



THE BALING WIRE

Spring 2005 Edition

ATV or UTV

Versatility in Mobility

A serious injury or illness can sometimes affect a person's mobility and make it difficult to complete the tasks that were once easy to do. Conditions affecting mobility include chronic back pain or arthritis in the knees which makes walking long distances difficult or painful. Health conditions like MS or diabetes can affect leg strength, also making walking difficult. When you no longer are able to walk long distances, tasks like checking cattle, mending fence, or inspecting crop conditions become a challenge.

With the explosion of the utility and all-terrain vehicle market many people are using these machines to cut down on walking. If you think an ATV/UTV might be right for you here are some basic thoughts to keep in mind:



**Honda
FourTrax
Foreman ATV
MSRP \$5,399**

ATV

- ATVs are "rider-active machines" and riders must be able to shift their body weight to balance the machine as riding maneuvers and terrain dictate.
- The rider must be able to swing his leg over and straddle the seat in order to get onto/off of the machine.
- The rider must be able to hold onto the handlebars in order to steer the machine. The rider must also be able to



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Colorado AgrAbility Works!

Promoting success in agriculture for people with disabilities

Providing "on the farm" visits at no charge to the family

Making assistive technology recommendations to live and work more productively

Providing peer support resources

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AgrAbility Baling Wire



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operate the twist throttle and brake lever on the handlebars to control the machine.

- Typically ATVs are not designed to run accessories like loaders and mowers even when these accessories are available.
- ATVs are designed for single riders. It is never safe to carry an extra rider.



**Kawasaki Mule
610 UTV
MSRP \$6,699**

UTV

- UTV's are typically heavier and sturdier than ATVs. They do not require the driver to shift body weight as much.

- The rider must be able to sit in a bench or bucket type seat.
- The rider must be able to operate the gas and brake pedals with their feet and turn a steering wheel. However, in most UTV's, modifications like hand controls can be added to operate the brake and gas.
- Typically options can be put on UTV's in order to operate accessories.
- Most UTV's are designed so that multiple riders can ride together safely.

The best way to decide which type of machine will best meet your needs is to make a list of what tasks you intend to complete with it. Keeping these things in mind, talk to a local dealership about which type of machine will best meet those needs. Once you decide on the type of machine you will have plenty of choices between different makes and models. Visit a couple dealerships to see what each has to offer. If possible, take a couple of test rides on different models to see which one you like best.

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Colorado AgrAbility is a joint program between Colorado State University Cooperative Extension and Colorado Easter Seals. The goal of AgrAbility is to maximize independence of farmers, ranchers, and their families who are facing new obstacles due to injury, illness, or normal wear and tear on the body by providing services, information and education.

Please contact us at:

Colorado AgrAbility	800-335-2598 toll-free
Easter Seals Colorado	303-937-7713 ext. 224
5755 W. Alameda Ave.	303-232-5685 TTY/ASCHI
Lakewood, CO 80226	303-233-1028 fax

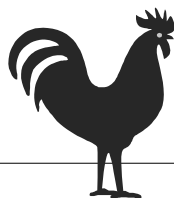




AgrAbility Workshops 2004

The 2004 winter AgrAbility workshops were a great success this year! We would like to say thank you to all extension agents who worked with us in putting these events together. 100 professionals and 40 farmers and ranchers were in attendance at the 8 statewide workshops. Information was given to participants on Social Security disability work incentives, back injury prevention/safety, and Medicare and Medicaid.

Please join us for our next workshop series coming Fall 2005!



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ATV or UTV

If you would like to speak to an AgrAbility staff member more about what to consider when thinking about purchasing an ATV or UTV please call:

1-800-335-2598 x224.



Neighbor to Neighbor

Have you ever wished you could talk or visit with someone else who has a similar disability or situation? Sometimes just having someone else to listen, someone who has been through similar tough times can help lift your spirits and let you know that you're not alone

If you'd like to talk with another Colorado farmer, rancher, or caregiver with a disability who has been trained to provide peer support, AgrAbility will match your needs with the names and telephone numbers of two or three people who might be most like the kind of folks you'd like to talk or visit with.

Call Bob Fetsch at Colorado State Cooperative Extension at 970-491-5648 and leave a message with your telephone number.

Special Thanks

AgrAbility would like to thank the Kiewet Foundation for their contribution of \$2,500. Thanks to this generous donation, Colorado's farm and ranch families will have access to assistive technology; greatly improving their quality of life.

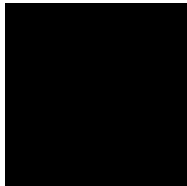
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Creating solutions, changing lives.

Easter Seals Colorado
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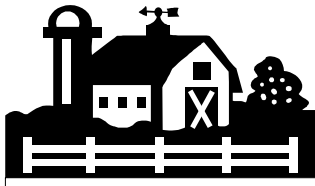
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Equipment Corner

We have a few items in our loan closet here at Easter Seals which you may benefit from or someone you know. Please call us at 1-800-335-2598 x224 and ask for Jason if you are interested in any item listed below.

- Shower Benches
- (2) Walkers
- Toilet Risers
- Child-size Scooter
- Stair Glide System
- Child-size Wheelchair

We are always looking for items in good condition such as shower/bath bench seats and other durable medical equipment. Let us know if you would like to donate.

