

EMMA DAVIES

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Summary:

Graduate Assistant at North Carolina State University with research interests at the intersection of science communication, biotechnology governance, and responsible innovation. Current research examines how scientists communicate contentious agricultural innovations such as GMOs and gene-edited organisms. In-depth experience conducting qualitative interviews with farmers, scientists, and other agricultural sector stakeholders, as well as analyzing field data, and writing manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals. Drawing from a seven-year career in agricultural journalism, I integrate public engagement and storytelling into my academic research to advance inclusive and ethically grounded agricultural development. Written over 2,300 news stories for radio, TV, online, newspapers, and magazines.

Education:

- PhD in Agricultural Education and Communication, University of Florida, 2026 – 2029
- Master of Arts in Liberal Studies (Specializing in Communications), North Carolina State University, 2024 – 2026
Thesis: An Analysis of How Ghanaian Scientists Communicate Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs)
- Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, Ghana Institute of Journalism, 2016 – 2020
Thesis: Social Media as an Effective Advertising Tool: A Study of Student Bloggers in Tertiary Institutions in Ghana

Fellowships:

- Fellow, Inter-institutional Network for Food, Agriculture, and Sustainability Food Systems Fellowship (INFAS-FSF), 2025-2026
- Fellow, Genetic Engineering and Society Interdisciplinary Minor, North Carolina State University (U.S. National Science Foundation-funded fellowship), 2024-2025

Work Experiences:

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY - Graduate Assistant

August 2025 - May 2026

Duties include:

- Preparing IRB applications, draft consent forms and participant information sheets for studies.
- Develop research objectives and questions based on gaps identified in literature and design data collection instruments such as interview guides.
- Conduct interviews with scientists, farmers, agritourism operators, and other agricultural sector stakeholders.
- Undertake data analysis and write articles intended for peer-reviewed journals.
- Ensure adherence to research ethics, including participant confidentiality and informed consent
- Grade assignments in undergraduate courses.
- Present research findings at colloquia and other conferences.

NORTH CAROLINA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION - Extension agent, Dare County

May-August 2025 (Internship)

Duties included:

- Engage community members on their food systems-related needs and work with county officials and extension agents to find solutions.
- Build partnerships with local communities, organizations, consumers, schools, etc.
- Help coordinate activities, including 4-H events.

COASTWATCH - Contributing Editor

November 2024 - Present

Duties include:

- Brainstorm on engaging story ideas that audiences would be passionate about
- Engage and interview scientists on their research
- Write news stories and magazine articles focusing on science topics such as marine life and aquaculture
- Analyze research findings and communicate scientific concepts to non-academic audiences

MULTIMEDIA GROUP LIMITED (JOY NEWS, JOY FM & MYJOYONLINE.COM) - News

Anchor, Producer, Reporter & Online Editor

September 2020 – July 2024

Duties included:

- Produce and host FoodChain, a 30-minute magazine agribusiness show on Joy News TV and Joy FM
- Anchor of daily prime time business bulletin on Joy News TV
- Producer of Talking Business, MarketPlace and Businesslive shows on Joy News TV and Joy Prime TV
- Write, edit and publish stories on Myjoyonline.com
- Edit video and audio content using Edius, Adobe, and Audacity software
- Mentor young journalists and train interns

VAULTZ MAGAZINE – Reporter

March-August 2020 (Internship)

Duties included:

- Write news stories and magazine articles
- Publish articles on social media
- Conduct interviews on sector-based issues
- Write and publish content and images on website

DAILY GUIDE - Reporter (Internship) - 2018

Duties included:

- Research and write news stories
- Cover events and other assignments including court proceedings
- Capture photographs

JOY NEWS TV - Producer (Internship) - 2017

Duties included:

- Research and write news stories
- Edit video and audio content, and produce voice reports for bulletins

XLIVE AFRICA - Producer, Entertainment Pundit (Internship) - 2016

Duties included:

- Prepare playlist for radio show
- Research, write and read entertainment news
- Manage social media platform

Published Peer-Review Journal Manuscripts

- Gakpo, J. O., Andoh-Arthur Yapp, G., Cheng, S., **Davies, E.**, Baffour-Awuah, D., and Bosomtwe, M. Media representations of gene-edited crops in Ghana: A framing analysis. *Journal of Science Communication*. <https://doi.org/10.22323/345620260208065601>

Submitted Peer-Review Journal Manuscripts

- **Davies, E.** The Promise and Politics of Gene Editing in Africa: A Review of Communication, Power, and Governance. *Management Communication Quarterly (MCQ)*

In Preparation Peer-Review Journal Manuscripts

- **Davies, E.**, Gakpo, J. O., Barry, N., and Barnhill, K. (Manuscript writing ongoing). *Could Embracing the Responsible Innovation Framework Enhance the Acceptance of Genome-Edited Crops in Africa?*
- Binder, A., **Davies, E.**, and Birkner, J. (Manuscript writing ongoing). *Understanding North Carolina Agritourism Operations Practices*.

