



AgrAbility: Rehabilitating the Farmer, Rancher or Farmworker with a Disability

A six-week continuing education distance learning course for health care providers

Session 1: March 30-May 10, 2009

Session 2: June 8-July 19, 2009

Agriculture is one of the nation's most hazardous industries. Each year hundreds of thousands of people working in agriculture experience injuries that limit their ability to perform essential farm tasks. Tens of thousands more become disabled as a result of non-farm injuries, illnesses, other health conditions, and the aging process. Like their urban counterparts, approximately 20% of farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers have disabilities that interfere with their work.

For many of these individuals, the presence of a disability jeopardizes their rural and agricultural futures. Yet, with some assistance, the majority of disabled agricultural workers can continue to earn their livelihoods in agriculture and participate fully in rural community life.

In this course you will learn about farm culture, and farm environments, the impact of a disability on the farmer, the family, the farm operation and the community, and assessment and intervention suggestions to improve a farmer's functional outcome and return to production agriculture.

Course Objectives:

- **To recognize the cultural influences and stressors on farm life**
- **To understand the temporal, physical, and psychological aspects of farm work and the farm environment**
- **To understand the financial, physical and psychological impact of disability on farm life**
- **To accurately assess the farmer through interviews, observations and clinical measurements**
- **To identify, initiate and adjust treatment methods to facilitate increased functioning related to work demands**

*Course Fee: \$200
CEU: 30 contact hours*



To Register for Session 1 or Session 2:

- On-line <http://www.peopleware.net/2723>
Click on AgrAbility.
- By mail or fax, please download and print off registration form at <http://www.peopleware.net/2723>. No phone registrations.
- Sessions limited to 25 participants for each session.

For additional information: Contact Mary Beck, University of Wisconsin-Extension, AgrAbility Project, 608-262-9336 or aaw@mailplus.wisc.edu.