



UW EXTENSION -- AGRABILITY OCTOBER 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.

The average age of the Wisconsin respondents was 52.1 years, which is close to the national average of 53.3 years. Gender distribution for Wisconsin was 87.2 percent males and 12.8 percent females; the percentage of males was two percent more than the national average. Wisconsin farmers report Orthopedic Impairments and Arthritis as the leading disabilities in the state. You can find this information and information on the working status, farm types 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

Winter is just around the corner and that means the show season is going into full swing again! If I will be in your area in the near future, stop by and say hello:

UPCOMING EVENTS

- November 8-10, 2005 **National AgrAbility Project Workshop** Burlington, Vermont
- 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

PLOWING AHEAD NEWSLETTER

The Fall 2005 Plowing Ahead Newsletter was sent at the beginning of October. If you did not receive the newsletter and you are interested in receiving it, please contact me at 608.262.9336 or caabplanalp@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>.
