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Meet the Staff

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Meet The Staff

Mary Adams, the CARD communication specialist who provides editorial assistance to the Iowa Ag Review and edits the FAPRI U.S. and International Agricultural Outlook books says, “The FAPRI researchers are my favorite group to work with at CARD and I enjoy collaborating on the publications they produce. They always have a lot of research in progress and most of it is up-to-the-minute, cutting edge information that needs to go out quickly.” She also works with other FAPRI research papers and writes and distributes news releases on FAPRI research findings and analysis. Adams edits the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) research papers series; many of these papers are written by FAPRI personnel.

Adams has considerable experience in working with materials about agriculture, particularly in translating research materials into layperson’s language. She has worked in promotion/publicity for two scholarly publishers: the University of Illinois Press and the Iowa State University Press. For nearly six years, she was editor of the high school science teacher’s magazine (Science of Food and Agriculture) published by the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology. And she was a communications specialist for the agricultural programs coordinated by the Office of Continuing Education at ISU.

At CARD, FAPRI takes up a good chunk of her time, but definitely not all of it. In addition to her work with FAPRI staffers, Adams writes and produces the CARD publications catalog and annual report, assists in staging CARD’s annual Fall Policy conference, and prepares news releases and publicity materials on a variety of newsworthy CARD topics.

Adams is an Iowa native and dairy farmer’s daughter who graduated from ISU’s department of journalism and mass communication. She notes with wry amusement that after having six jobs in three states, she is now in a office less than a block from Hamilton Hall where she took many journalism classes (and retains a healthy respect for the education she received). An avid film buff, Adams keeps CARD up-to-date on the latest cinema offerings with the frequently changing movie ads posted on her door. This is good preparation for another FAPRI project she is tending: the making of a FAPRI promotion/informational video describing the unit’s activities and showing what happens during the “meltdown” when FAPRI staff from ISU and other universities run the computer models to produce the year’s baseline agricultural projections. Unfortunately, she says that the film short is not likely to appear in your local theater anytime soon!