

Did You Know?

Nationally, nearly 300,000 farm and ranch workers between the ages of 15 and 79 have a disability.

More than 17,000 Oklahomans working in agriculture report having an impairment that limits their ability to perform essential farm tasks.

The Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service has offices in all 77 counties. This enhances Oklahoma State University's Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources commitment to Oklahoma communities as county-based Extension educators work side-by-side with residents to address local issues and concerns.

The Oklahoma Assistive Technology Foundation (OkAT) serves as the non-profit disability partner for Oklahoma AgrAbility, with services provided by Oklahoma ABLE Tech (Oklahoma's Assistive Technology Act Program).

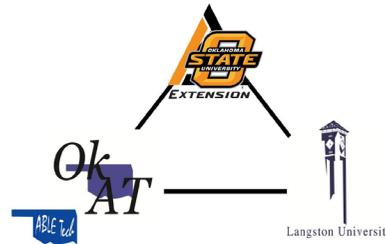
Langston University School of Physical Therapy focuses on educating future physical therapists who will work with under-served populations to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities through the provision of quality healthcare. Langston University also created the first Doctor of Physical Therapy program in Oklahoma.



How Can You Support AgrAbility?

OkAT, the non-profit disability partner of AgrAbility, accepts tax deductible donations to sustain program activities. Donations are applied toward assistive technologies for individuals with disabilities who desire to continue their participation in agriculture.

Oklahoma AgrAbility Partners



Oklahoma State University
Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service
Oklahoma Assistive Technology Foundation
With services by: Oklahoma ABLE Tech
Langston University School of Physical Therapy

For More Information

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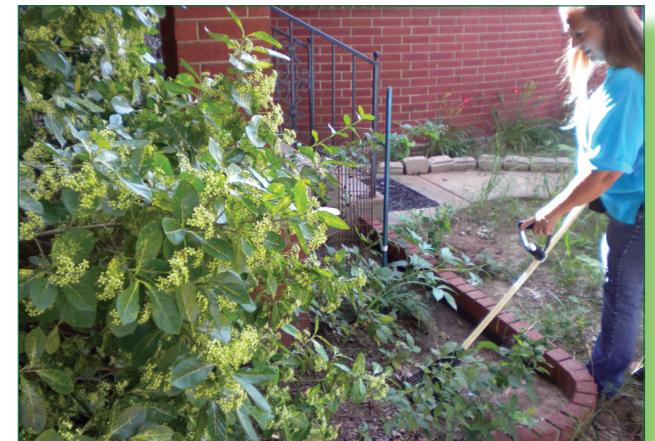
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Oklahoma AgrAbility

Cultivating Accessible Agriculture



*Serving Oklahoma Farmers and Ranchers
Living with a Disability
Since 2002*



Shaping Futures Through Oklahoma Tradition

AgrAbility Assists Oklahomans

The Oklahoma AgrAbility Project, established in 2002, supports the rehabilitation and assistive technology needs of Oklahoma farmers, ranchers and their families who have been impacted by disabilities and face barriers to continued participation in agriculture.

Oklahoma AgrAbility provides education, networking and direct service to create awareness of state and local services and modifications for farms, homes, equipment and work sites.

The Project maintains working relationships with the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services and other state AgrAbility projects to provide educational programs for health care providers. Additional contacts with service providers, member organizations and state agencies are established and sustained through the Oklahoma AgrAbility Advisory Council.

The Oklahoma Project is one of 24 states participating in the AgrAbility Project funded by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The National Project was created in the 1990 Farm Bill and provides state projects with training, technical assistance and information about available resources to help people with disabilities employed in agriculture.



"This cart has been such a blessing! It gives us quick access to all areas of our farm."

David and Dianne

AgrAbility Services Available



Through three priorities, the Oklahoma AgrAbility Project strives to provide education, networking and direct service in an effort to support farmers, ranchers and their families with disabilities.

Education: Involve community members and professionals to better understand how to accommodate farm, ranch and home needs for agricultural families in need of service.

Networking: Expand the program through mutually sharing information and resources with individuals and organizations.

Direct Service: Assist farmers, ranchers and their families, on-site or by phone, with immediate needs that will allow them to continue to farm or ranch successfully.



Eligibility for Services

AgrAbility can assist any Oklahoman with a disability who is engaged in farming, ranching or in any other agriculture-related occupation.

Some disabilities may be present at birth, while others may be the result of accidents, illness or age-related conditions. Such conditions may include:

- arthritis
- amputation
- back pain
- cancer
- cardiac conditions
- cerebral palsy
- chronic pain
- diabetes
- head trauma
- hearing impairment
- mental disorders
- multiple sclerosis
- muscular dystrophy
- post-polio syndrome
- respiratory condition
- spinal cord injury
- stroke
- vision impairment



Assistive Technology in Agriculture

Adjustments are made daily on farms and ranches to facilitate independent living and working. Assistive technology includes any of these adaptations:

- lifts to provide access to equipment
- tools that can be used with one hand
- hand controls or lever extensions for operating equipment with minimal force
- adapted hitches to make attaching field equipment less challenging