



2022 AgrAbility National Training Workshop



Madison, Wisconsin • March 14-17, 2022



2022 AgrAbility National Training Workshop

Madison, WI ~ March 14th – 17th

Presented by:

The National AgrAbility Project
AgrAbility of Wisconsin
Purdue University Breaking New Ground Resource Center
Goodwill of the Finger Lakes
Colorado State University
Washington State University
AgriSafe
Osteoarthritis Action Alliance

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Welcome to Wisconsin!

March 14, 2022

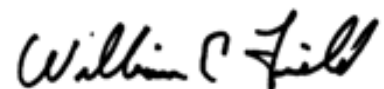
Welcome to Madison, Wisconsin, and the 2022 National Training Workshop. It has simply been too long, and it's great being together again!

I recently attended "The Simon and Garfunkel Show" (wonderful concert) and heard those great old songs, "Mrs. Robinson", "Cecilia", "Homeward Bound", and of course "Bridge Over Troubled Water". I looked around the large audience and saw almost no one under the age of 30, but rather an average age of 60-70. (One of my students wanted to know what kind of law "Simon and Garfunkel" practiced.) Even though our "reunion" here in Madison will not compete with the 520,000 who showed up on The Great Meadow in Central Park for their 1981 reunion, we are going to have a really awesome "Thyme".

The entire planning team has been working very hard to ensure a safe event with an incredible opportunity to reconnect with old friends and to choose from over 60 professional development sessions. There is something for everyone, AgrAbility staff, farmers, caregivers, Veterans, and rehabilitation professionals. We are trying to not let this event be defined by COVID, but make every effort to respect everyone's different comfort levels. There will be a mask for those who need one, hand sanitizers, and surfaces will be cleaned on a regular basis. Hey!, if 70 or 90,000 can attend a college football game, hopefully, we can likewise enjoy our time together.

The members of the planning committee will be wearing special name badges. If at anytime you need assistance, of any kind, please feel free to ask one of us. Thank you for all you have done during this especially trying time to support the mission of AgrAbility.

William E. Field



National AgrAbility Project

2020 AgrAbility National Training Workshop

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Monday, March 14th

Pre-Conference Sessions

- 8:00 am-5:00 pm** Mental Health First Aid – Senate A-B
1:00-4:00 pm New Staff Orientation – Capital Ballroom A
1:00-4:00 pm Worksite Assessment, Secondary Injury and AT Selection – University A-D
1:00-4:00 pm Offsite Tour – UW MSAB and Dairy Forage Center
4:30-6:00 pm Welcome Reception and Poster Session – Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom

Dinner on your own

Tuesday, March 15th

- 8:00 am** Opening Session – Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom
9:15 am Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Indiana AgrAbility Veteran Outreach
University Room A-D * Exploring Jobs in Rural Wisconsin
Senate A-B * Cultural Humility and AgrAbility: A Panel Presentation
Capital Ballroom B * Becoming an Informed Champion...Behavioral Health...
10:15 am Break
10:45 am Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Farmer Veteran Panel
University A-D * Insights into Alt. or Specialty Ag...Value-Added...
Senate A-B * Helping Farm and Ranch Families in Crisis
Capital Ballroom B * Cultivating Relationships
* QPR Gatekeeper Training
12:15 pm Lunch- Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom
1:45 pm Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Transitioning to Agribusiness: Answering the Call...
University A-D * Low Stress Marketing for Farmers
Senate A-B * WA State AgrAbility: Building a New Extension...
Capital Ballroom B * Prevention of Back Injuries
Outside * Outdoor Assistive Technology Show and Tell
2:40 pm Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * How Do We Educate Military Veterans as...Farmers
University A-D * Building Resilience...Let Nature Do the Heavy Lifting!
Senate A-B * Taking it on Big: Starting AgrAbility in the Last Frontier
Capital Ballroom B * Managing Pain on the Farm: A Simplified Pain Tool...
3:40 pm Break
4:00 pm Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Design by What You Can Find: Assistive Technology...
University A-D * SBA: A Network of Small Business Resources
Senate A-B * PI Session
Capital Ballroom B * Safety Sensitivity of Opioid Use in Agriculture

