

AgrAbility e·Note

January 2024

A monthly update for AgrAbility projects and friends of AgrAbility

National AgrAbility Project News

Next AgrAbility All-Staff Meeting: save the date for Monday, February 5 at 3:00 p.m. EST. Look for an agenda and Zoom instructions via email.

NTW Updates:

Happy New Year! If you have been putting it off, make a resolution to start thinking about the NTW. Here are some things for you to do:

- Register for the NTW
- Reserve your hotel room
- Identify exhibitors and sponsors
- Assemble a SRAP auction basket and collection auction items



[More](#)

Monthly Zoom Discussion: Outreach to Extension - Wednesday, January 31 at 3:00 p.m. EST. Look for details coming soon.

NAP has just started planning a regional workshop scheduled for Michigan in July 2024. More information coming soon.

NAP is also planning to hold a regional workshop in Guam for October 2024 in cooperation with and supported by the Western Regional Agricultural Stress Assistance Program. More information will be coming out after the NTW.



Joe Ricker and NAP SkillBridge military intern Brad Erdel attended the North American Honeybee Expo on January 4-6 in Louisville, KY, with over 3000 beekeepers from the nation participating. Joe and Brad staffed a booth with Justin Ruger of Accessible Beekeeping to help patrons understand accessibility options for beekeeping.

Newly archived virtual events:

- [Veterans in Agriculture Discussion](#)

Toolbox Spotlight

The [OnTrak GPS Guidance System](#) is designed

to guide one in following straight lines, radius, or contour routes with an accuracy of about 7 inches according to the manufacturer. The system consists of a battery-powered, wireless device having seven bright LED lights (affixed magnetically to the hood) that operates off and transmits data to an in-cab iOS or Android app. It requires no internet connection, and the manufacturer claims that it can be swapped between machines in seconds, operates up to 24 hours of continuous use, records field map data by date, location, and field name, and saves that data as a digital file. **NOTE:** this is not an auto-steer system; it simply provides GPS guidance to the operator steering the tractor or UTV.



State and Regional AgrAbility Project News

California



2023 was eventful for California AgrAbility. Staff had the opportunity to be a part of several events that provided support and education to the agricultural community of California. As they move into the new year, staff are feeling very grateful for their wonderful clients and partners. They're excited for all they have planned in 2024 and are looking forward to the busy year ahead!

Florida

Serap Gorucu and Lindsey Head attended the Farmers Town Hall and Virtual Barn to aid the Florida Discrimination Financial Assistance Program. This effort assists farmers who have experienced discrimination with USDA farm lending. Attendees learned the eligibility requirements and how to complete the application in order to receive support if they have faced unfair discrimination in the past.

Georgia

Georgia AgrAbility staff were busy during December building a new website and updating their Facebook account to transition to an actual page. They will be launching the new website in early January!



The NTW is only three months away! Georgia AgrAbility is so excited to see everyone here in Atlanta! Check out this Georgia ag fact to get you ready for your trip to GA!

Indiana

Indiana AgrAbility presented at the Purdue University Extension Professional Development Conference (PDC) was held December 13-14 at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds Event Center in Lafayette, Indiana. This annual gathering brings together over 300 Extension professionals, including county Extension educators and campus-based specialists, to network and share experiences, programs, and ideas. [More](#)



Michigan



Michigan AgrAbility staff attended the Great Lakes Fruit and Vegetable Growers Expo (GLEXP0) in Grand Rapids. In addition to showcasing low-tech AT, they demonstrated Levitate and Laevo brand exoskeletons, which caught a lot of attention from attendees. [More](#)

The following week, fifteen staff members, partners, and clients met for the annual meeting and had a fruitful discussion with several action items to follow up on and improve logistics and efficiencies within the state program.

The Michigan State University chapter of AGR fraternity hosted a pig roast fundraiser and awarded MI AgrAbility with the proceeds. Dr. Ron Bates is pictured with the group during the check presentation, photo by Bev Berens.



Ned Stoller started working with the MSU mechanical engineering professor on a hive lifter for an AgrAbility client for a spring 2024 capstone project.

Missouri

Missouri AgrAbility focused their social media efforts on program promotion, opportunities for farmers, and health, safety, and wellness tips.

