ethics to adult learners. If it has not been learned or ingrained from a younger age you do not significantly alter that skill set. Also, the courses that teach ethics may be harder to find and people who have been ethical in their approach for years are being penalized for having to meet such a requirement. We sign up for ethics when we take our Oath and receive our certification. People with less than acceptable ethics generally self destruct in time anyway. It seems inevitable. I wish we all had a barometer to measure it, but we can't look on the heart and conscience and I don't believe we can regulate it. I vote NO.	2/27/2014 10:39 AM
103	#8 I do not think Calif was covered by the online calendar. Also there are way too many sub categories to fill out when reporting	2/27/2014 10:36 AM
104	Continuing education is critical to the long-term success of the CCA program	2/27/2014 10:35 AM
105	As a retired CPAg classification, I no longer need CEU's.	2/27/2014 10:31 AM
106	I think the CEU requirement should be lowered and the categories should be eliminated, but I don't think that exceptions should also be eliminated. There are always exceptions, some of which you will not be able to predict. There should always be some amount of discretion, regardless of how many CEUs are required.	2/27/2014 10:24 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

107	I checked CCA & CPAg above. I am also a CPSS Question #1 would not let me check both	2/27/2014 10:13 AM
108	I don't recall being provided the opportunity to comment prior to the CPAg requirements being raised to 50 CEUs. As a practicing professional CCA/CPAg this was not right to do. I am fine with the CPAg certification having 45 CEUs, yet forcing a new category minimum on us without first seeking some feedback was not appreciated. I do believe those of us with both CCA and CPAg need to continue to be recognized for our additional efforts and accomplishments in maintaining these certifications. Thank you for finally seeking some input from us.	2/27/2014 9:57 AM
109	My only suggestion would be to change the requirements for CPAg as today standards are almost impossible to complete if you work in the field.	2/27/2014 9:55 AM
110	Combining CCA and CPAg was a big mistake, and I am seriously considering dropping my certification. CPAg's are in a totally different class and work requirements.	2/27/2014 9:53 AM
111	I there were ample opportunities for ethics CEUs I'd be more likely to agree to it.	2/27/2014 9:52 AM
112	I am glad ARCPACS certifications were finally accepted as CCA. ARCPACS requirements were always higher and required a higher level of knowledge, but were not recognized for a long time.	2/27/2014 9:50 AM
113	I have always worked diligently to maintain my certification, but when not permitted to attend the society annual meeting due to travel expense restrictions, I found it VERY difficult to meet the current requirements.	2/27/2014 9:49 AM
114	Things are pretty good. Suggest e-mail notification of current CEU status - by category - to remind me to get the ones I am short on.	2/27/2014 9:46 AM
115	Most of us are long removed from the college campus, and graduated before there was a PC. While we are computer literate now because our work demands it distance learning is not something we are well versed in. Secondly, I needed (past tense as I retired rather than face the onerous process of getting board approved CEUs) actual skills. I wanted to be a TSP and get CNMP plan certification. I started both processes but self directed online study is time consuming, taking at least as long to learn the navigation skills as to actually take the class and write the plan. I wrote surface mine reclamation plans long hand for 15 years, really that's all a CNMP appears to be. But, there is no one shot course to get it all in. It seems NRCS goes to lengths to keep the system difficult and closed. A simple system to pave the way and meet our requirements that is affordable. Some of the prices of the board approved classes were excessive as well. My certification at most added at most 3000 to 4000 to my business each year. My vitae is still in tact, my degrees are still awarded, and my work experience and recognition of the courts as an expert were not revoked. Certification was nice and it helped I am sure not to have to note retired behind my title but it was never really worth the money, certainly not at the cost of having to pay for and travel to all the board approved CEUs	2/27/2014 9:45 AM
116	Much of the content of CEU training comes from universities and is very antiquated. The state committees need to look out to more cutting edge training. Much of the train is the same year after year and is not advancing as fast as real world situation that we CCA's in the field work with every day. The quality of training (in my state) is pitiful !!! The standard of training for CEU's needs raising!	2/27/2014 9:44 AM
117	I realize most people who have a CCA CPAG spend a majority of their time working in production ag. I was an early CCA, was an ag agent for 10 yrs w/UWEX and do limited 590 work. Getting all the CEU's is difficult for me due to my other obligations as it relates to my crop insurance business.	2/27/2014 9:43 AM
118	Some areas are really hard to get on line...e.g. IPM. Soil and water not too hard. Crop Mgmt also harder to locate. Some states don't offer much beyond annual meeting, I see. My background is more academic than most, and I am used to participating in several conferences a year, so this was not really difficult in the past. Once, I had 180 CEUs for a 2 year period...but this was CPAg, before Board review was needed.	2/27/2014 9:42 AM
119	Growers need to have a better understanding of the program and requirements participants go through to retain the certification. Having a CCA certificate on the wall doesn't mean anything unless there is an understanding of process.	2/27/2014 9:42 AM
120	I think it is important to be able to self report CEU's because not all meetings apply for CEU's. Also some meetings have duplicate presentations by the same presenters from other meetings - this is time that could be taken to attend other meetings with different topics.	2/27/2014 9:40 AM
121	I don't believe the number of credit units should be lowered. I just believe the minimum number of credits per category could be removed. It is not that hard to get 40 credits.	2/27/2014 9:39 AM

## Certification (CCA, CPAg, CPSS) CEU Requirements Survey

122	Do not lower standards. If anything- make them more steict	2/27/2014 9:39 AM
123	Having category requirements is fine, but allow for substitution. Depending on what one's particular speciality/role is it may be more important to emphasize public service or professional development more so than soil science (showing my crop bias). The ability to count time spent reading scholarly publications (in CPAg and the old CPCS) was good, especially if one has limited ability to be able to travel to meetings and classes either because of funding or time. Online offerings helps some.	2/27/2014 9:37 AM
124	Many CCA's are field advisers for companies. They are obliged to sell certain products. An ethics clause might eliminate them from becoming CCA's and that would be unfortunate because I have seen a significant improvement in quality of these advisers since the CCA program started. An ethics clause should be part of the CPAg and similar certifications.	2/27/2014 9:37 AM
125	The new requirements instituted a couple of years ago were a huge, largely unexpected change. It would have helped if ASA offered more free CEUs. ASA educational classes cost hundreds of dollars and are therefore cost-prohibitive	2/27/2014 9:37 AM
126	wording is terrible on question 6 Unclear how ethics requirement would be fulfilled - classes like other categories? CCA ceu requirements are easy to understand - not so for CPAg	2/27/2014 9:35 AM
127	Remove all the useless local meetings that are a de facto requirement as they are not pertinent to anyone except those in the sales business for feed, seed, and fertilizers/chemicals. These should not be statutory requirements for scientists.	2/27/2014 9:35 AM
128	It has not been made clear what to do for professional development - should have online opportunities for that	2/27/2014 9:35 AM
129	Certification programs have lost their mission goals of member education. CEUs are now nothing more than money making schemes.	2/27/2014 9:33 AM
130	-I prefer the online education to the in class education. We get some propaganda involved in the class education which is a waste of time.	2/27/2014 9:32 AM
131	We need to keep some teeth in this program to maintain professionalism with outsiders. If the program goes lax and the EPA or other government agencies become involved, they will have requirements that will likely much more strict that what we have in place at the present time.	2/27/2014 9:31 AM
132	I am happy with the system. Maybe more e-mail reminders, especially 3-6 months before the period is up.	2/27/2014 9:27 AM