6:00 pm Dinner, Keynote Address, and Auction

Wednesday, March 16th

- 8:00 am** Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Assistive Technology in Agriculture
University A-D * Stay Emergency Aware: Developing an Emergency...
Senate A-B * Making Lemonade When Outreach Events Hand You...
Capital Ballroom B * Ergonomic Safety for Women
9:10 am Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Heroes to Hives: Empowering Veterans...Beekeepers
University A-D * Utility Vehicle Selection and Safety
Senate A-B * Sustainability for AgrAbility Programs
Capital Ballroom B * The USDA Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network...
9:55 am Break
10:25 am Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * How to do a Beekeeping Worksite Assessment
University A-D * Indoor AT Show and Tell
Senate A-B * Food Safety Education Needs of Indiana Military...
Capital Ballroom B * Independent Living
* AgrAbility "Accessing" the Amish/Plain Farmers
* Collaborating with Your Goodwill and Other Non...
* Using an Arts-Based Approach to Address Mental...
12:00 pm Lunch- Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom
Silent Auction ends at 1:00 pm
1:30 pm Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Taking Care of ALL the Generations on the Farm
University A-D * Considerations for Adding Value to Farm Products
Senate A-B * Working with Capstone Students to Augment AgrAbility...
Capital Ballroom B * Prevention of COVID-19 Among the Agricultural...
2:40 pm Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Migrant Farmworker Assistive Technology
University A-D * 3D Printing for Farmers
Senate A-B * Growing the Collaborative Work to Better Serve the...
Regents Ballroom F * Managing Stress on the Farm
3:40 pm Break
4:10 pm Breakout Sessions
Capital Ballroom A * Vision Solutions for Farmers
University A-D * The Dangers of Working Alone in Agriculture
Senate A-B * Developing a Client Management System...Salesforce
Assembly Room * Certifying Training Programs Through the VA

Dinner on your own

Thursday, March 18th

8:00 am-4:00 pm Offsite Tours



2022 AgrAbility National Training Workshop

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Monday, March 14th: Pre-Conference Sessions

8:00 am - 5:00 pm | Senate A & B

Mental Health First Aid **Rebecca Brightwell- Georgia AgrAbility** **and Dr. Diane Bales- University of Georgia**



Mental Health First Aid is an 8-hour course that teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. The training gives you the skills you need to reach out and provide initial help and support to someone who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem or experiencing a crisis. The fee for this session is \$50.

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm | Capital Ballroom A

New Staff Training **USDA and NAP Staff from Purdue, Goodwill of the Finger Lakes, Osteoarthritis Association, Washington State University, and Colorado State University**

This session gives an overview of the AgrAbility Program for new staff members, those wanting a refresher, or those wishing to learn about AgrAbility. Some topics covered include a perspective from USDA, the role of the National Project, resources available, evaluation procedures, and sources of help inside and outside AgrAbility. Participants will also have opportunities to network with one another, NAP staff, and USDA contacts.

1:00 pm - 4:00 pm | University Rooms A-D

Worksite Assessment, Secondary injury, and AT Selection **Bill Field and Steve Swain- NAP and Ned Stoller- Michigan AgrAbility**



This preconference professional development session will explore the process of conducting an agricultural worksite assessment, the potential for secondary injuries when using assistive technology on the farm, the selection of AT and modifications, and sources of AT and modifications. The session will also cover the contents of the updated Agricultural Worksite Assessment Tool for Farmers and Ranchers with Disabilities. The fee for this session is \$25.00

1:00 pm – 4:00 pm | Offsite

Meat Science & Animal Biologics Discovery Building and the Dairy Forage Research Center on UW Campus

The MSABD building serves as a hub for problem-solvers looking to improve the meat industry, animal and human health, agriculture, the environment, and overall quality of life in Wisconsin, the U.S., and beyond. The Dairy Forage Research Center provides dairy industry solutions for food security, environmental sustainability, and economic viability. They build uniquely valuable, science-based research initiatives focused on improving dairy production systems, soil ecology, forage production, forage quality, nutrient management, and ecosystem services.

4:30 pm – 6:00 pm | Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom

Reception and Poster Session

Posters being presented:

- **Washington State AgrAbility: Building a New Extension Program During Covid-19** by Don McMoran and Kristen VanValkenburg, WSU Skagit County Extension
- **Save Your Brain: Preventing Brain Injury through 4-H and AgrAbility Collaboration** by Emily Doosing, University of Missouri Extension/ BIA-MO, Karen Funkenbusch and Lupita Fabregas- University of Missouri Extension, Maureen Cunningham- Brian Injury Association of Missouri
- **Experiences of Farmers with Spinal Cord Injuries** by Lauren Rainone, NC AgrAbility and MGH Institute of Health Professions
- **Expanding Networking and Outreach through Social Media** by Evan Hairston, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and NC AgrAbility
- **Farmers' Stress and Career Commitment** by Carolyn Henzi and Dr. Suzanna Windon, The Pennsylvania State University
- **Legacy Innovation Farming Economics Project (LIFE)** by John Jamerson- Legacy Farming and Health Group, Chuck Baldwin and Ed Sheldon- Purdue University/National AgrAbility Project, and Tameka Peoples- Peoples Foundation
- **Indiana AgVets Certification and Internship Program** by Linda Tarr- Hoosier Uplands/Indiana AgrAbility and Ed Sheldon- Purdue University/National AgrAbility Project
- **Food Safety Education for Military Veteran Farmers: A Pilot Study** by Yaohua Feng and Han Chen- Purdue University
- **Cultivating Missouri AgrAbility's Social Media Strategy** by Tevin Uthlaut and Karen Funkenbusch- University of Missouri Extension

Special Interest Key



Farmers/Ranchers



Veterans



Assistive Technology



Health and Wellness

Tuesday, March 15th

8:00 am – 9:00 am Opening Session

Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom

Randy Romanski- Wisconsin Department of Agriculture Interim Secretary; Karl Martin- Dean of Extension- UW Madison; Brian Luck- WI AgrAbility PI; Bill Field- NAP; JoBeth Rath and Tess McKeel- Goodwill of the Finger Lakes