This month staff collaboratively facilitated three network activities with primary MO AgrAbility stakeholders, provided direct assistance to client farmers, engaged in marketing activities through their programmatic social media outlets about upcoming educational activities, conferences, webinars, and other outreach initiatives.

Mackenzie Beving, Madison Fowler, Allison Starke, and Will DiStefano, all doctoral occupational therapy students with the department of occupational therapy developed *A Resource Guide for Healthcare Practitioners Working with the Agricultural Community* from the University of Missouri College of Health Sciences. [More](#)

Daniela Rodriguez, doctoral occupational therapy student, graduated in December 2023 from the rehabilitation and participation science program in occupational therapy from Washington University in St. Louis. She developed an AgrAbility resource for AgrAbility customers and their families. [More](#)

What's the buzz? Missouri AgrAbility in partnership with the Heroes to Hives state chapter are working to set up their 4th apiary in St. Louis County to address financial and personal wellness of veterans through free professional training and community development centered around beekeeping. [More](#)

On December 4th, Margo Jakobi, farm outreach worker, shared the Missouri AgrAbility *Emergency Preparedness Guide for Farmers, Ranchers, and Families with Health Conditions* with 10 farmers at an on-farm workshop.

Penny Wilson, small farm specialist from the LUCE ISFOP team, presented information on 988 hotline to 30 FFA students at Oak Ridge High School on December 11th.

Benefits and utilization of Missouri AgrAbility were discussed during the Brain Injury Association of Missouri (BIA-MO) Networking Coffee for Professionals - St. Louis on December 5. This discussion included professionals in the fields of vocational rehabilitation, medical rehabilitation, community reintegration, and brain injury.

Missouri AgrAbility was highlighted during a presentation on December 5 for 10 future neuropsychologists through the University of Missouri - St. Louis. During this presentation, Richard Wessbecher, a survivor of brain injury, shared his personal story, and Maureen Cunningham, BIA-MO executive director, discussed services of Missouri AgrAbility and the

Maureen Cunningham participated in a DHSS Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) meeting to explore potential collaborative opportunities for Missouri AgrAbility. Approximately 15 professionals with government agencies or non-profit organizations learned about Missouri AgrAbility as an employment and workforce development resource for aging rural Missourians in agriculture.

Nebraska



In December, Nebraska AgrAbility hosted a booth at the [2023 Nebraska Ag Expo](#) at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln. The theme of the regional expo was "Where Agriculture Meetings Innovation" and spanned three days with over 800 exhibitors. [More](#)

Emily Jacobson attended the [Stand Up for Veterans event](#) held in Norfolk, Nebraska. This event is hosted by the local Elks Lodge. [More](#)

Nebraska AgrAbility finalized handouts focused on assistive technology tools and equipment. These resources will be shared at upcoming events and educational programs. The handouts are also available online at <https://agrability.unl.edu/>.

The Nebraska AgrAbility met in-person this month to plan for the 2024 programming year. The team prioritized projects and created a list of educational resources they want to develop over the next twelve months.

After an accident earlier in the year, Byron wasn't certain how he could ever be a part of the family ranching operation again, but with the help of AgrAbility, @NebraskaVR, and @BlurbOutdoors, this Action Trackchair has allowed him to get back into the cattle yards to help with working his cattle. Way to go Byron!



New Mexico

New Mexico AgrAbility Project's eight apprentices wrapped up their first year of the apprenticeship program on December 22. These apprentices will return for year two of the program in February 2024 to continue developing their agricultural and workplace readiness skills through individualized internships in their desired agricultural employment areas with an increased focus on business/marketing.

New Mexico State University team members participated in the "Mental Wellness Conversation Curriculum" training hosted by Montana State University, Dec. 4-6. NMAP plans to provide this stress assistance information to its clients and other interested groups.

NMAP partners are thrilled to be preparing presentations for three sessions at NTW 2024:

- "Reaching new heights and expanding audiences by promoting AgrAbility" (NMSU team)
- "AT Fundamentals Course panel" (NM TAP team)
- "Gender differences in health conditions of agricultural workers" (UNM team)

North Carolina (affiliate)

December 1, the NC AgrAbility Partnership project manager presented "Taking Care of your Body: Your Best Tool" at the 2023 Food Inspired Resilience & Equity FIRE. The course was offered during the academic semester to eight students by NC State University, and Betty Rodriguez presented one of the sessions.

