



Helping Farm Families in Crisis

Farm Rescue®

Is Coming To Iowa!



In Heritage Iron issue # 16, you were introduced to an organization created to help farm families experiencing crises. Farm Rescue was founded in 2006 to give a helping hand to those in need of planting and harvesting assistance in ND, SD, MN and MT. This fall will mark two milestones for the ND based non-profit organization. Farm Rescue will be assisting its 200th family and they have just announced that they will launch operations in the state of Iowa.

Life can drastically change in the blink of an eye as it did for Russell Carlson. July 26 started our like any other day on the third generation Carlson farm. The spring winds had caused a couple of sheets of tin to loosen on the pole shed so Russell decided to fix them before they were ripped off. He leaned his aluminum extension ladder against the shed and climbed to the top, like he'd done many times before. Fourteen-feet in the air, the locks broke on the upper extension. The top of the ladder immediately dropped and Russell's foot got caught between the rungs of the ladder as it collapsed. Falling upside down and then backwards to the ground, Russell lay there unable to move. Within a few seconds, Russell had become paralyzed from the chest down.

Situations like this can be devastating to the financial well-being of a farming

operation. The wheat crop would soon be ready and there was no way that Russell was going to be running a combine this harvest season.

Into the picture enters Farm Rescue whose motto is "helping farm families in crisis." Tragedies aren't planned. They happen in the least expected moment. For farm families, this could mean the end of an era or the end of life as they know it. Because farming isn't just a job; it's a way of life. Thanks to the assistance provided by Farm Rescue, families are able to bridge the crisis so they have an opportunity to continue viable operations for future generations.

Farm Rescue is a non-profit organization that plants and harvest crops free of charge for farm families facing unexpected crises resulting from major injury, illness or natural disaster. One of the biggest financial drains on a family is an unexpected medical injury, illness or a natural disaster. It is even more pronounced on a farm where a family's livelihood depends on the ability to plant or harvest a crop. Farm Rescue gives families a chance to continue their livelihood by providing the necessary equipment and manpower to plant or harvest their crops, free of charge.

Founded by UPS pilot, Bill Gross, this group consists of a dedicated army

of volunteers who travel from farm to farm to give a helping hand in a time of need. Using all John Deere equipment supplied by exclusive equipment sponsor, RDO Equipment Company, the organization has already assisted nearly 200 families who have experienced an unexpected crisis.

Moving into the state of Iowa is a big step for Farm Rescue. Since the organization receives no government funding, it's up to dedicated sponsors to keep the big wheels rolling through the fields. The move to Iowa was made possible by the generosity of sponsors like RDO Equipment Company, Walmart, Pizza Ranch, Stine Seed Company, Wilson Trailer, Key Cooperative, ClearChannel Outdoor, BNSF, ADM, Answer Plot and Farm Credit Services of America.

Farmers are hard-working, proud and independent; but sometimes even the strongest people can be brought to their knees. In that time of need, Farm Rescue is there to give a helping hand. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance for the 2012 harvest in Iowa or even in one of the already established states that Farm Rescue covers, please contact Farm Rescue. Applying is easy and confidential. There is no cost.

If you want to know more about Farm Rescue, its mission, how you can help or you need help, visit their website at:

www.farmrescue.org

or give them a call at:

701-252-2017

