



UW EXTENSION -- AGRABILITY JULY 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.

AgrAbility of Wisconsin and 2006 Farm Technology Days

AgrAbility of Wisconsin attended a slightly cooler Farm Technology Days. The three days were very successful for the booth with an average number of 70-100 people stopping by daily to learn more about the program and the assistive technology that was on display. Many similar questions were raised including what AgrAbility offers and who qualifies for the program. Other questions included what types of disabilities the AgrAbility clients have and how severe a disability has to be to qualify for the program were asked.

Spreading the Word About AgrAbility of Wisconsin

An independent living center (ILC) is a consumer-directed, non-profit organization that provides an array of services, including: peer support, information and referral, independent living skills training, advocacy, community education, personal care and service coordination. Independent living centers also provide information and access to assistive technology as part of the WisTech Program. This summer I have been on the road presenting information about the AgrAbility program to numerous Independent Living Centers in Wisconsin. I am half way through my visits to the ILC Centers. I have visited the Midstate Independent Living Consultants in Mosinee, North Country Independent Living in Superior, Access to Independence in Madison and Independent Living Resources in La Crosse. I will be visiting Options for Independent Living in Green Bay, Center for Independent Living for Western Wisconsin in Menomonie, and Independence First in Milwaukee. Creating awareness of the program increases the possibilities of Wisconsin farmers with disabilities to benefit from AgrAbility services. You are an important piece to complete the chain of contact with farmers. If you know of any groups or organizations that would be interested in learning more about AgrAbility, please feel free to contact me at 608.262.9336 or via email at aaw@mailplus.wisc.edu. The AgrAbility staff will be happy to attend any meetings or to meet with any groups throughout the state to educate and increase awareness of the program's existence.

AGRABILITY ON THE ROAD

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 15, 2006 **Jefferson County Safety Day Camp**

PLOWING AHEAD NEWSLETTER

The Summer 2006 Plowing Ahead Newsletter was mailed during the end of June. If you did 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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