9:15 am - 10:15 am Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Indiana AgrAbility Veteran Outreach

Cindy Chastain- NAP, Purdue University, IN AgrAbility and FVC-IN, Ed Sheldon- NAP, Purdue University and IN AgrAbility, and Linda Tarr- Hoosier Uplands Economic Development Corporation and IN AgrAbility

This program will highlight the primary veteran outreach programs of Indiana AgrAbility. This outreach includes support of the Farmer Veteran Coalition – Indiana Chapter and its’ activities such as sponsorship and promotion of programs, membership communication, and cooperative educational efforts. Indiana AgrAbility partners with Hoosier Uplands Economic Development Corporation to offer the Indiana AgVets Certification and Internship Program. AgVets is a USDA-NIFA supported project that provides vocational training opportunities and hands-on internships to veterans interested in agricultural careers.

During the session, the speakers will also highlight and discuss the ongoing farmer veteran workshop series which has taken place at sites throughout Indiana. The series began in October 2020 as a way to re-connect with veteran clients after several months of strict COVID lockdowns. The programs have served to increase awareness AgrAbility services and FVC-IN activities, and have resulted in new clients and renewed interest from previous participants. A major key to the success of the series has been great support from other agencies and organizations, including Purdue Extension, Indiana SARE, USDA’s Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service, local Veteran Service Officers, the Indiana State Department of Agriculture, and more.

University Rooms A-D

Exploring Job Options in Rural Wisconsin

Ami Cooper- Easter Seals Wisconsin/AgrAbility of Wisconsin

Exploring Job Options in Rural Wisconsin was a program started to educate high school students with disabilities (age 14-21) about the vast agricultural career opportunities in Wisconsin. The instructor of the course gets to know each student to learn about their individual career interests. The students have the opportunity to make career connections in their communities as well, including: tours of local agricultural businesses, guest speakers, interviewing skills, and exploring possibilities for trial work experiences or job shadows.

This session would go over why we started this program and give an overview of what the students learn when they take the course.

Senate A- B

Cultural Humility and AgrAbility: A Panel Presentation

Esmerelda Mandujano- UC-Davis and CA AgrAbility, Beatriz Rodriguez- NC A&T State University and NC AgrAbility, Jason Schoch and Patricia Hammond- SD State University and Tatanka Ki Owetu -The Renewal AgrAbility Project, and Chantel Simpson, Ph.D.- NC A&T State University

An introduction to cultural humility and its importance in AgrAbility work will be presented. This will be followed by panelists representing at least three socially disadvantaged/underserved agricultural populations presenting examples of situations in which cultural humility, or the lack of it, made the outcomes better or worse. A question-and-answer time between the audience and panelists will then be used to discover ways in which cultural humility may be applied to situations faced by AgrAbility workers and others.

Capital Ballroom B

Becoming an Informed Champion and Collaborator with Behavioral Health to Improve Quality of AgrAbility Services

Robert Fetsch, Ph.D, LMFT and Chad Reznicek, MA, LPC- Colorado AgrAbility Project

This session will provide an overview of farmer mental health, given the current economic and environmental conditions, including the recent trends. Importantly, this session will teach attendees the signs and symptoms of chronic stress, anxiety, and depression to better prepare individuals to intervene. Identify individuals in the agricultural community who can help farmers’ in crisis. During this session, participants will learn about the importance of mindfulness practice as a stress-reduction technique. A mindfulness technique practice will be included.

10:15 am – 10:45 am Break

10:45 am – 12:15 pm Breakout sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Farmer Veteran Panel

Several farmer veterans will discuss their farming operations, military service, their path to farming, resources utilized, roadblocks and disabilities associated with their service.

University Rooms A-D

Insights into Alternative or Specialty Agricultural Enterprises and Value-Added Entrepreneurship Opportunities

Tameka Peoples- Peoples Foundation/LIFE Project, Darrell Anderson- Chef Joseph Kick Sauce/ LIFE Project, and John Jamerson- Legacy Farming and Health Group/LIFE Project

AgrAbility clients often pursue alternative or specialty enterprises to supplement or even replace “conventional” farming operations. Farm families may pursue such enterprises for personal interest or to accommodate a disability. The session will feature a panel discussion of AgrAbility clients who are currently engaged in alternative or value-added agricultural enterprises. They will highlight opportunities and challenges faced in their endeavors. This program will also include remarks by Darrell Anderson, CEO of Chef Joseph’s Kick Sauce and partner in the Legacy

Innovation Farming Economics Project. Drawing on his own experiences producing and marketing food sauces and seasonings, Darrell has developed a number of educational programs targeting youth and adults interested in pursuing entrepreneurial enterprises, and conducts trainings throughout the country.

