The recently organized ASA Crop Irrigation Strategies and Management Community is attracting a broad and international membership that share common interests in this important component of ASA’s Agronomic Production Systems Section. Because many irrigation water sources face decline or greater competition due to municipal, industrial, or commerce obligations, our Community goal is to advance innovative production practices that coordinate available water resources for meeting crop water demand and optimum productivity. Members discuss research investigating irrigation management using an array of techniques ranging from computer crop growth simulation to field plot methods. This Community identifies the knowledge gaps for optimizing irrigation strategies and coordinating holistic production management with expected contributions that range from improving irrigation scheduling using remote sensor arrays to adapting conservation tillage practices and crop rotations.

At the 2013 Annual Meetings in Tampa, FL, the ASA Crop Irrigation Strategies and Management Community will host oral and poster sessions for volunteered submissions and sponsor a joint symposium, with the Semi-Arid Dryland Cropping Systems Community, titled “Improving Crop Water Productivity through Innovative Irrigation and Dryland Management” on Tuesday, 5 Nov. 2013, at 1 pm. The symposium first defines the emerging imperative to improve crop water productivity as a result of increased competition for and decreased availability of water resources. Regionally diverse soil water and irrigation management practices by unique applications of universal concepts will be summarized in relation to:

1. residue management effects on precipitation storage and spatially contrasting tillage effects on rain infiltration and water storage or controlling evaporative losses of a wheat–corn rotation in California;

2. optimization of no-till cropping systems under limited irrigation and irrigation strategies for production systems with competing crops;

The ASA Crop Irrigation Strategies and Management Community Business Meeting will be conducted as a “working lunch” on Wednesday, 6 Nov. 2013, focusing on short-term goals, potential symposia, and publications. The Community will be prioritized, and future Community leadership will be elected. Please bring your own lunch!

To add the Crop Irrigation Strategies and Management Community to your ASA membership, visit: www.agronomy.org/account/communities/asa. If you have questions, feel free to contact one of the officers: R. Louis Baumhardt, 2013 Community Leader (r.louis.baumhardt@ars.usda.gov); or Dave Brauer, 2014 Community Leader (david.brauer@ars.usda.gov).

R. Louis Baumhardt, Community Leader, Crop Irrigation Strategies and Management