



IRENILZA A. NÄÄS, PE, professor, Agricultural Engineering College, Paulista University, São Paulo, Brazil, is being honored for her international leadership in research, teaching, and extension programs in livestock housing.

Nääs has had a remarkable career in many ways, particularly as a pioneering woman in the sciences, as the first woman to receive a Mechanized Agricultural degree at Cal Poly State University and the first woman granted a PhD in Agricultural Engineering at Michigan State University. She has been a leader in professional associations across Brazil and Latin America, and has served as president of the Brazilian Society of Agricultural Engineering, the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering, Latin American and Caribbean Association of Agricultural Engineering, and the Brazilian Poultry Science Foundation.

After completing her graduate work, Nääs introduced animal housing environment research to Brazil through publishing articles, education, and consulting throughout Brazil and other Latin American countries, leading to vast improvements in animal housing conditions and techniques. As an educator, Nääs has mentored many graduate and post-doctoral students.

A 40 year member of ASABE, Nääs serves on several ASABE committees including the Facility and Systems group within the ASABE Plant and Animal Facility Systems technical community. She is a past member of the Animal Welfare and Care committee and the Environment of Animal Structures committee. Nääs is also member of the Brazilian Association of Agricultural Engineering, the Academy of Science at São Paulo State in Brazil. She belongs to the International Academy of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering (CIGR) International Commission of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering and the World Poultry Science Association.

Nääs is author or coauthor to more than 100 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and other papers. She has one mechanical and four software patents in her name. Nääs' career has been punctuated by numerous awards. Most recently, she was recipient of the Merit award for outstanding leadership in livestock production from CIGR. In 2015, Nääs was named one of the 100 most influential professionals in Brazilian poultry and swine production. She received a special award for accomplishments in the extension school at the State University of Campinas, Brazil. She has also received many Lamas awards for the best papers in poultry production. In 2009, Nääs was named Woman of the Year at the Campinas Academy of Arts and Sciences.