Senate A-B

10:45-11:25

Helping Farm and Ranch Families in Crisis

Lynne Hinrichsen- Farm Rescue



Farm Rescue wants to get the information out to help family farms and ranches bridge crises, so they have an opportunity to continue viable operations. Farm Rescue provides planting, haying, harvesting, and livestock feeding assistance to farm and ranch families that have experienced a major injury, illness or natural disaster.

The financial drain is more pronounced on a farm where a family's livelihood depends on the ability to plant, harvest, or provide for their herd. Farm Rescue gives families a chance to continue their livelihood by providing the necessary equipment and manpower (free of charge) to get the job done.

11:30- 12:15

Cultivating Relationships

Kelley Spencer COTA/L, ATP- Maine AgrAbility

You are the most important tool in your toolbox when it comes to working with others. Cultivating Relationships is an overview of topics related to interpersonal connection, professional relationships, and the use of self as a tool in client interactions. This presentation reviews topics such as communications styles, learning styles, diversity, disability, and culture, and then applies the understanding of these topics to client interactions for successful outcomes. Setting professional boundaries, navigating challenges, developing skills, frequently made mistakes, and reflecting on outcomes are all topics discussed in this presentation. No prior training or experience is required for this session. This content is designed to provide an introduction and foundation for skills needed to work successfully with clients in various roles.

Capital Ballroom B

QPR Gatekeeper Training

Linda Emanuel and Charlotte Halverson- AgriSafe



Key components covered in the training: How to Question, Persuade and Refer someone who may be suicidal; How to get help for yourself or learn more about preventing suicide; The common causes of suicidal behavior; The warning signs of suicide; and how to get help for someone in crisis.

12:15 pm - 1:45 pm

Madison/Wisconsin Ballroom

Lunch- There will be a special section for farmers/ranchers

1:45 pm – 2:30 pm Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Transitioning to Agribusiness: Answering the Call to Feed America

Jeanette Lombardo- Farmer Veteran Coalition



FVC helps military personnel, transitioning to civilian life, who are considering a new career in agribusiness.

Join us to hear more about the opportunities offered to veterans with a disability through Farmer Veteran Coalition's programs and services! Learn about our programing for internships and apprenticeships, as well as our new Job Board with features for remote jobs and our growing Career Pipeline Project. If you are interested in answering the call to feed America, this is the session for you!

University Rooms A-D

Low Stress Marketing for Farmers

Abi Quinlan- AgrAbility of Wisconsin



While it seems like marketing is the least important part of your agriculture business- it should actually be at the forefront! Marketing should start before the seeds are planted and continue well-past harvesting, but it is not always easy to do and even harder to stick to a schedule with the daily changes on the farm. Learn how to tell your story through low stress marketing strategies and walk away with a clear action plan for your farm for 2022!

Senate A-B

Washington State AgrAbility:

Building a New Extension Program During Covid-19

Don McMoran and Kristen VanValkenburg- WSU Skagit County Extension

The trials and tribulations of trying to run a new AgrAbility program during a pandemic.

Capital Ballroom B

Prevention of Back Injuries

Linda Emanuel- AgriSafe

Back injuries are one of the most common forms of farm-related injuries, so protecting the back is one of the most important things a producer can do to stay active on the farm. Men and women are both prone to work-related back pain and the first episode usually occurs between the ages of 20 and 40. Training will focus on effects of whole body vibration, causes of back injuries/pain, how to prevent back injuries/pain, and other considerations.

Outside

Outdoor Assistive Technology Show and Tell



This session will be a show-and-tell with various suppliers of assistive technologies for outdoor equipment applicable to farmers and ranchers with disabilities.

Capital Ballroom A

How Do We Educate Military Veterans as Successful Beginning Farmers?



Cheryl H. Grenwelge and Erin Kimbrough- the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension and Robert Fetsch- Colorado State University

In this presentation, participants will learn about the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Farm Education and Training (FEAT) Project—its history, the 90 military veterans it serves, components of the two-year classroom education and hands-on treatment to reduce stress and PTSD and increase Quality of Life levels, COVID-19 pandemic challenges, and impressions of preliminary results.

University Rooms A-D

Building Resilience into Your Farm, Let Nature Do the Heavy Lifting!



Susan Jaster and David Middleton- Lincoln University and MO AgrAbility

As climate change looms, building resilience into our farms may be the only way to continue farming without losing crops, including livestock and vegetables, to weather events during the growing season. When we use regenerative practices, we are also using risk management techniques; these techniques will provide layers of protection in our operations through soil health, healthy plants, healthy livestock and nutrient dense foods for humans while cutting down on synthetic chemicals and sequestering carbon to drawdown CO2 levels. The best part of regenerative farming is that nature is doing all the heavy lifting, we are lowering our inputs, stress levels and getting our lives back. AgrAbility clients who use regenerative agricultural practices will give their farms a better future due to lowering the need and costs of inputs; fewer inputs require less physical labor, causing less fatigue, especially as we age.

