Throughout 2016, [AgrAbility](http://www.agrability.org/) is commemorating 25 years of helping people in agriculture overcome their disabilities so they can continue to work and remain productive.

AgrAbility, first authorized in the 1990 farm bill but with funding appropriations beginning in 1991, started with eight state projects and has grown to 20 this year along with six previously funded affiliate projects. Each project involves collaboration between a land-grant university and at least one nonprofit disability services organization.

The vision of AgrAbility is to enhance quality of life for farmers, ranchers, and other agricultural workers with disabilities. Through education and assistance, AgrAbility helps to eliminate - or at least minimize - obstacles that inhibit success in production agriculture or agriculture-related occupations.

A "25 Years, 25 Stories" initiative highlights 25 of the thousands of stories of how AgrAbility has improved the lives of people around the country and even in other nations. The stories are being released throughout the year through AgrAbility's Facebook page and Twitter account. Some include links to videos related to the stories. Each story is also being posted on a dedicated page at [www.agrability.org/25years](http://www.agrability.org/25years/).

The stories and other program-related information have been assembled in a 25th anniversary summary, which is available in print and electronic formats. Contact [agrability@agrability.org](mailto:agrability@agrability.org) to obtain a copy. Similar reports are available for AgrAbility's fifth, 10th and 20th anniversaries.

Bill Field, professor of agricultural and biological engineering at Purdue, has been a leader in AgrAbility since its inception. He has seen the program grow from model projects in a few states to an internationally recognized source of resources for farmers, ranchers and their families who are called to agriculture despite physical and mental limitations.

"The primary limiting factor for these individuals is not the lack of technology but rather the attitudes of those around them that create unnecessary barriers to success," Field said. "AgrAbility seeks to remove those barriers through its emphasis on what is possible rather than what is not."