The University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad was established on October 1, 1986. The University has 5 Colleges, 30 Research Stations, 6 Extension Education Units, 5 Krishi Vigyan Kendras and ATIC.

The University has its jurisdiction over 7 districts namely Bagalkot, Belgaum, Bijapur, Dharwad, Gadag, Haveri, and Uttar Kannada in northern Karnataka. Greater diversity exists in soil types, climate, topography cropping and farming situations. The jurisdiction includes dry-farming to heavy rainfall and irrigated area. Important crops of the region include sorghum, cotton, rice, pulses, chilli, sugarcane, groundnut, sunflower, wheat, safflower etc. The region is also known for many horticultural crops.

Considerable progress has been registered in the field of education, research and extension from this University.

Graduates from this university are appointed as agriculture scientists, agriculture officers in state and central governments, banks and other financial institutions such as insurance companies. With the setting up of commodity exchanges in India, degree holders in agriculture are in greater demand.