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### **Arkansas Agriculture Department Names New Director of Communications**

**LITTLE ROCK, ARK.** – The Arkansas Agriculture Department (AAD) has named Adriane Barnes as Director of Communications

Currently, Barnes serves as the Arkansas Forestry Commission Information Coordinator. This role will remain the same, and will be expanded to encompass all divisions and programs within the AAD, which also include the Arkansas Livestock & Poultry Commission, Arkansas State Plant Board, and the Arkansas Aquaculture Division

“Agriculture is Arkansas’s largest industry and contributes more than \$20 billion annually to the state’s economy. Arkansas agriculture is very diverse and we are proud to be ranked among the top 25 states in the nation each year in the production of 23 agricultural commodities. Adriane’s expanded role as the Director of Communications will help integrate the many services and programs that the Arkansas Agriculture Department provides and make us a more united team in achieving our mission for Arkansas. We are committed to being a strong voice for the agriculture community and we are excited to have Adriane in this new role,” said Arkansas Agriculture Secretary, Wes Ward.

Barnes is an Arkansas native. She graduated from Perryville High School and received a Bachelor’s Degree in Communications and Writing from the University of Central Arkansas. She has a varied career background in marketing and communications within the natural resources and tourism industry. She now resides near Mount Ida with her family.

The Arkansas Agriculture Department is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation. Visit [aad.arkansas.gov](http://aad.arkansas.gov).

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