

2022 WICS Conference

Water and Integrated Cropping Systems

Driving Research, Teaching, and Extension Impact

November 30 & December 1

GRADUATE HOTEL
141 N. 9TH STREET
LINCOLN, NE

<https://wics.unl.edu/>



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9:00 AM - Registration, Coffee, and Poster Setup

10:00 AM - Welcome and Introduction

- Welcome and IANR Hub Overview – Mike Boehm
- WICS Hub Vision and Introduction – Ron Yoder
- WICS Conference Overview – Daren Redfearn and Daran Rudnick

10:30 AM - Research Overview, Panel, and Discussion

- Opening Comments and Panel Moderator – Archie Clutter
- Research Insights and Panel Discussion
 - Soil Health – Michael Kaiser
 - Water Quantity – Trenton Franz
 - Water Quality – Dan Snow
 - Digital/Precision Ag – Yeyin Shi
 - Integrated Cropping Systems – Nicolas Cafaro La Menza
 - Ag Economics – Taro Mieno
 - Integrated Crops and Livestock Systems – Amy Schmidt
- Collaboration Space: Open Discussion with Integrated Break

12:00 PM - Lunch

1:00 PM - Teaching Overview, Panel, and Discussion

- Opening Comments and Panel Moderator – Tiffany Heng-Moss
- Teaching Insights and Panel Discussion
 - Andrea Basche
 - Saleh Taghvaeian
 - Tamra Jackson-Ziems
 - Don Lee
 - Leah Sandall

2:30 PM - Extension Overview, Panel, and Discussion

- Opening Comments and Panel Moderator – Charlie Stoltenow
- Regional Extension Insights
 - Panhandle – John Thomas, Gary Stone, Karen DeBoer
 - Southwest – Chuck Burr, Samantha Daniel
 - Central – Sarah Sivits, Todd Whitney, Ron Seymour, Amy Timmerman
 - Northeast – Wayne Ohnesorg, Bruno Lena, Mitiku Mamo, Luan Oliveira, Nate Dorsey
 - Southeast – Jenny Rees, Steve Melvin, Gary Lesoing, Aaron Nygren, Nathan Mueller
- Statewide Extension Insights and Panel Discussion
 - Soil Health – Katja Koehler-Cole
 - Water Quantity – Xin Qiao
 - Water Quality – Troy Gilmore
 - Digital/Precision Ag – Andrew Little
 - Integrated Cropping Systems – Justin McMechan

4:00 PM - Poster Session and Social

December 1, 2022

9:00 AM - Welcome and Day 1 Recap

9:15 AM - WICS Theme Group Discussions with Regional Integration

11:00 AM - Conference Summary and Take-away, Looking Forward

11:30 AM - Lunch

12:00 PM - Theme Group Planning Sessions (Room Available until 5p)

Welcome
to the
2022 WICS Conference

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IN OUR GRIT, OUR GLORY

Dr. Michael Boehm,
Vice Chancellor and Harlan
Vice Chancellor of IANR

“The spirit of the Hub was to bring folks together..., parts of a very complex organization, and to create some integrated thinking around what the needs are for the folks of this state, the region and all the way around the globe.”

