

Bovine Emergency Response Plan (BERP) Training for First Responders: Learning and Application for Community Responders and Emergency Plans



Purpose

Animals in highway accidents can injure themselves or the humans trying to rescue them. Accident reports on 415 commercial livestock truck accidents were tabulated during a 13-year period in the United States and Canada. Livestock can escape and interfere with highway traffic. First responders, humane agents and animal health workers need special training for livestock emergency situations. Extension personnel and their partners are positioned to offer this education.

Impact

A total of 121 first responders have enrolled in the program at 4 sites around the nation. Ninety percent of respondents to a survey indicated that they learned what they expected to learn from the training program.

Their knowledge levels on transportation hazards associated with livestock increased from 60% (Very Little or Some knowledge) to 93% (Average or Very knowledgeable).

BERP participants indicated the training improved their abilities for human safety and animal well-being.



Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved
Animal Sciences

Community Partners Involved
Iowa State University
North Dakota State University
West Virginia University

How you can get involved:

- **Grant funds to conduct a program are available through the United States Department of Homeland Security. Local-State Police Police and Emergency Management Service personnel are the focus of this training. Persons interested in emergency management can conduct these entities or our BERP team.**

To get involved, contact:

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