



# AgrAbility of Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension  
Easter Seals Wisconsin



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*Farming is a way of life that values the family working together for a common goal. When a family member is affected by a severe disability, this way of life is challenged.*

*Since 1991, AgrAbility of Wisconsin has been promoting success in agriculture for farmers and their families living with a disability. AgrAbility of Wisconsin is a partnership between the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension and Easter Seals Wisconsin.*

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**PROMOTING SUCCESS IN AGRICULTURE**



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## *Serving Wisconsin Farmers*

Over 4,000 injuries occur on Wisconsin farms each year, many resulting in permanent disabilities. In the entire United States, agricultural production is one of the most hazardous occupations, with the highest disabling injury rate of any industry. In addition, farmers and their families also experience the same off-farm injuries as the general public and many chronic illnesses common in agricultural occupations. AgrAbility of Wisconsin can help these farmers continue to farm and live independently.

AgrAbility services are available to those individuals and their families who are engaged in farming or farm-related occupations and are coping with the effects of a disability. Services are provided at the home or farm and are confidential.

AgrAbility of Wisconsin is designed to help farm families experiencing the effects of disabling conditions such as:

- ♦ arthritis
- ♦ chronic back pain
- ♦ respiratory impairments
- ♦ amputations
- ♦ hearing & visual impairments
- ♦ other conditions

## *Accommodating Disability in Agriculture*

AgrAbility staff design a customized assistance plan based on the type of farming operation, type of disability, and the needs of the individual with a disability and his/her family.

This plan could include:

- ♦ equipment and worksite modification
- ♦ farm job restructuring
- ♦ community and health care coordination
- ♦ stress management
- ♦ peer support involvement
- ♦ farm safety
- ♦ identification of funding resources

## *Promoting Disability Awareness in Agriculture*

AgrAbility of Wisconsin is dedicated to promoting awareness of disabilities and chronic health conditions in the agricultural community. These activities include:

- ♦ displays at farm shows, rehabilitation technology exhibits and fairs
- ♦ presentations for agricultural, health care and community organizations
- ♦ activities and workshops on disabilities for youth

### *For more information, please contact:*

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