Ohio

Ohio AgrAbility staff gathered to plan education, marketing, outreach, and events for 2024 and to celebrate the camaraderie and collaboration of the Ohio team. OAP is recruiting farmers for 2024NTW and are excited to see what 2024 has in store for AgrAbility and all of our farmers.

Tennessee

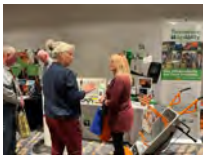


Happy 2024 from TN AgrAbility!

Tennessee AgrAbility ended 2023 with a special assistive technology delivery to a Hawkins County farmer, Vernon Goad. A special thank-you to Michael Boucher with All Things Terrain in Georgia who drove up on a cold, rainy day to deliver an Action Trackstander to Mr. Goad. [More](#)

TN AgrAbility nonprofit partner, The STAR Center, celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3. The STAR Center stands for inclusivity and empowerment for individuals with disabilities. [More](#)

December brought another fantastic day of grain bin safety/rescue awareness training and hands-on demonstrations in collaboration with TN AgrAbility and Brian Robinson with the amazing team at the TN Association of Rescue Squads! Thank you to all the volunteers and rescue personnel who save lives and give so freely of their time.



TNAP staff participated in the 102nd TN Farm Bureau annual convention trade show with displays for TN AgrAbility and SAgE (Southern Ag Exchange Network). Staff spoke with an estimated 100+ farmers, women in ag, and youths that attended the trade show. [More](#)

Texas

Texas AgrAbility collaborated with West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) engineering capstone students to fabricate a tractor lift for a central Texas cattle producer. The client has an above the knee amputation and utilizes his tractor for numerous tasks around his ranch. [More](#)



The Texas AgrAbility Total Farmer Health coach provided QPR for agricultural communities to Extension agents throughout the state. Attendees reported increasing their knowledge of resources and tools to help farmers and ranchers under stress and in mental health crisis.

Utah

AgrAbility of Utah staff met with staff from the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation on December 7 to address any barriers and learn more about each other's organization.

On December 15, AgrAbility of Utah staff presented at the 2023 pesticide safety education and applicator training in Brigham City, Utah and explained AgrAbility to the many northern Utah farmers and ranchers who attended.

Virginia

AgrAbility Virginia met many professionals at the Virginia Farm to Table Conferences during the month of December. The team tabled at three of the four sessions across the state, reaching 400+ people. [More](#)

Washington

Washington AgrAbility spent much of December continuing to attend conferences and share AgrAbility resources.

Emily Whittier, Washington AgrAbility co-coordinator, attended the Northwest Horticulture Expo and the Washington State Tree Fruit Association Annual Meeting in Kennewick, Washington. [More](#)

Debbie Fredricks and Alyssa Wade, Washington AgrAbility co-coordinators, attended and tabled at the Washington Dairy Federation Conference in Grand Mound, WA. [More](#)

Deb Eidsness, Washington AgrAbility co-coordinator, attended the Skagit Festival of the Family Farms to share AgrAbility resources.

International AgrAbility Network News

AgrAbility for Africa

AgrAbility for Africa staff met in Kampala, the capital of Uganda, on December 22nd. The gathering was composed of professionals from agriculture, rehabilitation-related organizations, and the farming community, all to contribute to short- and long-term strategic planning for 2024, and to enhance networking capacity. More than 75 advisors, consultants, farmers, and staff members participated.



Little success has been achieved in improving health information and knowledge penetration to farmers across Africa, at the cost of their quality of life. Many health conditions are still festering because sicknesses such as diabetes and lung cancer are still mistaken for harm caused through the use of supernatural powers.

Together with partners, AgrAbility for Africa staff is expanding and extending health and nutrition information to rural Africa in support of better personal care, early diagnosis, and treatment for different health conditions. [More](#)

StaffChanges and Recognition

Colorado

The Colorado AgrAbility Project (CAP) welcomed Natalie Bachmeier as its new coordinator. She was preceded by Ellis Vidmar, who played a pivotal role in advancing CAP's communications efforts throughout 2023. Natalie holds a master's degree in public health from the Colorado School of Public Health at CSU. She is dedicated to cultivating strong relationships and linking agricultural communities to the resources they need to be successful and thrive.



