



[Home](#) / [News](#) / [People and Industry](#)

Farm Rescue plants soybeans for Drake farmer



Farm & Ranch Guide

The wind was kicking up dust as the Farm Rescue team was planting soybeans on the Myron Blumhagen farm near Drake, N.D., however rain was in the forecast, which added more urgency to getting the soybeans planted that day.

May 26, 2015 8:30 am • [Dale Hildebrant, Farm & Ranch Guide](#)

[\(0\) Comments](#)

DRAKE, N.D. – May 5 was the first day soybeans could be planted in the Drake area, according to crop insurance regulations, and that day found the Farm Rescue planting team putting in soybeans on the Myron Blumhagen farm.

Blumhagen was a recent addition to the Farm Rescue help list after he fell from a pole barn roof on April 21 and broke his back. Farm Rescue ended up planting around 300 acres of soybeans that day and Blumhagen was very appreciative of that effort.

“It’s been really great having family, neighbors and friends coming and helping, but when Farm Rescue came it was almost like God’s angels coming in and helping,” Blumhagen said. “These are people who are donating their time and talents for people they don’t even know. They were just tremendous about wanting to do things right and not just go through the motions. I can’t say enough good about the volunteers who were here.”

This particular day the volunteer list included three individuals from corporate John Deere in the Quad Cities, two of whom were retired. Ken Enstrom was one of those retired individuals spending a couple weeks helping with Farm Rescue, and was thoroughly enjoying his trip to North Dakota.

“I’ve been retired for about five years now, and a lot of the stuff I was working on with some of the technology is now all out there,” Enstrom said. “So it is kind of fun for me to see some of the stuff

that we were developing is now here and I get to go play with it a little bit.

“And it is so nice to see RDO doing what they are doing to help make the Farm Rescue program a success.”

RDO furnishes all of the farm equipment used in the Farm Rescue program, but the total list of sponsors is a long list – which surprised Blumhagen.

“I’ve tried to see the different logos of those companies that are contributing to Farm Rescue, and there are several that I wasn’t even aware of,” he said. “I really appreciate the sponsors of Farm Rescue and I absolutely will do more business with those who sponsor Farm Rescue if I can.”

One of the Farm Rescue Foundation directors, Shaun Sipma, was also on site that day. He does some volunteer work for Farm Rescue as well and noted that this spring has been phenomenal as far as getting field work done compared to the last couple years.

“Last year the planting season drug on for two and a half months, so it’s nice to be having a normal spring this year, whatever that is anymore,” Sipma said.

Sipma started volunteering with Farm Rescue in 2006, the first year the organization started helping farmers. At that time they had four volunteers and just offered planting help. Two years later the organization had grown enough that they started to offer harvest help, and last year they added help with haying operations to their list of services. They have grown to the point that this year they have three different planting units rolling across the region.

To date, Sipma said over 300 different farm families have been helped and the organization continues to grow, not only in the number of people helped and the services offered, but in the financial support Farm Rescue receives from a growing number of sponsors.

“The founder of Farm Rescue, Bill Gross, has a good working relationship with our major sponsors,” Sipma said. “It’s almost like a self-feeding machine now, but it takes constant maintenance to keep it running, as soon as the work falls out of the public eye people seem to forget. That’s why we continue to encourage the media to pick up stories like what we are doing here today.”

Sipma noted applications are currently being taken for haying and harvest help later this summer. Those application forms are on the Farm Rescue website: www.farmrescue.org. In addition, an application for assistance from the Farm Rescue Foundation is also on that site.

For those wishing to plot the progress of Farm Rescue during the summer a map of assistance is also on their web page, along with other information on the organization and how people can contribute financially or volunteer their time for field operations.

Copyright 2015 Farm and Ranch Guide. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Tags [Farm Rescue](#), [Volunteer](#), [Myron Blumhagen](#), [John Deere](#), [Ken Enstrom](#), [Rdo](#), [Shaun Sipma](#), [Bill Gross](#)

More People And Industry Stories



[NDFU Kerzman passes away](#)



[Case-IH dealership celebrates 100 years](#)

[African Bakers Learn More about How Soy Aids in Fight Against Malnutrition](#)



[Gross awarded Honorary Doctorate degree from UND](#)