Senate A-B

Taking it on Big: Starting AgrAbility in the Last Frontier

Art Nash and DeShana York- University of Alaska Fairbanks

Alaska's land holdings, when put atop of a map of the U.S., spread geographically from the east to west coasts. Commercial fishing enterprises in the far west can approach the Russian border and commercial timbering in the far east tip (Ketchikan) abut up to British Columbia, Canada. Travel and communications can be slow and resources for agricultural workers and the disabled very sparse....Enter a new AgrAbility program in 2018 with the encouragement of a veteran program, and there are new paths that needed to be forged to locate farmers, fishers and timber operations - let alone to muster the resources to assess and serve them with technical assistance. Join this session to learn some of the challenges, solutions - as well as discuss solutions- with one of the latest AgrAbility program to open shop!

Capitol Ballroom B

Managing Pain on the Farm: A Simplified Pain Tool to Help Farmers Maintain Productivity



Brie Weisman, OTR/L- Maine AgrAbility, Ketra Crosson, OTR - Maine AgrAbility, Alpha One

During our time working with clients through Maine AgrAbility, we have seen many farmers normalize their level of pain and push through "to do what needs to be done." As AgrAbility Specialists, we found it difficult to

ask clients to describe their pain because the answers were subjective and not always in line with our observations. Using a numeric (0-10) pain scale becomes even more challenging when working with a culture of people who may ignore their pain, seeing it as a normal part of their day, and who are reluctant to talk about pain. We realized that it was more important for the farmer to understand how their pain was impacting their life/work performance, than it was to have a concrete numerical value. A numerical pain rating scale has a place in quantifying pain to measure changes based on the implementation of different interventions; however, the numbers themselves do not provide direction to farmers on what actions to take to improve health, safety, and work performance. We were interested in creating a tool that provided clear guidance to farmers about when to seek help and change work tasks based on their level of pain. We hope that providing clients with this simplified pain scale using the traffic light symbol, will make it easier for some clients to accurately self- identify their level of pain and determine how they need to proceed for their own health and safety to promote productivity on the farm.

3:40 pm – 4:00 pm Break

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Design by What You Can Find: Assistive Technology Built on the Farm



Ned Stoller- Michigan AgrAbility and Kyle Haney- Georgia AgrAbility

See examples of low-tech farmer-built assistive technology that might be duplicated by farmers in your state or around the world. Ingenuity is the prize quality of a farmer far from town with a problem that needs solved without spending half a day driving to stores and buying materials. Once the problem to be solved is apparent, the process begins with a stroll around the farm to see what existing materials are available and may be useful... then back in the shop figuring out how to use the tools already there to create the assistive device. Often the farmer returns to the farm-site stroll to look for some piece or part that he remembers throwing away 5 years ago, and now is just the thing.

University Rooms A-D

SBA: A Network of Small Business Resources



Tammie Clendenning- WI District - US SBA, Andy Larson- SBDC/Food Finance Institute, Mara Keyes- WWBIC, Dave Maaske- SCORE, Dan Newberry- WI-VBOC

This will be a panel discussion hosted by the WI District Office of the SBA, introducing SBA and what it provides. The panel will also discuss Wisconsin SBA business partners and have them describe their programs and what they could provide to AgrAbility clients.

Senate A-B

PI Session

Bill Field- Purdue University and National AgrAbility Project

USDA program leaders will meet with SRAP principal investigators for questions, answers, and discussion.

Capital Ballroom B

Safety Sensitivity of Opioid Use in Agriculture



Charlotte Halverson- AgriSafe

The American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine released recommendations for opioid prescribing based on safety-sensitive

occupations. Safety-sensitive work is typically classified as operating motor vehicles, modes of transportation, other heavy machinery, or tasks requiring high levels of cognitive function or judgment. Farm duties frequently demand the use of heavy machinery, and concurrent use of narcotics alongside safety-sensitive work can be dangerous. This training educates healthcare providers on how to assess occupational agricultural risks and corresponding patient guidance for those who are taking opioid medications.

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm Banquet Dinner

Madison/Wisconsin Ballrooms

Keynote Speaker- Davon Lamar Goodwin, and auction with Auctioneer- Rile Kahl from Imkahng Auctions

Wednesday, March 16th

8:00 am – 9:00 am Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Assistive Technology in Agriculture

Jeff Kratochwill- Easter Seals Wisconsin



This presentation will discuss the need for assistive technology assessments for an agricultural worker who has a disability. Information will be given on what to consider before making the trip to the farm, meeting the client, and how to plan the assessment time. The majority of the presentation will focus on examples of assistive technology that might be appropriate for farmers depending on their disability needs.

University Rooms A-D

Stay Emergency Aware:

Developing an Emergency Response Plan for Your Farm

Bill Field and Ed Sheldon- National AgrAbility Project, Purdue University



The session will begin with an overview of the Indiana PREPared (Purdue Rural Emergency Preparedness) program, including a short introduction to the range of resources available through www.inprepared.org. The bulk of the presentation will highlight the importance of developing a farm emergency plan, and the speaker will discuss step-by-step how to create a personalized plan using Indiana PREPared's Farm Emergency Plan Template and associated materials. Major points of emphasis will include involving the entire farm family and staff in preparing the plan, sharing with local fire departments and/or EMS, and updating the plan regularly. Also, the program will highlight the importance of addressing disability challenges of farm family members, staff, and farm guests while preparing emergency response plans.