Water and Integrated Cropping Systems

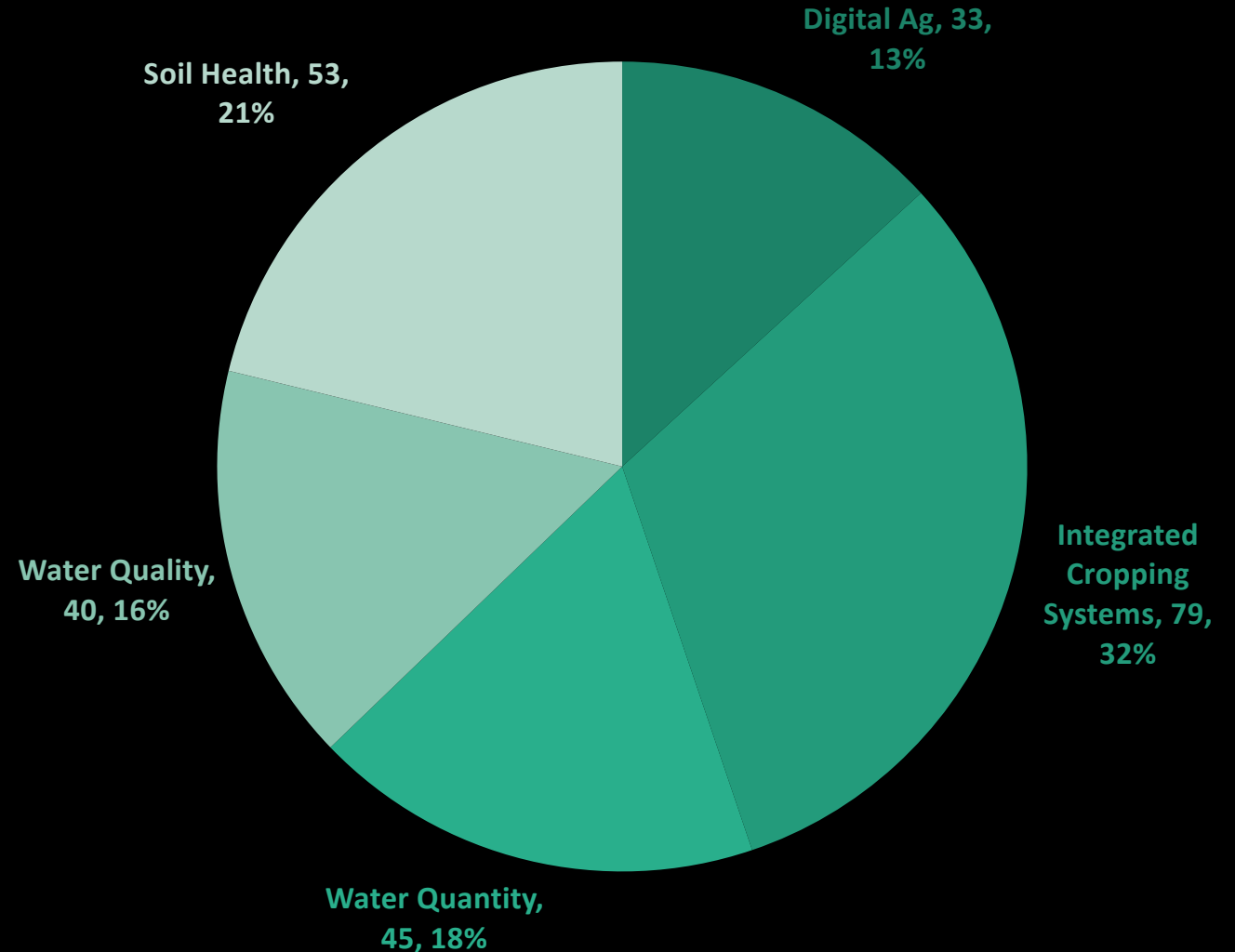
The Water and Integrated Cropping Systems (WICS) Hub was established to facilitate and provide collaborative opportunities for IANR faculty to leverage their individual and collective knowledge, talents, and interests to drive impact in Research and Discovery, Teaching and Learning, Extension and Outreach.

This past year we focused on building connections as well as identifying and prioritizing big challenges and opportunities facing Nebraskans. The faculty identified and organized around the following themes, Digital/Precision Agriculture, Soil Health, Integrated Cropping Systems, Water Quality, and Water Quantity. The Theme Groups are faculty led and multi-disciplinary with representation across IANR Departments and Faculty appointments.



2022 WICS CONFERENCE ATTENDEES

We had a total of 130 attendees register for the WICS Conference. These are the themes that the attendees each identified with on their registration. Many are involved with more than one or two themes.





“As Winston Churchill once said, “This is the end of the beginning”, and my fervent hope is this is not the highwater mark, but this is really the beginning of even more collaboration...”

Dr. Ron Yoder,
Sr Associate Vice Chancellor of IANR

“This is just phase I of a number of discussions we will have take place over the next year to integrate WICS and teaching and the learning mission.”

Dr. Tiffany Heng-Moss,
Dean, College of Agricultural
Sciences and Natural Resources





We took the time to have many Q&A's throughout the day after each presenter.