CAP is currently seeking a new supervisor to oversee program activities statewide. They encourage SRAPs to distribute the position announcement within their networks. Additional information is available [here](#).

Virginia

AgrAbility Virginia is excited to announce Roberto Franco as our new program coordinator. Roberto previously worked with AgrAbility Virginia on several projects and program initiatives in his role as a Virginia Tech PhD student. He recently served as our interim program coordinator since May 2023. We look forward to utilizing Roberto's ample experience and passion to assist farmers throughout Virginia and beyond!

AgrAbility in the News

Click titles below for news stories featuring AgrAbility projects .

- [What happens if you become disabled as a farmer or rancher?](#) (Nebraska AgrAbility)
- [Estate plans should account for disability](#) (Nebraska AgrAbility)

Other News

Click titles below for other news of interest to AgrAbility staff members.

- NAP is aware of two used trucks for sale: (1) a driver-side converted accessible pickup and (2) a flatbed pickup with a LifeLyfts lift. Contact Steve Swain for more information swainsj@purdue.edu .
- [AgriSafe's Talking Total Farmer Health Podcast: "Farm Safety Tips for Animal Handling." Episode 2](#)
- [2024 Farmer Veteran Fellowship Application Now Open](#)
- [10 Tips to Bulletproof Your Beef Operation](#)
- [PODCAST: Shave Hours off of Milking Shifts with Elsie Gonzalez Leach, Motiva Consulting](#)
- [Don't Let Cold Stress Freeze Cattle Performance this Winter](#)
- [USDA Now Accepting Applications for the 1890 National Scholars Program](#)
- [FFAR Grant Transforms Wastewater to Crop Fertilizer](#)
- [Application deadline approaching for specialty crop growers on-farm food safety expenses program](#)
- [USDA invests \\$3 million to provide risk management training to farmers, ranchers](#)
- [The laser scarecrows making starlings 'see red'](#)
- [New Ph.D. wants to gift the world with the ability to produce food in sandy soils](#)

Upcoming Events

[Click here for professional development events related to AgrAbility.](#)

Problems? Contact Chuck Baldwin, National AgrAbility Project, baldwi19@purdue.edu
[Unsubscribe from the e-Note](#)



January 2024

National AgrAbility Project

NTW Updates

Happy New Year! If you have been putting it off, make a resolution to start thinking about the NTW. Here are some things for you to do:



- Register for the NTW. You can click [HERE](#) to go to the NTW website. There you will find more detailed information. The registration link is on the registration tab.
- Reserve your hotel room. You can click [HERE](#) to go to the Hotel reservation page. You can also go to the hotel tab on the NTW website, there you will find more information and the link to reserve your room. The room block closes on February 24th, so don't miss out
- Do you know of someone that might like to be an exhibitor or a sponsor? Send them this [link](#) for the NTW website and tell them to click on Exhibitor or Sponsor tab, or send their contact information to Tess-tmckeel@goodwillfingerlakes.org
- Put together a SRAP raffle basket and/or collect auctions items. Both activities help us to bring farmer clients to the NTW. You can ship items ahead of time to Kyle Haney at 850 College Station Rd., Rivers Crossing Rm G46, Athens, GA 30602. Please indicate somewhere on the packaging that it is for the AgrAbility NTW auction or raffle basket and let Kyle know that an item is being shipped to him. Kyle's email is kyle.haney25@uga.edu

If you have any questions about the NTW, contact Tess at tmckeel@goodwillfingerlakes.org.

Submitted by Goodwill of the Finger Lakes

January 2024

Indiana

The Purdue University Extension Professional Development Conference (PDC) was held December 13-14 at the Tippecanoe County Fairgrounds Event Center in Lafayette, Indiana. This annual gathering brings together over 300 Extension professionals, including county Extension educators and campus-based specialists, to network and share experiences, programs, and ideas.



