



Landscape Ecology

Landscape ecology in Spain

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Spain

- Spain is located both in southern Western Europe and in northern Africa.
- It has an extension of 505 370 km².
- Its population is 47 100 000 inhabitants, most of them living near the coast.



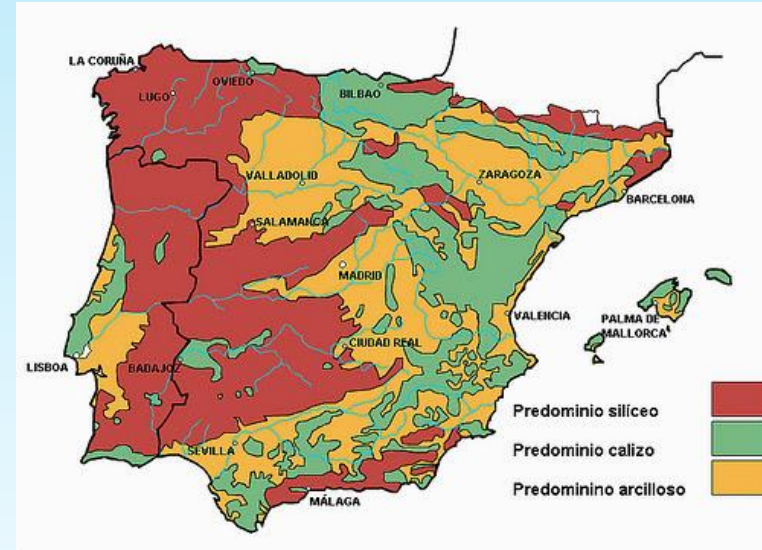
Relief

- Most of the surface is occupied by the central plateau, which is surrounded by mountains.
- The most important rivers are the Ebro, Guadalquivir and Tago.



Edaphology

- Silicious predominance in the west (granite)
- Limestone predominance in the center (sedimentary rocks)
- Clay predominance in the east (sediment accumulation)



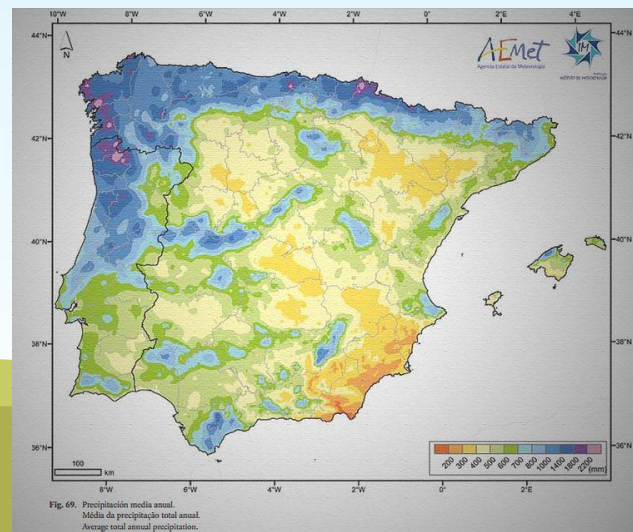
Clima

There are 5 types of clima:

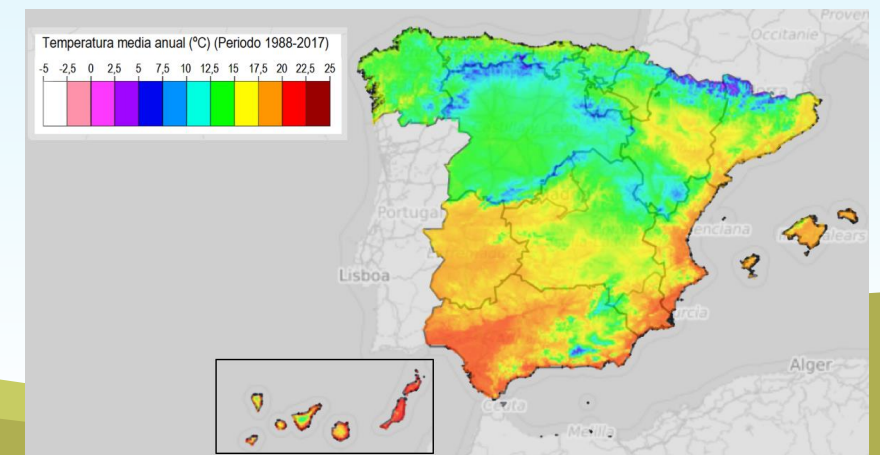
- Oceanic in the north-west, with high precipitation and low temperaturas.
- Mountain climate in some mountain áreas.
- Continental mediterranean in the inland, with low precipitation and highly variable temperatures.
- Mediterranean in the coast áreas of the south and the east, with low precipitation but non high variations of temperature.
- Subtropical in Canary Islands.



