

## Meet the Irrigation Team

**Dr. Payero** Assistant Professor, Irrigation Specialist

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Dr. Payero received his Ph.D. in Irrigation Engineering from Utah State University. 1997. He has more than 120 research and extension publications, covering a variety of subjects related to irrigated agriculture, including irrigation water management, crop nutrition, crop evapotranspiration, climate change, canopy energy balance, irrigation decision support systems, crop modeling, and remote sensing, among others.

**Dr. Udayakumar Sekaran** Post Doc-Project Coordinator

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Dr. Sekaran received his Ph.D. in Soil Science from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University. In December 2020, he joined Department of Agricultural Sciences at Clemson University as a Postdoctoral Project Coordinator with Dr. Jose Payero. In the past five years, his research focused on the impacts of different conservation practices on soil health indicators such as soil microbial community structure, soil sequencing, biochemical activities, carbon and nitrogen dynamics, greenhouse gas fluxes, crop performance, and water quality.

**Bayleah Cooper** Agricultural Associate

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Bayleah received her M.S. in Agricultural and Extension Education from University of Arkansas. In March 2019, she joined Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences at Clemson University as a Research Associate with Dr. Jose Payero. She is currently a Ph.D candidate in Plant and Environmental Sciences, Agronomy. In the past three years, her research focused on variable rate irrigation, drip irrigation, plant diseases and technologies to improve agricultural water use efficiency.

**Dana Turner** Research Associate

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Dana received her A.A.S. and is currently completing her B.S. in Biology with a minor in Business Management at the University of South Carolina Aiken. She began working for the Irrigation Team in September of 2019, her primary responsibilities in maintaining and collecting water and soil data from suction lysimeters and soil moisture sensors and collecting and maintaining weather station data from eighteen weather stations in and around the station. Dana is interested in water and soil conservation and forage and row crop production.

