## New Oat Agronomist at USDA-ARS in Brookings, SD

Dr. Patrick Ewing was just hired to be the new Oat Agronomist at the <u>USDA-ARS Integrated</u> <u>Cropping Systems Research Unit</u> in Brookings, SD. He grew up in western New York, earned his PhD from the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities, and was a post-doctoral research microbiologist at the Brookings USDA lab. His research integrates cropping systems design with soil ecology to improve crop-microbe interactions, increase efficiency, and reduce risk. As Oat Agronomist, he will contribute to the screening of emerging and regionally adapted oat varieties, develop management practices that ensure reliable yields and quality, and quantify wholesystem opportunities of integrating oats into northern plains cropping systems. He looks forward to joining the oat community!