

PhD Student and Graduate Research Assistant in Irrigation Engineering Focusing on Cotton Production in Southwest Oklahoma

Irrigation Research Laboratory (IRL) led by Dr. Sumon Datta within the Department of Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering at Oklahoma State University (OSU) is seeking a highly motivated PhD Student in the field of **Irrigation Engineering** for Summer 2026 intake.

Position Overview:

- **Degree Level:** PhD
- **Research Focus and Responsibilities:**
 - Interpretation of multi-depth, field-scale soil moisture and canopy temperature data from irrigated cotton fields in an irrigation district located in southwest Oklahoma.
 - Development of a district-wide water allocation strategy for producers.
 - Conducting zone/furrow-scale irrigation research at OSU Ag Research Station.
 - Development of decision support system to vitalize irrigated cotton production-focused economy of over half-a-billion dollars year in economic impact.
 - Knowledge of AquaCrop or AquaCropOS models is a **PLUS**.
 - Preparation of quarterly technical reports, manuscripts, and Extension factsheets.
 - Most importantly, teamwork skills and collaborative mentality.
- **Qualifications:**
 - Bachelor's degree in Irrigation Engineering (preferred) or Agricultural Engineering or Biosystems Engineering or other closely related fields.
 - **MUST HAVE** Master's degree in Irrigation Engineering (preferred) or Agricultural Engineering or Biosystems Engineering or other closely related fields, by the time of starting PhD.
 - Prior knowledge on Cotton production is a **PLUS**, but not necessary.
- **Funding:**
 - Monthly stipend of \$2,400 per month, with tuition waiver and health insurance.
 - Annual raise depending on performance, with funding provided for 3 years, with possibility of extending for 4th year.
- **Start Date:** Summer 2026

Application Process:

ONLY EMAIL IF YOU MEET ALL REQUIREMENTS.

Email sumon.datta@okstate.edu with the following documents:

- 1) CV
- 2) Cover Letter outlining how you fit within the research focus and responsibilities
- 3) Three professional/academic references

PI Information:

Sumon Datta, Ph.D., E.I.

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