



Fact Sheet

Promoting Independence in Agriculture

Workshops

The Colorado AgrAbility Project educates farm and ranch families affected by disabilities about physical, emotional and cognitive issues they may be facing. One way this is done is through annual workshops.

Overview of Workshops

- Every year between November and February, Colorado AgrAbility provides free educational workshops throughout Colorado for farmers, ranchers and their families who are dealing with disabilities and for professionals who work with or may come into contact with these groups.
- Between 15 and 16 workshops are held each year in central locations throughout Colorado.
- The workshops provide information about Colorado AgrAbility and the services it provides, ways to adapt farm and ranch operations to accommodate issues that arise from disabilities, and an informal question-and-answer session.
- Each workshop is offered in two sessions. The first session is tailored to farmers, ranchers and their families who may be facing challenges due to a disability but want to continue or start farming and ranching. The second session is tailored to professionals who work or come into contact with disabled farmers, ranchers and their families.
- The half-day workshops for farmers, ranchers and their family members are generally held in the morning. The half-day workshops for professionals are generally held in the afternoon.

Workshop Topics

- Topics of the annual workshops are tailored toward specific disabilities that are commonly seen in the farming and ranching community as well as information about helpful resources. Past workshops have addressed topics such as arthritis, social security, estate planning, back injury education, and ranching with diabetes.
- Colorado AgrAbility workshops offered in 2007 will focus on the topic of back injury prevention and impairment education.

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Eligibility and Cost

- Any farmer, rancher or family member with a disability is eligible to attend the workshops no matter how the disability occurred. Any type of physical, cognitive or illness-related disability qualifies, such as amputations, arthritis, back pain, cancer, diabetes, spinal cord injuries and brain injuries.
- Any professional who may work with or want to help farmers, ranchers or family members is welcome to attend the workshops. Past workshops have been attended by professionals in occupational and physical therapy, nursing home and assisted living centers, local law enforcement, road and bridge services, chiropractics, health care services and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- The workshops are provided at no cost to disabled farmers, ranchers and their families or to the professionals who wish to attend.

For More Information

- For more information about Colorado AgrAbility and the annual workshops, contact Robert Fetsch, Colorado AgrAbility Project Director, at 970.491.5648 or fetsch@cahs.colostate.edu.

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