



UW EXTENSION -- AGRABILITY NOVEMBER 2005 UPDATE

AgrAbility of Wisconsin promotes success in agriculture for individuals with disabilities. In a partnership between UW-Cooperative Extension and Easter Seals Wisconsin, the program assists farmers and farm workers with disabilities or chronic health conditions to continue to farm safely and productively. For more information on AgrAbility's services, call (608) 262-9336, toll-free at 1-800-422-2324, or e-mail aaw@mailplus.wisc.edu.

AGRABILITY OF WISCONSIN IMPACT EVALUATION UPDATE

Since 1991 AgrAbility of Wisconsin staff has been helping Wisconsin farmers with disabilities succeed in farming. During that time more than 1,400 farmers have received information and worksite assessment plans and nearly all the plans have been implemented.

In 2003, the National AgrAbility Project conducted an impact survey of farmers who were clients in state projects. Two hundred AgrAbility of Wisconsin clients were sent an evaluation and 116 clients completed the evaluation to measure the impact of the AgrAbility program. The demographic information about Wisconsin clients versus the national average finds Wisconsin similar to the national average with some noted differences.

Sixty-five percent of Wisconsin's clients reported that they were working full time and 24.1 percent reported themselves as a part-time farmer. The national respondents reported only 42.7 percent of farmers were working full time while 81.0 percent were able to return to the farm workplace. In comparison, 92.6 percent of Wisconsin farmers served reported that they were able to work. Respondents also provided information regarding their farms with respect to the various enterprises. Sixty percent of the Wisconsin participants were in dairy while only 18.7 percent of the national group reported their farm as a dairy enterprise. Field crops were reported as the number one enterprise for the farmers nationally served, while it was listed as number two for Wisconsin farmers served. The results of the other types of operations were very similar. You can find this information and information related to the impact of the AgrAbility program in Wisconsin in comparison to the national average in the evaluation, which can be found in a PDF file at <http://www.bse.wisc.edu/agrability> under Publications and Resources.

AGRABILITY ON THE ROAD

If I will be in your area in the near future, stop by and say hello:

UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 18-19, 2006 **28th Midwest Farm Show** La Crosse
- January 24-25, 2006 **15th Rice Lake Area Farm Show** Rice Lake
- February 28-March 1, 2006 **Eau Claire Farm Show** Eau Claire
- March 14-15, 2006 **PDPW Trade Show** Madison
- March 28-30, 2006 **WPS Farm Show** Oshkosh

CONTACT INFORMATION CHANGE

As of December 9th I will no longer be going by Cally Abplanalp, instead my new name will be Cally Ehle. My email address will be changing, but if you do need to contact me, please feel free to email me at aaw@mailplus.wisc.edu or call 608.262.9336.

PLOWING AHEAD NEWSLETTER

The Winter 2005/2006 Plowing Ahead Newsletter will be sent in late December/early January. If you do not receive the newsletter and are interested in receiving it, please contact me at 608.262.9336 or aaw@mailplus.wisc.edu. You can also access the current and past newsletters online at www.bse.wisc.edu/agrability.

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AgrAbility – Promoting Success in Agriculture for Individuals with Disabilities and Their Families.
Visit us at <http://bse.wisc.edu/agrability>.
