



Agricultural Worksite Assessments

AgrAbility for Pennsylvanians

Abbie Spackman



AgrAbility PA assists farmers and agricultural workers with a disability or long-term health condition by providing direct services and support they need to live independently and to continue working in or return to production agriculture.



On-site Farm Assessments

- 2-3 hour length
- Informal, yet detailed
- Majority of time spent outdoors, around livestock and equipment
- Safety and biosecurity practices used
- OVR staff encouraged to participate



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- ***“If anyone is on the fence about contacting AgrAbility PA, I’d tell you to go ahead. It needs to be done to ensure you will be able to do the work you love.”*** Todd Zimmerman of Four Zimm Dairy Plus, a dairy goat farm in Union County.



Assistive Technology

On the Farm



Mobility Devices







Tractor and Equipment Access









Equipment Operation

- Backup cameras
- Proximity sensors
- Mirrors
- Hand controls
- Environmental controls
- Seating



Attaching Implements



AT Examples

- Automatic gates
- Livestock handling equipment
- Livestock monitoring devices
- Door openers
- Feeding systems
- Automatic water systems
- Lighting and visual aids
- Ergonomic hand tools
- Raised garden beds
- Side entry skid steers
- Equipment maintenance aids
- Ergonomic workstations
- Outdoor recreation AT
- Equine related AT



Safety Considerations

- Evaluating Agricultural Workplace Assistive Technology for the Secondary Injury Hazards
 - Available as a PDF on the National AgrAbility website
 - AgrAbility.org
- Your safety on the farm or worksite

“Definitely inquire about AgrAbility, PATF, and OVR. I am so glad these programs are there to help. When you love something so much and face the possibility of not being able to continue, it is well worth making the phone call to see how they can help. The knowledge AgrAbility had about options and assistive technology was very helpful, and I am so thankful for the loan from PATF and the assistive technology through OVR.” Mr. Schaffer.





Thank you!

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