Senate A-B

Making Lemonade when Outreach Events Hand You LEMONS!

Laura Akgerman and Dee Jepsen- Ohio AgrAbility/Ohio State University, Lani Carlson- Maine AgrAbility, Kendra Martin- AgrAbility PA, and Tawnie Lawson- Kansas AgrAbility

We work very hard on our exhibits for outreach events, and always expect to showcase the best of AgrAbility: farmer success stories, accessible

agriculture, professional and dedicated staff, educational resources and assistive technology to help farmers keep farming. Sometimes the weather (or other factors – illness, injury, exhibit space) make putting on a great event difficult. Join us as we share ideas for exhibits, posters, displays and interactive activities to engage your audience.

Capital Ballroom B

Ergonomic Safety for Women

Linda Emanuel and Charlotte Halverson- AgriSafe



Women are playing an increased role in production agriculture. They account for about one-third of the management, ownership and work on farms, ranches and in crop production. A major challenge continues to be access to protective equipment that meets the ergonomic needs of women. This program is intended to help women in rural/agricultural communities identify ergonomic issues leading to musculoskeletal injuries in farm and ranch work and discover resources to aid in injury prevention.

9:10 am - 9:55 am Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Heroes to Hives: Empowering Veterans to Be the Next Generation of American Beekeepers

Adam Ingrao- Michigan Food and Farming Systems / Heroes to Hives Program



Heroes to Hives is the nation's largest ag training program for military service members, veterans and their dependents and in 2021 it educated nearly 4,500 students in the art and science of beekeeping. In this session you will learn about the history of the program and its current education efforts as well as discover the important role AgrAbility has played in supporting beekeepers with disabilities in the program.

University Rooms A-D

Utility Vehicle Selection and Safety

Abbie Spackman- AgrAbility PA, Linda Fetzer- Penn State University and AgrAbility PA, and Emily Jacobson- NE AgrAbility



Utility Vehicles (UTVs) can be very beneficial for an AgrAbility client to assist with mobility, transport supplies for a job, etc., while reducing the risk of a secondary injury or exacerbating the client's condition. When working with a client, it is important for them to realize the differences between the different UTVs on the market and help them determine the most appropriate one related to their disability and their worksite. Safety features on the UTVs were designed for a reason, and we will discuss how to address this topic with the clients so that they understand the purpose of the safety feature and that it should not be changed. Finally, once you have identified a UTV for a client, we will discuss how to write a justification for it when submitting the recommendation to a funding source.

Senate A-B

Sustainability for AgrAbility Programs

JoBeth Rath and Tess McKeel- Goodwill of the Finger Lakes and NAP

The demand for services from our current projects is growing while funding remains the same. We see only 21 states being served, while we know that many more need the services. This unconferencing session is designed to explore and share ideas for fundraising, looking at grant opportunities, maintaining and expanding government funding, and more! Bring your ideas and soak up others' during this session formatted for sharing.

Capital Ballroom B

The USDA Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN): A Panel Discussion



Don McMoran- WSU Skagit County Extension, Josie Rudolphi- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Tesha Humphrey- University of Tennessee Extension

The purpose of the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) Program is to establish a network that connects individuals who are engaged in farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related occupations to stress assistance programs. There are four regional FRSAN centers that cover the entire U.S. and its territories. A significant number of AgrAbility staff members are directly involved with FRSAN grant projects, and three will share during this panel discussion about the activities of their respective projects and ways that SRAPs and their clients can benefit from FRSAN services and resources.

9:55 am – 10:25 am Break

10:25 am – 12:00 pm Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

10:25 am – 11:10 am

How to do a Beekeeping Worksite Assessment



Ned Stoller- MI AgrAbility and Adam Ingrao- MI Food and Farming Systems/Heroes to Hives Program

This session will demonstrate how to do an apiary assistive technology worksite assessment for beekeepers with medical conditions. Arthritis, back injury, carpal tunnel syndrome, amputation, paralysis, and other medical conditions restrict beekeepers from completing necessary tasks. Functional limitations include mobility to the hives, bending over to inspect frames, lifting hive bodies, grasping frames, moving hives, gripping hand tools, and hand cranking extractors. While specialized machinery exists for commercial beekeepers, smaller apiaries require more manual labor. It is just not “worth it” to spend annual gross sales to purchase one machine. Learn how to evaluate a worker’s needs and make suitable recommendations for their apiary.

11:15 am- 12:00pm

Indoor AT Show and Tell

This session will be a show-and-tell with various suppliers of assistive technologies applicable to farmers and ranchers with disabilities.



