



UW EXTENSION -- AGRABILITY AUGUST 2006 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.

Helping Farmers Continue to Farm

An article titled "Helping Farmers Continue to Farm" was published in the July/August 2006 Equipment Dealer magazine. Lynn Grooms highlighted the Buetsch Implement in Marathon and their efforts to help farmers with disabilities to continue to farm. Thanks in part to the AgrAbility program throughout the nation, dealerships have seen an increase in the number of farmers with disabilities seeking ideas for equipment modifications. According to the article, dealerships such as Buetsch has designed and manufactured parts itself, thanks in part to three employees who have been doing this type of work for years. This article increases the awareness to not only AgrAbility staff, but also other agriculture professionals, of just how supportive and knowledgeable small town dealerships when working with a farmer with a disability. The Equipment Dealer magazine is published by the North American Equipment Dealers Association and is mailed to nearly all the farm implement dealers in Wisconsin. Farm machinery dealers in your county should have a copy of the magazine. If you are interested in a copy of this article, please contact Cally at 608.262.9336 or ehle@wisc.edu.

AGRABILITY ON THE ROAD

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- October 19, 2006 **Marshfield Disability Awareness Day, Marshfield**
- November 3, 2006 **AgrAbility of Wisconsin Advisory Council Meeting, Madison**
- November 10-11, 2006 **Wisconsin Occupational Therapist Association Conf, Madison**
- November 13-16, 2006 **National AgrAbility Workshop, Jackson, MS**

AgrAbility staff is currently in the process of scheduling our next round of Neighbor-to-Neighbor meetings. These meetings take place on the host farm of a past client with farmers who are currently in different stages of the program. These meetings allow farmers to meet in an informal setting to talk about farming with a disability, working with the program and anything else that is of interest to them. AgrAbility staff will keep you informed when more details of locations and dates become known.

PLOWING AHEAD NEWSLETTER

The Fall 2006 Plowing Ahead Newsletter is currently in the works and has a mailing date around the end of October. 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>.