**WATER AND INTEGRATED
CROPPING SYSTEMS**

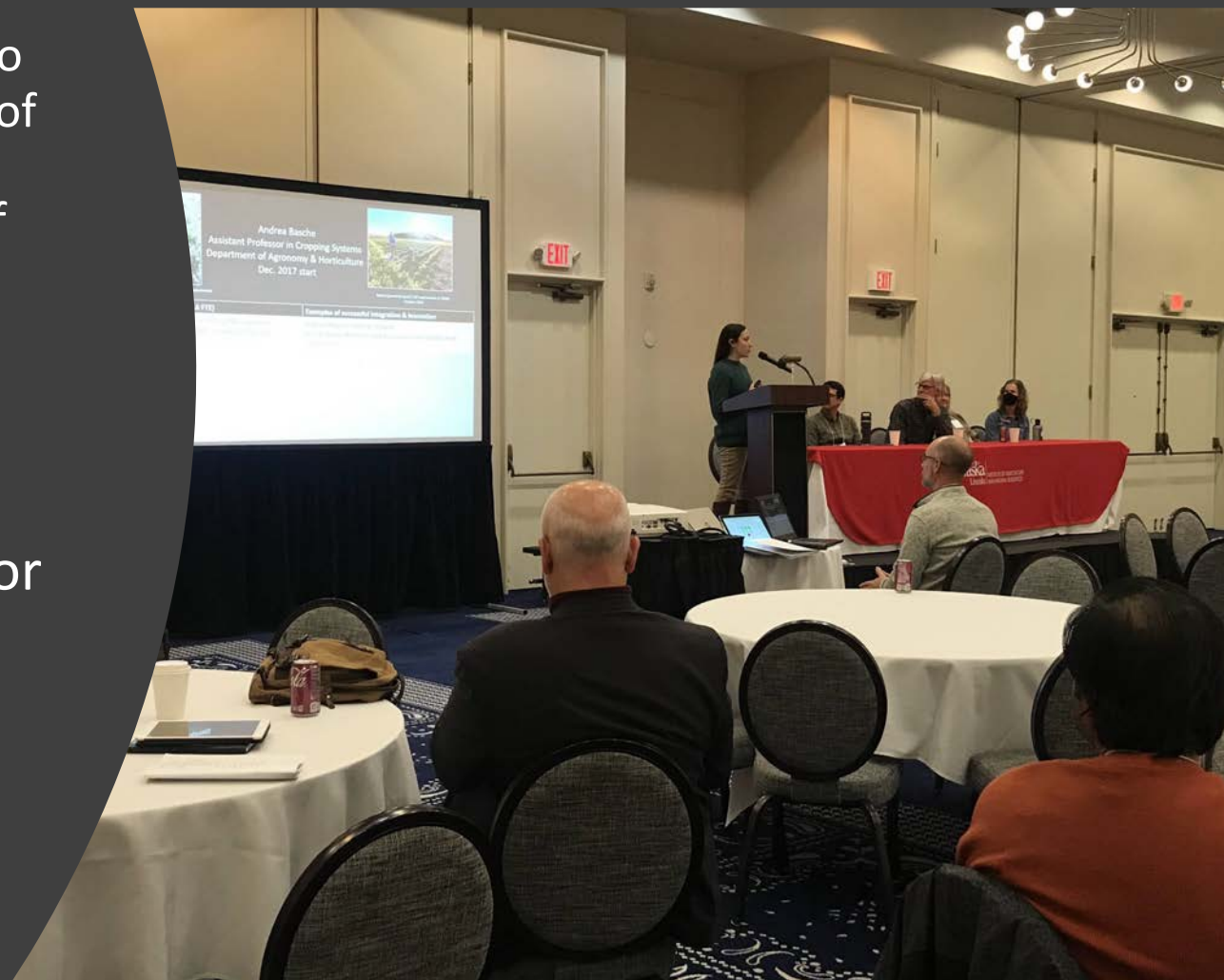
“We are inherently integrated across the land grant mission as a division institute in a unique way. That is really important as we deliver solutions to our stakeholders for these important challenges we are dealing with.”

Archie Clutter, Retired Dean,
Agricultural Research Division



“We are here together in this hub to try to solve some grand challenges in the state of Nebraska, and with our leadership and students, together to try to solve some of these grand challenges.”

Andrea Basche, Assistant Professor
Agronomy & Horticulture





“How can we bring AI to the agriculture applications in the future?”

Yeyin Shi, Assistant Professor,
Biological Systems Engineering

“I was fascinated by the idea of digital learning and information-sharing platforms.”




Conference attendee,

Poster Session

The poster session was a huge success with 44 posters submitted and many attended and took the time to listen and learn from each other.





“All of us in our fields have our own vocabulary. How do we bridge our vocabulary with our stakeholders and how we work together?”

“How can the work you do, and that we do together, help the wellbeing of this great agriculture state?”

Charlie Stoltenow, Dean,
Nebraska Extension



WATER AND INTEGRATED
CROPPING SYSTEMS

Getting to know each other better

Members of WICS in different theme groups were able to have conversations and get to know each other better and start creating and strengthening those connections!

“I valued the conference because of the informative discussions from the key areas and also networking with my colleagues to foster collaborations.”

“It was good to learn about other's research and also a good opportunity for networking.”

Conference Attendees



What conference attendees had to say:

"The teaching overview and panel discussion provided many insights on how education pathways are evolving and the need to create diverse opportunities to meet dynamic needs."

"The extension component was valuable in seeing how those doing research can collaborate with and assist extension educators to make a greater impact in the state."

"It was good to learn what relevant research is being conducted and also the work being done in teaching in regards to water and cropping systems."



What conference attendees had to say:

"It was valuable, especially the connections with people that work in our area but that are far away."

"I valued the conference because of the informative discussions from the key areas and also networking with my colleagues to foster collaborations. Networking outside of the sessions was valuable."

"The conference book was the best part."





Daran Rudnick
Associate Professor and
Program Leader
Agricultural Systems Engineering



Daren Redburn
Program Leader &
Director
Agricultural Systems Engineering



It was a great first WICS Conference.
The discussions have only just begun.