



Ajit K. Srivastava, PE

Ajit K. Srivastava, PE, ASABE Fellow, is the recipient of the 2023 Kishida International award for his outstanding contribution in education, research, and service to international communities throughout ASABE.

Srivastava is a professor at the Department of Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering at Michigan State University (MSU). His responsibilities include teaching, research, student mentoring, institutional service, and international development. His research focuses on agricultural mechanization, renewable energy systems, and scale modeling of biological systems.

Srivastava's research portfolio includes grants from federal agencies such as USAID, USDA, Department of State (DOS), and Department of Energy (DOE). These grants have enabled Srivastava to engage in many impactful international projects. A grant from the DOS led to the establishment of an aerobic digestion research and education program in Costa Rica to address clean, renewable energy in rural Central America. He has served as the founding co-director of the Global Center for Food Systems Innovation (GCFSI) at MSU, funded by a \$25 million grant from USAID Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN), with the vision to transform global food systems in response to megatrends such as population growth, climate change and pressure on land. His current activities include developing appropriate-scale mechanization for small-holder farmers in Sub-Saharan Africa funded by the USAID Feed the Future Appropriate-Scale Mechanization Consortium (ASMC). He currently has active mechanization projects and many

technologies have been developed, tested, and are being scaled to improve farm productivity in Western Sub-Saharan Africa.

A 50-year ASABE member, Srivastava has significantly contributed to ASABE through global community services, technical committees, and organizing international conferences. He was instrumental in conceiving the ASABE global engagement initiative that led to a series of international conferences addressing global issues such as food, water, and energy security. He currently leads a major ASABE initiative, Alliance for Modernizing African Agrifood (AMAA) systems serving as the co-chair of the E-2050/AMAA committee that is providing the leadership to the initiative.

Srivastava has devoted his entire professional career to promoting the profession of agricultural and biological engineering internationally through his teaching, research, and service activities. Srivastava has advised over 40 graduate students from around the world. He has collaborated with University of Costa Rica in developing a Biosystems Engineering degree program and building capacity for research. He has authored a textbook, *Engineering Principles of Agricultural Machines* published by ASABE which has been adopted by many universities worldwide.