

Farm Rescue once again aids a local farm family

Farm Rescue has once again come to the aid of a Roberts County farm family in need. A crew arrived this past week to plant 900 acres of corn at the Dave and Cindy Argo farm south of Peever.

Farm Rescue is a non-profit organization based in Jamestown, ND. Volunteers plant and/or harvest crops free of charge for farm families in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Montana that have suffered a major illness, injury or natural disaster which has rendered them unable to get their crops in or out of the field. Keeping family farms up and running is the goal.

Farming has long been a family business for the Argos. Dave and Cindy Argo, who farm along with Dave's brother and his wife, Dale and Tammy Argo, also run a 300 cow operation. Dave and Dale are the sons of Art Argo Sr.

Dave Argo qualified for assistance due to illness. He began feeling sick last fall and

initially started seeing doctors in Watertown. He was eventually referred to Fargo and was diagnosed with diverticulitis. Recent surgery to remove 10" of his colon has left him unable to attend to farm work during his recovery.

As its name implies, Farm Rescue is providing just the timely help Dave Argo needs. Assistance was secured through an application process, and Argos were required to have the land pre-worked for planting.

Farm Rescue crews operate using three sets of equipment, with RDO Equipment Co. as the main sponsor of the equipment, most of which is a year old. The crew at the Argo farm has worked in North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota. Crew members include Jim Whitman of Fargo, a retired farmer and former crop sprayer whose family still farms; Charlie Hardie of Wahpeton, also a retired farmer as well as owner of a John Deere muse-



Volunteer Charlie Hardie stands next to the Farm Rescue truck at the Dave and Cindy Argo farm. The non-profit organization is dedicated to "Helping Family Famers in Crisis."
~ Courier Photos

um called Charlie's Green-Acres Museum in Fairmount, ND; and J.R. Rutledge of Peach Tree, GA.

Founded in 2005 by Bill Gross, Farm Rescue has helped 160 farm families as of last year. Nine more this spring brings the total to 169. The organization has two paid office workers who are based

in Jamestown, Rita Jarrett and Calli Stoudt. The non-profit is funded entirely through grants, sponsorships from businesses and organizations, and individual donations.

For more information on Farm Rescue, or to apply for assistance or become involved as a donor or volunteer, visit the website at farmrescue.org.



Farm Rescue volunteers plant corn at the Dave and Cindy Argo farm south of Peever.

