



Farm Rescue used this John Deere equipment to seed Larry Leier's field.

## Farm Rescue assists Leier family with field work

By Chad Schumacher

Farm Rescue volunteers traveled to Larry Leier's farm in the Hague area to assist him with some of his spring planting work.

Farm Rescue is a non-profit organization which provides planting and harvesting assistance for family farmers who are in a crisis due to major injury, illness or natural disaster.

The organization is funded by donations, grants and sponsors. The contributions are used to pay for the many costs of planting and harvesting a crop.

The organization was founded by Bill Gross, of Cleveland, N.D., in 2006.

Farm Rescue helps farmers in North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and western Minnesota. They currently have helped 133 farmers in those four states with field work.

The organization will plant or harvest up to 1,000 acres for each farmer. Farm Rescue planted 165 acres of spring wheat for Leier.

The organization provides volunteers and the equipment for the farmer, but the farmer is responsible for providing some fuel for the tractor, fertilizer and seed.

Farm Rescue came to the farm to assist Larry and Rosalind Leier because they have two children, Nathan and Alissa, with Friedreich's Ataxia, a rare inherited, progressive nervous system disorder.

The workers who volunteered their time to assist the Leiers included Dave Sette from Grafton, Wis., Dave Hertl from Chandler, Ariz., RDO representative and volunteer Brian Verkuehlen from Casselton and Gross.



Many volunteers came to the farm to help the Larry and Rosalind family. Pictured are, left right, Nathan Leier, Nancy Leier, RDO worker and volunteer Brian Verkuehlen, Larry Leier, volunteer Dave Hertl, Farm Rescue founder Bill Gross and volunteer Dave Sette.



These men check the seed to make sure it is deep enough in the ground and that everything is looking good. They are, left to right, Dave Hertl, Brian Verkuehlen, Larry Leier and Bill Gross.



