

Michigan AgrAbility

Cultivating success, one farmer at a time

Michigan AgrAbility
4065 Saladin Dr. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546

800-956-4106
(For Hearing Impaired contact
Michigan Relay at 800-649-3777)

www.michiganagrability.org
www.essmichigan.org
www.msue.anr.msu.edu



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1-800-956-4106
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What is AgrAbility

Farming isn't just an occupation. It's part of who you are. If a farmer is injured or ill, the farm and the family's livelihood can be seriously disrupted. Michigan AgrAbility can help farmers adjust to disabling conditions so they can keep working and the farm can keep producing. We help farmers identify ways they can continue farming by making modifications to equipment, facilities and daily tasks. Farm family members are eligible for services, too.

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Michigan AgrAbility serves people with many types of disabilities, including:

- spinal cord injury
- chronic back pain
- arthritis
- stroke
- respiratory impairment
- joint injury
- amputation
- visual impairment
- hearing impairment
- head injury
- disability due to aging or illness

Providing services to farmers with
INJURIES & ILLNESSES
so they can continue the
OCCUPATION & LIFESTYLE
they love.



"It's amazing how much the crowding tub has helped us manage our livestock. We are so thankful for the help AgrAbility has given us."

— DEIDRA MATTHEWS
spouse of AgrAbility client Mark Matthews,
Iraq War Veteran



The Need

There are 52,194 farms in Michigan that employ approximately 215,000 workers including owner/operators, hired labor and family members. (Source: USDA 2012 Census of Agriculture)

There is an average of nine injuries for every 1000 adult farmworkers. (Source: NASS May 2013)

Common diseases such as arthritis, cancer, stroke, multiple sclerosis and muscular dystrophy are just some of the personal health issues that may leave an individual in a compromised state of physical activity and often result in secondary injury.

1,900 FARM WORKERS
in Michigan could benefit from
our services annually.



Our Services

Disability can change a lifestyle in the blink of an eye. From independence to dependence, an active lifestyle to one of uncertainty, there are many adjustments to be made personally and within the family. In addition to the emotional and physical challenges of adapting, there are financial challenges in adjusting the farm operation to fit a new normal.

Michigan AgrAbility offers
ASSISTANCE & SOLUTIONS
that make a difference.

Our services are offered at
NO COST TO THE FARMER.



Our Method



An agricultural engineer visits the farm to learn the operation, what equipment is being used and what physical limitations hinder the farm work.



After the visit, a summary report is provided to the farmer regarding farm tasks, barriers observed and relevant solutions.



The engineer works with the farmer to research solutions and develop new ideas for overcoming those barriers.



As needed, Michigan AgrAbility staff helps the farmer through the process of acquiring funding to purchase the needed technology.



Our staff assists in the set-up and training of how to use adaptive equipment, and then follows up several months later to ensure everything is operating as intended and helping the farmer.



Our Supporters



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension



YOU CAN HELP, TOO! DONATE AT:
www.michiganagrability.org