Several Indiana AgrAbility staff members participated in the event and had the opportunity to educate fellow Extension professionals about both state and national efforts to assist farm families impacted by disability. Latino Outreach Coordinator Kimber Nicoletti-Martinez discussed strategies to increase access to mental health services to farmworker communities in the post-COVID era. Another breakout session featured AT Specialist Steve Swain, NAP Project Manager Paul Jones, and Indiana and NAP Project Director Bill Field highlighting and demonstrating the impact of assistive technology. This session also included AgrAbility partner LifeLyfts which brought along a truck-mounted lift for Extension staff to try out. Ed Sheldon, extension outreach coordinator, presented a poster featuring the successful Legacy Innovation Farming Economics (LIFE) Project partnership to enhance services to socially disadvantaged audiences. In addition to the formal presentations, team members were able to visit personally with many Extension colleagues and distribute AgrAbility resources at a tabletop exhibit.

The conference provided a great chance for the Indiana team to introduce AgrAbility to newer Extension professionals, while also allowing the staff to re-connect with "veteran" Extension partners from throughout Indiana and other Purdue departments.

Submitted by Ed Sheldon

January 2024

Michigan



Michigan AgrAbility staff attended the Great Lakes Fruit and Vegetable Growers Expo (GLEXP0) in Grand Rapids. In addition to showcasing low-tech AT, they demonstrated Levitate and Laevo brand exoskeletons, which caught a lot of attention from attendees. [Ned Stoller is shown here](#) demonstrating pruning during the Expo. Davenport University occupational therapy students conducted arthritis screenings for over 50 attendees and handed out heating pads to help alleviate joint pain. AgrAbility also sponsored a session at the GLEXP0 about hiring and working with people on the autism spectrum.

Submitted by Samantha Wolfe

January 2024

Missouri

Mackenzie Beving, Madison Fowler, Allison Starke, and Will DiStefano, all doctoral occupational therapy students with the Department of Occupational Therapy developed "A Resource Guide for Healthcare Practitioners Working with the Agricultural Community" from the University of Missouri College of Health Sciences. Lea Ann Lowry served as capstone occupational therapy clinical professor while Karen Funkenbusch was their AgrAbility mentor. The publication will be shared in the February 2024 eNote.

Daniela Rodriguez, doctoral occupational therapy student, graduated in December 2023 from the Rehabilitation and Participation Science Program in Occupational Therapy from Washington University in St. Louis. She developed an AgrAbility resource for AgrAbility customers and their families. Karen Funkenbusch served as the AgrAbility mentor, and this publication will be shared in the February 2024 eNote.

What's the buzz? Missouri AgrAbility in partnership with the Heroes to Hives state chapter are working to set up their 4th apiary in St. Louis County to address financial and personal wellness of veterans through free professional training and community development centered around beekeeping. On-ground training will take place April-October at each of the accessible Heroes to Hives apiary sites.

Submitted by: Karen Funkenbusch

January 2024

Nebraska



In December, Nebraska AgrAbility hosted a booth at the [2023 Nebraska Ag Expo](#) at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln. The theme of the regional expo was "Where Agriculture Meetings Innovation" and spanned three days with over 800 exhibitors. Emily Jacobson, John Davis, and Heather Leuenberger represented Nebraska AgrAbility at the booth during the event. As a result of their outreach efforts, the team made connections with farmers and ranchers who are potential AgrAbility clients. Heather and John also had an opportunity to visit the Innovation

Hub at the event. The hub highlights the biggest innovations and newest technologies in agriculture. Heather said there were several innovative products featured that might benefit clients including a lighting system to let producers know when their grain bin was full, a hydraulic 5th wheel ball that eliminates the need to use a hand crank to position a trailer, and a remote control that can be used in a cab or out of a cab to control equipment.

Emily Jacobson attended the [Stand Up for Veterans event](#) held in Norfolk, Nebraska. This event is hosted by the local Elks Lodge. The event focused on reaching all veterans in the area to provide them with important information and services. Emily engaged in important conversations and learned of new resources that could be utilized by clients.

Submitted by Soni Cochran

January 2024

Tennessee

Happy 2024 from TN AgrAbility!



