

**James R. Adkins**  
Associate Scientist – Irrigation Engineer  
Elbert N. & Ann V. Carvel Research and Education Center  
University of Delaware  
16483 County Seat Hwy  
Georgetown, DE 19947

**Education:**

University of Maryland at College Park.

Bachelor of Science – Biological Resources Engineering – May 1999.

**Extension, Research & Professional Experience:**

Associate Scientist - Irrigation Engineer, Carvel Research & Education Center,  
University of Delaware, 2009 – present.

Extension Associate IV – Bioresource Engineering, Carvel Research & Education Center,  
University of Delaware, 1999 – 2009.

Engineering Technician, Biological Resources Engineering Project Development Center,  
University of MD, 1996 – 1999.

Co-owner/Operator, Adkins Family Homegrown Produce, Parsonsburg, MD 1995-  
present

Co-owner/Operator, Adkins & Holloway Grain Farms, Parsonsburg, MD 2011-present

**Current Job Responsibilities:**

- Work with each County's Ag Agent, the Nutrient Management Specialist and Research Farm Director to expand the strong agricultural irrigation program here at the University of Delaware. Utilize agriculture industry contacts to establish research projects with significant value and relevance to Delaware growers. Directly supervise student summer help and provide assistance in equipment construction and data collection for irrigation research.
- Work with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) personnel to evaluate irrigation equipment and practices across the state. Serve as a resource for the continued improvement of NRCS irrigation programs through standards refinement and training sessions.
- Conduct Educational Programs to benefit Vegetable producers, Field Crop Farmers, Processors and Agricultural Supply personnel. Work cooperatively with County Agents, Specialists, and Faculty and to conduct meetings, create displays, publish informational fact sheets, and provide hands on advice in the area of agricultural and irrigation engineering.
- Direct the creation of research proposals seeking grant funding for irrigation research.
- Communicate directly with growers and industry to ascertain and quantify irrigation research needs. Work with Engineering Professionals to develop techniques, equipment and technology to improve irrigation efficiency for crop production.

- Disseminate information concerning design successes/failures to growers and industry through local programs, regional industry conferences, and national associations. Provide recommendations concerning machine operation and maintenance, proper implementation of new developments, and economic implications of various cultural practices.
- Manage the maintenance, planting and harvest of the UD Warrington Farm. Direct the executions of research projects located there and provide assistance in project planning and development.
- Direct the setup of the facilities, presentations and exhibits at Delaware Ag Week
- Administer the Federal Excess Property Program acquisitions for UD.

### **Grants and Contracts:**

As the Principle Investigator: \$781,041

As a Co-PI: \$419,021

Total \$1,200,062

Funding Sources: Northeast Sustainable Agricultural Research & Extension (SARE) Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), US Department of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grants (USDA-SCBG), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Delaware Soybean Board (DSB), Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board (MGPIB) Pickle Packers International (PPI)

Procured a total of \$2.2 million (new acquisition value) of federal surplus equipment, materials, and vehicles for the University of Delaware as the sole Authorized Property Officer (APO) through the USDA - Federal Excess Property Program.

### **Professional Memberships, Service & Awards**

- American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers. 1996 – present
  - Irrigation sub-committee 2010 – present
  - Chairman – Vegetable Harvest Section for the International Conference on Crop Harvesting
  - University of Maryland Collegiate chapter Chairman 1998-1999.
- Epsilon Sigma Phi. 1999 – present
  - Outstanding Early Career Professional, 2004
  - Outstanding Team Ext. Program, Pesticide Applicator Training, 2000
- Trustee/Charter member, SaveFarmFamilies.org 2011 - present
- Associate Supervisor, Wicomico Soil Conservation District 2007 – present
- Director Wicomico Farm Bureau 2006 - present
  - MD Farm Bureau Excellence in Agriculture Award, 2011
  - MD Farm Bureau Discussion Meet winner, 2010
  - Member, Wicomico Young Farmers and Ranchers 1995-present
    - Secretary/Treasurer 1999-2001, Chairman 2002-2008
- Director's Spirit of Extension Award, 2009
- Trustee, Forrest Grove Cemetery Association 2000 - present