Precipitation map

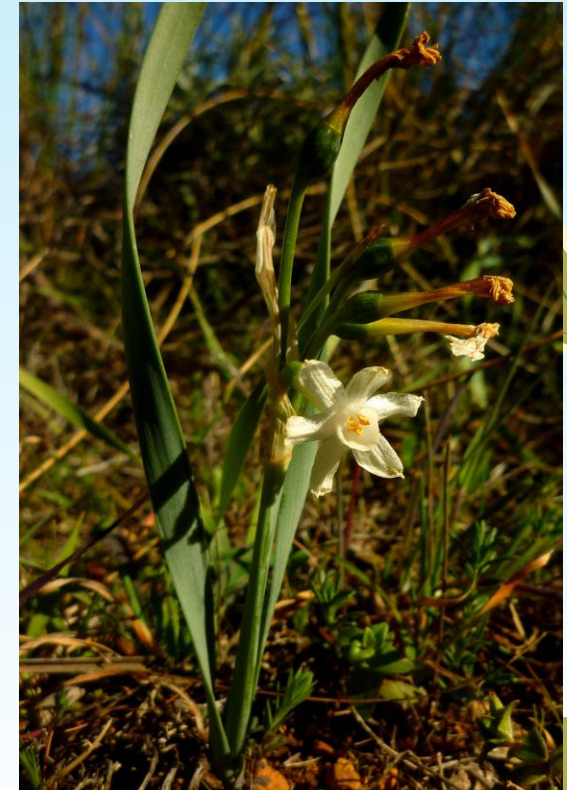


Temperature map



Nature protection

- Spain is one of the European countries with the highest number of protected areas.
- It is also the country with more endemic plants and animals.



Issues of the area

- Atmospheric pollution
- Water quality and quantity
- Erosion and desertification
- Urban and industrial waste
- Fires



Atmospheric pollution

- Especially in cities



Water quality and quantity

- The population and the industry generate water or water pollution due to discharges, which quickly spread by the water.



Erosion and desertification

- In this European country, there is a large area of vegetation that is being lost due to factors such as deforestation to get agricultural land and pastures, road construction and infrastructure, overgrazing, logging for wood or forest fires.



Urban and industrial waste

- Industrial and human activities generate large amounts of residues or wastes that are not assimilated within natural cycles or are assimilated at a lower rate than their deposition.



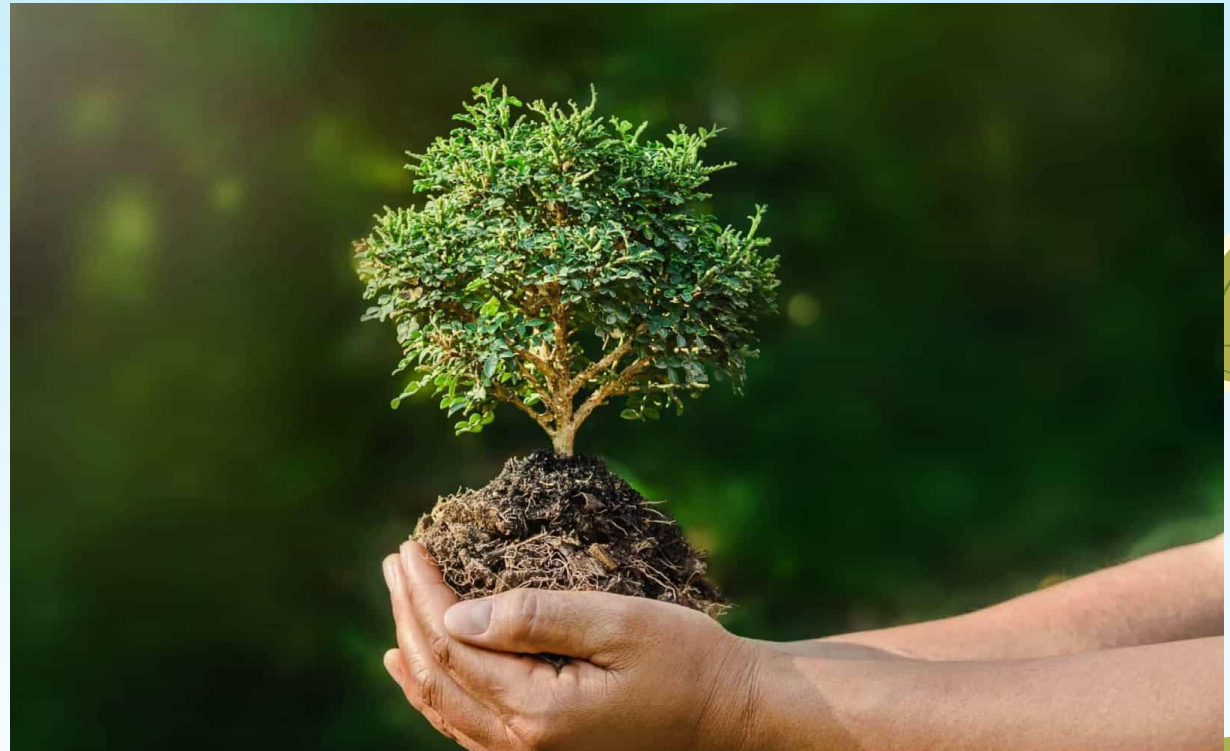
Fires

- Really important issue in the north.



Potential solutions

- Use of renewable energy
- Recycling
- More respectful agricultura
- Treatment of the industrial discharges
- Citizen awareness
- Reduce deforestation



Bibliography

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