University Rooms A-D

10:25 am – 11:10 am

Food Safety Education Needs of Indiana Military Veteran Farmers



Yaohua Feng and Han Chen- Purdue University

Most military veteran farmers are practicing small-scale farming and are typically struggling to balance between making profits and meeting the increasing food safety regulatory requirements. However, limited studies have investigated the food safety education needs of military veteran farmers. An online survey was conducted among Indiana military

veteran farmers between 2019 and 2020. Seventy-eight veteran farmers completed the survey. This presentation will discuss veteran farmers’ food safety attitudes and practices assessed in the survey and will provide the recommendations for the development of future food safety education program for this target audience.

11:15 am- 12:00pm

Independent Living



Ben Hinkel- Access to Independence

This is a general overview of independent living services, and where to get them. There will be a focus on mental health smartphone apps.

Senate A-B

10:25 am – 11:10 am

AgrAbility “Accessing” the Amish/Plain Farmers

Chuck Baldwin and Bill Field- NAP, Dee Jepsen- OH AgrAbility and Karen Funkenbusch- MO AgrAbility

Learn how farmers with disabilities are being served around the world. Specific case studies will be presented and overviews of how rehabilitation services are provided will be addressed. This session will be especially relevant to folks who are interested in an international dimension of rehabilitation programs for rural and farm families.

11:15 am- 12:00 pm

Collaborating with Your Goodwill and Other Non-Profits

JoBeth Rath and Tess McKeel- Goodwill of the Finger Lakes and NAP

As funding stays the same and demands on services grow, collaboration is the answer. Join in a discussion about collaborating with your local Goodwill and other non-profits in your region. Learn how to key in on matched goals in your missions and work together to make a difference to those you serve. Bring your experiences and ideas to share!

Capital Ballroom B

10:25 am – 12:00 pm

Using an Arts-Based Approach to Address Mental Health and Stress Issues in Farm Worker Populations



Kimber Nicoletti-Martinez- Purdue University and NAP

Mental health and stress in farm worker communities is a challenging problem to address. This interactive workshop explores the development of culturally relevant approaches to meeting the mental health and stress needs of farm workers. This workshop will explore lessons learned, community response and resources developed by the speaker over the past 20 years of engaging farm worker communities in learning skills to promote mental and family health. Participants will be engaged in arts-based activities to explore those lessons learned. Session available in English and Spanish.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Lunch and Silent Auction ends at 1:00 pm

Madison/Wisconsin Ballrooms

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Taking Care of ALL the Generations on the Farm

Karin Rasmussen- Kansas AgrAbility, and Cassie Ramon- Assistive Technology for Kansans



You don't have to be a tech wizard to benefit from automation. There are lots of simple, inexpensive solutions that can make a task easier, safer, or save you time. Whether you're concerned about options for a stay at home parent, tracking an active child, monitoring livestock, or automatically lighting areas of your home or farm site, there are solutions. This session will highlight simple, smart technology that can be used to make a household task easier then provide a farm application using the same technology. Come learn about smart outlets, remote cameras and monitors, smart appliances, automated feeding and watering systems, security systems, apps, and more. Whether you want to vacuum while you're feeding cattle, check on Mom while shopping in town, or water livestock from the warmth of your home on a cold day, we will show you solutions.

University Rooms A-D

Considerations for Adding Value to Farm Products

Richard Brzozowski- Maine AgrAbility



Farmers are very effective in growing raw produce including fruits, vegetables, tubers, herbs, grains, meats, eggs, and milk. Is the selling of raw products the best way to generate income for the farmer? Would adding value to raw products through some level of processing be beneficial to the farm business? The purpose of this workshop is to outline the challenges and benefits of adding value to food products so that farmers considering this type of enterprise might make the wisest business decision to fit their situations.

Senate A-B

Working with Capstone Students to Augment AgrAbility Services

Makenzie Thomas, Faye McGuire and Dr. Cheryl Grenwelge- Texas AgrAbility, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension

Texas AgrAbility has facilitated relationships with both engineering and occupational therapy capstone project students at two different universities to achieve success for AgrAbility clients through assistive technology modifications and occupational therapy assessment. This presentation will explore the process for building a relationship with students, facilitating relationships with students and AgrAbility clients, and enhancing their hands-on learning through farm & ranch assessments and assistive technology adaptations.

Capital Ballroom B

Prevention of COVID-19 Among the Agricultural Industry

Charlotte Halverson- AgriSafe



The reality of COVID-19 and its variants has made a major impact on work, family, and community life across the country. The agricultural industry is no exception. This presentation will look at the ways COVID-19 has changed the way we live and work. We will discuss COVID-19 signs and symptoms, safety measures, vaccination policies, the changing guidelines, and education tools for agricultural operations - large or small. How has COVID-19 impacted your life?

2:40 pm – 3:40 pm Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Migrant Farmworker Assistive Technology

Ned Stoller and Andrea Garza- MI AgrAbility, Esmeralda Mandujano- CA AgrAbility and Elizabeth Gandara-Castillo- TX AgrAbility



Hispanic and other migrant farm workers make up a large percentage of the agriculture labor force. This session will talk about low-tech assistive technology from California, Texas, and Michigan, and how Michigan AgrAbility serves those workers with joint pain screenings and identifying assistive technology. There will be further discussion of assistive technology that is low-tech and portable so the workers can take it with them to the next work location.

