



Daran R. Rudnick

Daran R. Rudnick is the 2021 Larry W. Turner Young Extension Professional for his contributions to the advancement of irrigation science and the sharing of knowledge through innovative extension programming.

Rudnick is an assistant professor of biological systems engineering at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, specializing in irrigation management. His appointment includes developing and conducting relevant and responsive irrigation/water management research and extension programs for crops grown in the Central High Plains. His specific research and extension interests include deficit and precision irrigation management, irrigation scheduling technologies, and water and nitrogen interactions.

Rudnick has an active extension and research program that engages growers, industry, regulators, and university personnel. Most notably, he co-developed the Testing Ag Performance Solutions (TAPS) program to enhance the engagement of agricultural producers in the areas of input use efficiency and profitability as well as to expose them to new and developing technologies. This innovative and nationally recognized program has expanded due to tremendous interest from producers, industry, commodity boards, financial institutions, and regulatory agencies. The program has received over \$1.6 million through grants, donations, and equipment, which includes an \$850,000 multi-state and multi-institutional USDA-NRCS – Conservation Innovation Grant. The TAPS program has expanded in Nebraska and to Oklahoma in partnership with

Oklahoma State University faculty.

Rudnick is an 11-year ASABE member and has been actively involved in a number of ASABE technical committees including the Natural Resources and Environmental Systems Irrigation Group and Sprinkler Irrigation committee. He is also the current chair of the Irrigation Management committee and is an associate editor of the Natural Resources and Environmental Systems Publications Review committee. Rudnick also maintains professional memberships with the American Society of Civil Engineers, the Irrigation Association and the Tri Society.

Rudnick is the author or coauthor of 43 peer-reviewed articles and 8 extension publications. Throughout his career, he has received a number of awards including the 2020 Distinguished Extension/Outreach Program award presented by the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association and the 2019 Excellence in Extension Team award for the Soybean Management field days program presented by Nebraska Extension of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Rudnick also received the 2019 Junior Faculty Holling Family Teaching Excellence award presented by the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, also at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.