

Bibek Acharya, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Research Associate

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A. Professional Summary

Dedicated and passionate researcher in agricultural engineering with a focus on agricultural water management. Skilled in employing process-based modeling, remote sensing, and machine learning to address complex water quantity and quality challenges, including water use efficiency, water productivity, crop water production functions, solute transport, and evapotranspiration. Experienced in field experiments, long term scenario analysis, climate-based crop suitability assessment, and development of practical decision tools and recommendations for growers and other stakeholders.

B. Education/Training

2017	B. S.	Agriculture	Tribhuvan University, Nepal
2020	M. S.	Plant Sciences	University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY
2024	Ph. D.	Agricultural & Biological Engineering	University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

C. Positions and Employment

09/2024 - present	Postdoctoral Research Associate, Texas A&M Agrilife Research, Vernon, TX
08/2020 – 08/2024	Graduate Research Assistant, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
08/2018 – 08/2020	Graduate Research Assistant, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

D. Awards and Honors

2024	Honorable Mention Emerging Scholar Award, University of Florida
2024	Graduate Student Research Paper Award
2023	Florida Stormwater Association Educational Foundation, FSA Florida
2023	Sanford N. Young Scholarship, AWRA Florida
2023	Educational Aids Blue Ribbon award, ASABE
2023	McNair Bostick Scholarship, University of Florida
2020-2021	Grinter Fellowship, University of Florida
2018-2020	Brand of Excellence - Y Cross Ranch Graduate Scholarship, University of Wyoming
2018	Irrigation Association's E3 Winner grant
2013-2017	Merit scholarship by IAAS, Tribhuvan University, Nepal

E. Grants

Ale, S. and Acharya, B. 2025. Leveraging machine learning to identify error sources in crop yield predictions. Cotton Incorporated. **Role: Co-PI.** Status: Funded. (\$35,000; 01/2026-12/2026)

Ale, S.; Xue, Q.; Marek, T.; Ufodike, C.; Tabassum, S. 2025. Partnership: Precision irrigation management in corn - integrating sensors, crop models, and machine learning approaches. USDA-NIFA AFRI Foundational Program. **Role: Key personnel.** Status: Pending (\$800,000; 04/2026-03/2029).

F. Publications

Refereed Journal Articles: 7 (+ 4 in review)

Refereed Extension Articles: 1

Conference Papers: 33 (21 oral abstracts, 12 posters)