University Rooms A-D

3D Printing for Farmers

Brie Weisman, OTR/L- Maine AgrAbility and Kristen Desrochers, OTR/L- Maine AgrAbility, Alpha One



This session will offer the participant an introduction to 3D printers, from the actual 3D printer and its capabilities to the software available to help aspiring 3D makers. Participants will learn how economical 3D printers are and how free software is readily available on the internet to help with design. Examples of Maine farmers using 3D printers will demonstrate how they incorporate a printer to help them on the farm. Included in the session will be a live demonstration of the 3D printer as well as a demonstration of how to use a scanning device to design objects to print.

Senate A-B

Growing the Collaborative Work to Better Serve the Needs of Farmers with Disabilities

Betty Rodriguez- North Carolina AgrAbility, Gloria Jinks and Christey Kirk- NC Assistive Technology Program

In this session, the NC AgrAbility Partnership will highlight the partnership's work and the collaborative work with other organizations and programs across the state. The partnership between NC Agromedicine Institute, DisAbility Partners, and NC Assistive Technology Program has been working actively to expand the collaborative opportunities with other organizations and programs to better serve the needs of farmers with disabilities. By working collaboratively, farmers have been able to access more services. Partners and collaborators have been able to increase knowledge of the culture and needs of farmers with disabilities. Collaborative work is always an opportunity to expand our abilities and reach.

Capital Ballroom B

Managing Stress on the Farm

Dr. Suzanna Windon- The Pennsylvania State University



This interactive workshop introduces theory and strategies to increase farmers' (occupational) stress awareness and develop stress resilience strategies. The first part of the workshop will provide a theoretical background of occupational stress, defining, assessing, and recognizing its symptoms and consequences. The second part will explain and apply practical strategies to cope with stress and communication strategies to help people manage their stress levels. During the workshop, the presenter plans to use a short video and questions for the audience that stimulate critical thinking, group discussion.

3:40 pm – 4:10 pm Break

4:10 pm – 4:55 pm Breakout Sessions

Capital Ballroom A

Vision Solutions for Farmers



Kyle Haney- Georgia AgrAbility and Ned Stoller- Michigan AgrAbility

Gain a deeper understanding of different vision impairments and assistive technology to use when working with farmers.

University Rooms A-D

The Dangers of Working Alone in Agriculture



Aaron Etienne- Purdue University ABE

The main goal of this session is to highlight the dangers of working alone across the agricultural industry. A database was created of victims seriously injured or killed while performing an agricultural task alone. This database spans the United States and Canada. A demonstrable need has been shown for inclusion of information that the victim was alone at the time of an accident, in injury and fatality reporting. Cutting-edge monitoring, tracking, and communication technologies that can be implemented to reduce the risk of fatality from alone accidents will also be presented. An audience participation piece will be included at the end of the presentation, to discuss best practices and communication strategies.

Senate A-B

Developing a Client Management System For AgrAbility Unlimited (Illinois) using Salesforce

Salah Issa and Josie Rudolphi- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and Moustafa Moursy- Push Analytics

In this session we will go over the development process and implementation of a new CMS for AgrAbility Unlimited. We will discuss the advantages this system has in tracking client progress, sending out surveys and building reports that get sent out to the national program, and we will demonstrate this system to our audience. Lastly, we will discuss potential limitations for this solution and next steps in implementing this system in our AgrAbility program.

Capital Ballroom B

Certifying Training Programs Through the VA

Anne Devin- Maine AgrAbility

Hear the lessons learned from Anne Devin who succeeded in developing Boots-2-Bushels, a 9-month comprehensive education and training program for beginning farmers of all abilities, and went through the process to get the program certified by the VA. Certification of these smaller scale programs is required in order for veterans to use their Post 9-11 GI Bill education benefits.

Dinner on your own

Special Interest Key



Farmers/Ranchers



Veterans



Assistive Technology



Health and Wellness

Thursday, March 17th

8:00 am – 4:00 pm Tours

Tour 1 | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

(Full Day Tour)

Dairy Focused: This tour will travel to a dairy, Sassy Cow Creamery for lunch, and then to the Dairy Forage Center on UW Madison Campus. **\$55 Fee**

Tour 2 | 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

(Full Day Tour)

AgrAbility Farmers and Agricultural Research: This tour will travel to an AgrAbility client farm, the UW Arlington Research Station, where we will have a tour and lunch, and then to Renk Seed Company. **\$55 Fee**

Tour 3 | 8:00 am - 3:30 pm

(Full Day Tour with ½ day drop off at hotel around Noon)

UW Madison Agricultural Sites and Kuhn Agricultural Machinery: This tour will travel to the Kuhn manufacturing plant, drop off at the hotel around noon (box lunches for those dropped off), provide lunch for the remaining participants, and then travel to the UW Meat Center. **\$55 fee for full day and \$25 fee for half day**





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Rodale Institute

Wisconsin Department of Vocational Rehabilitation

Washington State University Skagit County Extension

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NATIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP COMMITTEE

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