

Welcome dear reader!

Sixteen years ago a professional association named Croatian Society of Agricultural Economists (HAED) was founded. On 12 February 1996 the meeting of the founding board was held, governing body was elected and the registration process was initiated at the Ministry of Public Administration. On 14 March 1996 the Ministry approved the registration of HAED as a legal entity into the Registry of Associations.

The purpose of founding of the HAED was to promote agricultural economics and rural sociology as a scientific and teaching discipline, professional occupation and specialization as well as to represent and advocate the interests of its members.

*In 2001 the first volume of the professional journal *Agroeconomia Croatica* was published.*

Since the founding of our Society there has been considerable progress in our profession. Today there are two successful studies in agricultural economics, in Zagreb and in Osijek, as well as a postgraduate PhD study Agricultural economics, i.e. integrated study in agricultural economics as well as specialist postgraduate studies.

During its existence the Society had more and less successful periods. Unfortunately, due to various reasons, after successful publication of the first volume of our journal, the second volume wasn't published.

*After new governing body of HAED was elected, as well as new editor in chief of the journal, things are getting better. Mostly thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work of the new editor in chief, Ružica Lončarić, the second volume of *Agroeconomia Croatica*, dedicated to the International scientific conference, is ready for print.*

We hope for further regular and successful issuing of our journal, and mostly we are looking forward to the contribution in papers of our members.

Yours truly,

Tito Žimbrek, President of HAED,

*founder and the first editor of *Agroeconomia Croatica**