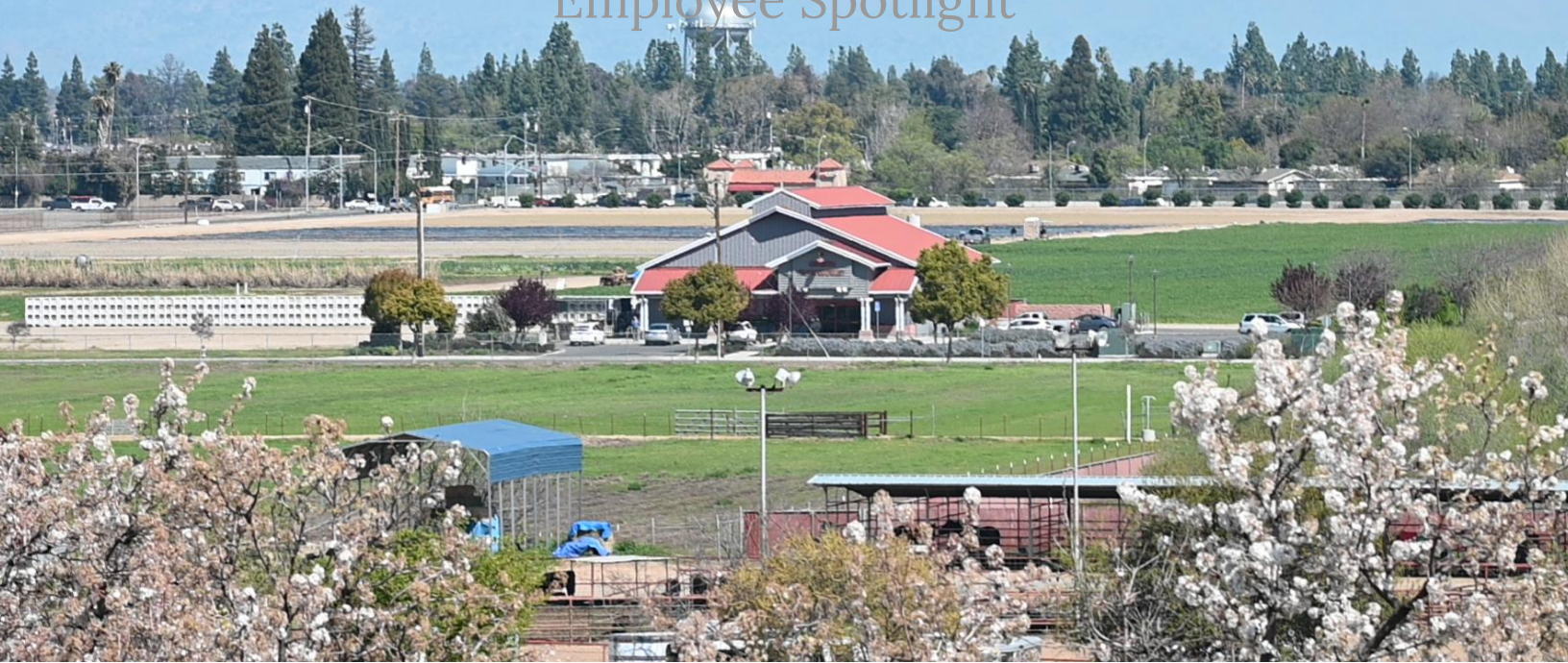


May 2026:

Employee Spotlight



by Sara Mekideche on 05/28/2026

At the Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT), our work is driven by a dedicated team of researchers, technicians, and leaders who bring innovation and practical solutions to agriculture. This month, we are highlighting a member of our team whose work supports CIT's mission.

In this issue, we feature Prakhyat Gautam, Laboratory Technician, whose hands-on expertise ensures the accuracy and reliability of irrigation equipment testing.

Through his work, he contributes to advancing irrigation technology, supporting growers, and strengthening the connection between research and real-world application.

Prakhyat Gautam
Laboratory Technician



Background & Path to CIT

Prakhyat Gautam holds a Master's degree in Mechanical Engineering, where his research on non-thermal plasma explored applications in water treatment and controlled environment agriculture. His interest in integrating technology with water systems led him to join CIT, where he now works as a Lead Research Technician.

Role at CIT

Since joining CIT in January 2024, Prakhyat has been deeply involved in hands-on testing of agricultural equipment, including pumps, drip systems, pressure regulators, sprinklers, and valves. His work ensures that equipment is evaluated accurately and without bias, providing reliable data for both growers and manufacturers.

Key Contributions

Prakhyat has contributed to a wide range of testing projects and is currently leading efforts to upgrade CIT's lab infrastructure. One of his major accomplishments has been revamping the sprinkler testing facility—an important step in expanding CIT's research and testing capabilities.

Impact & Collaboration

Through his work, Prakhyat supports CIT's mission by helping ensure that irrigation equipment performs reliably in real-world conditions. He collaborates with students, faculty, and industry partners, bridging research and practice while mentoring the next generation of professionals.

Looking Ahead

Prakhyat is particularly excited about the future of smart, data-driven irrigation systems. He is motivated to contribute to innovations that improve efficiency and sustainability in agriculture, especially as technologies like automation and AI become more integrated into irrigation practices.

Stay Connected

We invite you to stay connected with CIT by following our updates on social media, exploring our research and testing services on our website, and reaching out to learn more about collaboration opportunities.

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 LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/center-for-irrigation-technology-cit/>

 YouTube: <https://youtube.com/@fresnostatecit?si=ErN37ewuyHz7fsjS>

This monthly update is part of CIT's ongoing effort to share our work, impact, and vision for the future.