

TEXAS AGRABILITY

ABOUT

The **Texas AgrAbility program** helps farmers and ranchers with disabling or chronic health conditions to start or stay engaged in agriculture operations. The program offers one-on-one consultations, referrals to resources, assistive equipment recommendations, and assessments. **Since 2012, 70% of AgrAbility clients have been military veterans.** The program provides education through the BattleGround to Breaking Ground workshop and online courses.

Farmers & Ranchers



Individuals with Disabilities
& Health Conditions



Family Members of
Farmers, Ranchers
& Farmworkers



Service Providers of
farmers and individuals
with disabilities



Relevance

Agriculture ranks in the top 5 dangerous occupations, with an estimated 50,000 Texas farmers and ranchers living with a disability or chronic health condition. Disabling conditions such as arthritis, joint injuries, traumatic brain injuries, back injuries, and cardiovascular conditions impact a farmer or ranchers ability to perform many of the tasks necessary for their occupation.

Rural health providers often lack the necessary resources to effectively serve the agriculture

community. Studies show that occupational therapists have limited knowledge about working with farmers and ranchers with disabilities, which can prevent them from providing important resources. To provide quality care to rural agriculture workers, it's essential to offer resources such as ergonomics, farm safety, and mental health support.

RESPONSE

Texas AgrAbility addresses these issues by conducting farm and ranch assessments for clients, making recommendations for assistive technology and equipment modifications, connecting clients to direct services organizations such as Vocational Rehabilitation, and connecting to additional resources that provide assistance. It also provides education and training in farm safety, mental health, ergonomics, resource for women in agriculture, and referral to direct disability and community support services for farmers and their families.

Texas AgrAbility was funded through a **\$735,360 four-year grant from USDA NIFA** to continue assisting farmers and ranchers with disabilities.

Services will be expanded in the areas of women in agriculture, mental health, and rural health providers.



2022 RESULTS



150

EDUCATIONAL CONTACT HOURS
THROUGH ONLINE COURSES

370



OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS
EDUCATED ON SERVICES
AVAILABLE TO FARMERS AND
RANCHERS WITH DISABILITIES.

FEATURED AT



2 NATIONAL
CONFERENCES

PROVIDING DIRECT
EDUCATION TO OVER



150 INDIVIDUALS

40



MIGRANT AND SEASONAL
FARMWORKER SERVICE
PROVIDERS EDUCATED WITH A
4 OUT OF 5 SATISFACTION RATE.

TESTIMONIALS

"The steering wheel knob you recommended for my tractor and quad is so awesome. I know I've told you this before but every day I drive I'm thankful for it. It was on my mind just yesterday when I was doing some work. It makes life a lot easier on my hands and you did that! Thanks again"

"The team at AgrAbility was a big help to my Farm and Ranch business and the All-Terrain Ranger, literally put me "Back In The Saddle" again, enabling me to sell more than one large ranch this year, the last one being a 500 acre ranch near Crockett."

"When y'all came out, I thought it was great. Things that had been bothering me that I thought I would just put up with because I'm old, it hurts, and its going to hurt anyway... well it doesn't have to hurt."

"With my tractor modifications, I can now go home and get back to being active taking care of my land."

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

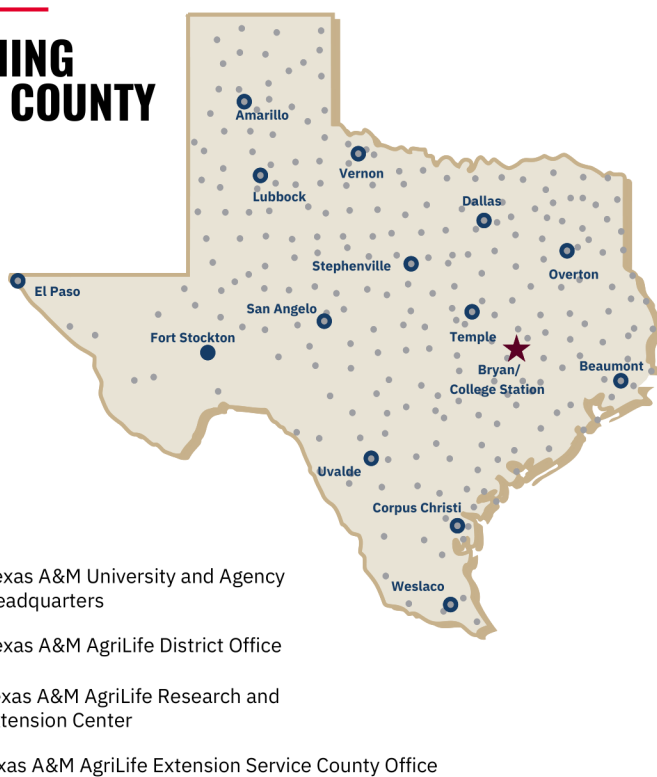
Advancing the Health of All Texans through Extension Education

AgrLife Extension's FCH Unit helps Texans better their lives through science-based educational programs designed to improve the overall health and wellness of individuals, families, and communities.

The goal of FCH is to encourage lifelong health and well-being for every person, family, and community.

Programs are developed by subject matter experts (Specialists) and delivered throughout the state by a network of local educators (County Extension Agents) and volunteers with support and leadership from Regional Program Leaders, Unit Heads, and the Extension Leadership Team.

REACHING EVERY COUNTY



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