Tennessee AgrAbility ended 2023 with a special assistive technology delivery to a Hawkins County farmer, Vernon Goad. A special thank-you to Michael Boucher with All Things Terrain in Georgia who drove up on a cold, rainy day to deliver an Action Trackstander to Mr. Goad. The accident Mr. Goad was involved in was assisting a neighbor cut down a tree. A tree limb fell and struck him, injuring cervical vertebrae 3-7. The tree fell and kicked back knocking him off his feet and down a hill. The "whiplash" effect during the fall caused a bone spur to pierce his spinal cord. It caused significant spinal cord damage and his life changed forever that day. Brenda, Mr. Goad's niece, learned about AgrAbility and contacted TNAP to see if any assistance might be available. The TN AgrAbility team worked with TN State Vocational Rehabilitation Services to help Mr. Goad with a self-employment business plan since he had been a career truck driver prior to his accident. The assistive technology tool Action Trackstander was funded by the TN State Vocational Rehabilitation Services. It will help him with mobility around his hilly farm with his horses, hay farming, and horse boarding. Mr. Goad was very grateful to everyone who helped make it possible and is so happy to have the ability to "stand" again as needed and enjoy being outside and independent on his farm.

TN AgrAbility nonprofit partner, The STAR Center, celebrated the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3. The STAR Center stands for inclusivity and empowerment for individuals with disabilities. STAR believes that every person, regardless of ability, can thrive and live a meaningful life. STAR wishes to exemplify the spirit of this global observance by championing inclusiveness, breaking down barriers, and embracing the unique strengths of every individual through helping them [#CrushTheNO](#) every single day!

December brought another fantastic day of grain bin safety/rescue awareness training and hands-on demonstrations in collaboration with TN AgrAbility and Brian Robinson with the amazing team at the TN Association of Rescue Squads! Thank you to all the volunteers and rescue personnel who save lives and give so freely of their time. Sixty rescue personnel, ag producers, and UT TSU Extension agents attended this event.



Big thank you to the team at Jay Moser's farm, the Morristown Crewetts for a delicious lunch, and the UT/TSU Extension friends in Hamblen, Jefferson, Cocke, Hawkins, Grainger, and Greene Counties. Always "Stop. Think. Be Safe."



TNAP staff participated in the 102nd TN Farm Bureau annual convention trade show with displays for TN AgrAbility and SAgE (Southern Ag Exchange Network). Staff spoke with an estimated 100+ farmers, women in ag, and youths that attended the trade show. The picture shows two TN Farm Bureau Women in Ag participants exchanging ideas on assistive technology and nutrition ideas that will help with their immune system. (TNAP staff was eavesdropping)

January 2024

Texas

Texas AgrAbility collaborated with West Texas A&M University (WTAMU) engineering capstone students to fabricate a tractor lift for a central Texas cattle producer. The client has an above the knee amputation and utilizes his tractor for numerous tasks around his ranch. Texas AgrAbility did a farm visit and recommended that the client utilize a lift. Staff then reached out to WTAMU professor Dr. Joshua Partheepan who coordinated a student project to address the client's needs. The students met with AgrAbility, an OT, and the client to discuss needed features for the lift. They then proposed three different lift options and selected the option that best fits the needs of the client. The students then built the lift themselves and brought it to North Zulch, Texas, to install. The client now has a working lift that he utilizes on his operation, and the students have an unforgettable learning experience.



Submitted by Makenzie Thomas

January 2023

Virginia

AgrAbility Virginia met many professionals at the Virginia Farm to Table Conferences during the month of December. The team tabled at three of the four sessions across the state, reaching 400+ people. Furthermore, AgrAbility Virginia is working with 37 open farmer client cases. One farmer is working with AgrAbility, DARS, and Wilson Workforce and Rehabilitation Center (WWRC) to obtain solutions for livestock management and various farm implement assistive technologies.

Submitted by Leslie Lawrence

January 2024

Washington

Emily Whittier, Washington AgrAbility co-coordinator, attended the Northwest Horticulture Expo and the Washington State Tree Fruit Association Annual Meeting in Kennewick, Washington. It is the largest tree fruit educational gathering, and between the exposition floor and classes, draws over 2,000 industry professionals. Many attendees were very excited to talk about AgrAbility and to learn about the lending library and other resources available to them.

