



Sushant Mehan

Sushant Mehan is the 2025 recipient of the Gale A. Holloway Professional Development award for the motivational drive and positive influence he brings to his numerous contributions to ASABE, benefiting both students and professionals.

Mehan serves as an assistant professor and SDSU Extension Water Resource Engineer Specialist at South Dakota State University, where he holds a 60% research and 40% extension appointment. Mehan held postdoctoral positions at Colorado State University with USDA-ARS, University of Wisconsin—Madison, and The Ohio State University. He also worked in industry as an agricultural engineer with Formation Environmental LLC. These diverse academic, research, and industry roles have provided him with a comprehensive understanding of both theoretical and practical aspects of water resources engineering, enabling him to effectively bridge scientific research with real-world applications.

A dedicated educator and leader, Mehan has chaired multiple ASABE groups, including the Young Professional Community, the G.B. Gunlogson Student Environmental Design Competition, and the NRES-21 Hydrology Committee. He has delivered nine data science workshops on Python and R, co-developed online training and courses in hydrologic modeling and remote sensing, and secured over \$3 million in research funding focused on water resource management, nutrient dynamics, and soil health. Mehan's editorial contributions include associate editor roles for the *ASABE Journal of Natural Resources and Agricultural Ecosystems* and

the *Soil Science Society of America Journal*, as well as guest editing special issues. He has delivered numerous invited talks and continues to promote data-driven environmental solutions.

An 11-year ASABE member, he has served on diversity and research committees at SDSU, including as vice chair of the University Committee for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity. He has also held leadership roles within the Association of Agricultural, Biological, and Food Engineers of Indian Origin (AABFEIO). In collaboration with colleagues, Mehan helped reinvigorate the North Central ASABE regional section after 25 years of inactivity, earning a Presidential Citation in 2024. In 2025, the South Dakota ASABE state section was formally established, with a historic meeting hosted in Brookings.

Mehan has authored 25 peer-reviewed journal articles, five book chapters, and 12 extension publications. He also holds two U.S. patents for a soy-based filtration system and has received numerous honors from ASABE and other organizations for his impactful work.