Selected publications on mainstream media platforms

- Davies, E. (Jan. 2025). *Cultivating the Future: How biotechnology powers North Carolina's farms*. [Myjoyonline.com](https://www.myjoyonline.com/cultivating-the-future-how-biotechnology-powers-north-carolinas-farms/).
<https://www.myjoyonline.com/cultivating-the-future-how-biotechnology-powers-north-carolinas-farms/>
- Davies, E. (Jan. 2025). *Managing Coastal Nitrogen Pollution*. Coastwatch.
<https://ncseagrant.ncsu.edu/coastwatch/winter-2025-managing-coastal-nitrogen-pollution/>
- Davies, E. (Oct. 2024). *Raising Cattle with Beer: The Swiss Experience*. Myjoyonline.com.
<https://www.myjoyonline.com/raising-cattle-with-beer-the-swiss-experience/>
- Davies, E. (Oct. 2022). *Cattle Farming: The untapped goldmine of livestock*. Myjoyonline.com.
<https://www.myjoyonline.com/cattle-farming-the-untapped-goldmine-of-livestock/>
- Davies, E. (July 2022). Viewpoint: *Why commercializing GMOs would help Ghana and the rest of Africa address food shortages*. Genetic Literacy Project.
<https://geneticliteracyproject.org/2022/07/22/viewpoint-why-commercializing-gmos-would-help-ghana-and-the-rest-of-africa-address-food-shortages/>

Conference Presentations:

- **Davies, E.**, Gakpo, J. O., & Barry, N. (May 2025). Oral Presentation. *Could Embracing the Responsible Innovation Framework Enhance the Acceptance of Genome-Edited Crops in Africa?* Governance of Emerging Technologies and Science (GETS) Conference, organized by Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, USA.
- **Davies, E.** (July, 2025). Poster Presentation. *Empowering Coastal Communities: Extension Services Designed for Dare County*. Extension Summer Internship Showcase organized by North Carolina Cooperative Extension, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA.
- Gakpo, J. O., Andoh-Arthur Yapp, G., Cheng, S., **Davies, E.**, Baffour-Awuah, D., and Bosomtwe, M. (Feb. 2026). Poster Presentation. Media representations of gene-edited crops in Ghana: A

framing analysis. *Journal of Science Communication*. National Agricultural Communications Symposium (NACS), Louisville, Kentucky, USA.

Guest Lectures / Invited Talks:

- **Davies, E.**, Gakpo, J. O., Barry, N., & Barnhill, K. (Sept. 2025). *Could Embracing the Responsible Innovation Framework Enhance the Acceptance of Genome-Edited Crops in Africa?* A presentation to the Genetic Engineering & Society (GES) Center's Colloquium, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA.
- **Davies, E.**, (July 2025). *The Secret Allies in Your Garden: Companion Plants for Natural Pest Control*. A presentation to Dare County Master Gardeners Association, North Carolina Cooperative Extension, Manteo, NC, USA.
- **Davies, E.**, (April 2025). *Enhancing Food Security in Africa through High-Yielding Seed Development*. A presentation at the Global Sustainable Human Development seminar, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC, USA.

Professional Associations:

- Member, American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE)
- Member, Science Communicators of North Carolina (SCONC)
- Member, Ghana Journalists Association (GJA)
- Member, Ghana Agricultural and Rural Development Journalists (GARDJA) and International Federation of Agricultural Journalists

Skills:

- Strong research and writing skills
- Experience in video and audio editing
- Proficient in using Edius, Adobe, Audacity and Canva softwares
- Strong analytical skills, writing and oral communication skills
- Skilled multimedia journalist, magazine columnist, and science communicator with a focus on agriculture, sustainability, public engagement and policy

Awards:

- USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) Science Storytelling Showcase - Written Communication category (2025)
- Distinguished Poster Presentation, Extension Summer Internship Showcase organized by North Carolina Cooperative Extension, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC (2025)
- International Federation of Agricultural Journalists (IFAJ)/Alltech Young Global Leaders Award (2024)
- Ghana Journalists Association Business and Economics Reporter of the Year (2022)
- Ghana Journalists Association Aquaculture Journalist of the Year (2022)

References available upon request