The University Research Symposium is an annual university-wide showcase of student research, scholarship and creative endeavor. On April 5th, 2019, the Brown Ball Room in the Bone Student Center was host to 301 posters and 401 student presenters. Throughout the day, faculty, staff, and visitors came to show their support of the students and their projects. The graduate school would like to thank all students and faculty mentors who were involved in this year’s symposium. All were integral to the event’s incredible success.
Evaluating Emergency Preparedness in the Illinois Livestock Industry

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Objective:
The purpose of this research is to:
1. Assess current perceptions of emergency preparedness in the Illinois livestock industry.
2. Explore the public interest level in further educational events on emergency preparedness in the Illinois livestock industry.
3. Establish a baseline level of emergency preparedness perception in Illinois.

Methods & Data:
A survey was developed to collect data on current perceptions of emergency preparedness in the Illinois livestock industry. The survey was distributed to participants at an annual livestock industry conference. The survey data was analyzed using statistical software to determine trends and insights regarding emergency preparedness.

Findings:
The survey results indicated a significant variation in current perceptions of emergency preparedness among livestock industry professionals. Although many respondents expressed a need for improved emergency preparedness, there was a lack of awareness about the resources available for preparedness training.

Conclusions:
The results suggest a need for targeted educational programs to improve emergency preparedness awareness and training within the Illinois livestock industry. Further research is recommended to develop effective strategies for enhancing preparedness at the individual and community levels.