Debbie Fredricks and Alyssa Wade, Washington AgrAbility co-coordinators, attended and tabled at the Washington Dairy Federation Conference in Grand Mound, WA. They met many farmers and others working in the dairy industry who were very interested in both the AgrAbility and the farm stress program. They look forward to creating partnerships in the future. Debbie also met with members of her local city council to discuss AgrAbility and farm stress

Submitted by Alyssa Wade

January 2024

AgrAbility for Africa



Together with partners, AgrAbility for Africa staff is expanding and extending health and nutrition information to rural Africa in support of better personal care, early diagnosis, and treatment for different health conditions. These efforts sometimes relate directly to lifestyle improvement, such as encouraging clean energy to prevent smoke inhalation from

cooking on firewood, which is the most common cooking fuel source. Using firewood for cooking increases the risk of lung cancer and other respiratory conditions, and it can expose girls to sexual harassment while they are collecting wood in the wild.



Submitted by Mutumba Faisal

December 2024

Upcoming Events

Name New Battleground to Breaking Ground Phase 1 Course
Dates Rolling admission
City, State Online
Contact Info/Web link <https://agrilifelearn.tamu.edu/s/product/new-phase-1-battleground-to-breaking-ground/01t4x000002ciNKAAAY>

Name Fort Wayne Farm Show
Dates January 16-18, 2024
City, State Fort Wayne, Indiana
Contact Info/Web link <https://www.tradexpos.com/fort-wayne-farm-show/>

Name American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Healing Conversations: Healing Resources for Individuals Impacted by Suicide Loss
Dates January 17, 2024 1:00 - 2:00 EST
City, State Webinar Online
Contact Info/Web link <https://www.agrisafe.org/event/webinar-american-foundation-for-suicide-preventions-healing-conversations-healing-resources-for-individuals-impacted-by-suicide-loss/>

Name QPR for Farmers and Farm Families Virtual Training
Dates January 17, 2024 1:00 - 2:30 EST
City, State Virtual Training - Online
Contact Info/Web link <https://www.agrisafe.org/courses/qpr/>

Name Preventing Workplace Violence for Forestry Workers
Dates January 18, 2024 1:00 - 2:00p.m. EST
City, State Webinar Online
Contact Info/Web link <http://tinyurl.com/mrydhzda>

Name What Does Postvention Following a Suicide Look Like?
Dates January 24 @ 11:00 am CST. (*This webinar will be live only, and will not be recorded.)
City, State Webinar Online

Contact Info/Web link <https://www.agrisafe.org/event/webinar-what-does-postvention-following-a-suicide-look-like/>

Name Great Lakes Crop Summit

Dates January 24-25, 2024

City, State Mount Pleasant, Michigan

Contact Info/Web link <https://www.greatlakescropsummit.com/>

Name Farm Family Health & Wellness Program

Dates January 25, February 8, February 22, March 7, March 21, 2024

City, State Webinar Series Online

Contact Info/Web link <https://fcs.tennessee.edu/mffhw/>

Talking About Ticks: Lyme Disease

Dates January 31, 2024 from 1:00 - 2:00p.m. EST

City, State Webinar Online

Contact Info/Web link https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sl-sxXdUQ9eMfSncqXtoSQ#/registration

Name Onward to Orlando 2024 CATTLECON

Dates January 31 - February 2, 2024

City, State Orlando, Florida

Contact Info/Web link <https://convention.ncba.org/>

Name 2024 Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference

Dates February 8-9, 2023

City, State Mt. Pleasant, Michigan

Contact Info/Web link <https://www.glrdc.org/>

Name World Ag Expo

Dates February 13-15, 2024

City, State Tulare, California

Contact Info/Web link <https://www.worldagexpo.com/>

Name AOTA INSPIRE 2024 Annual Conference

Dates March 21-23, 2024

City, State Orlando, Florida

**Contact
Info/Web
link** <https://inspire.aota.org/>

Name AgrAbility National Training Workshop

Dates March 15-18, 2024

City, State Atlanta, Georgia

**Contact
Info/Web
link** <http://www.agrability.org/agrability-national-training-workshop/2024-agrability-national-training-workshop/>

Name 2024 Midwest Stream Forum for Agricultural Worker Health

Dates April 16-18, 2024

City, State Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Contact
Info/Web
link** <https://www.ncfh.org/midwest-stream-forum.html>