

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Contracting in the Organic Supply Chain: 2004 and 2007

Type of Report
(ERR, EIB, EB) EIB

Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
USDA

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Subject of Review: Organic food products are highly differentiated, and thus are likely candidates for being produced and marketed via contract. This report provides insight into contracting in the organic sector, including who uses contracts, the extent of contracting, the rationale for using contracts, as well as discusses contract design for some specific commodities. The analysis relies on survey data collected from certified organic intermediaries in the United States on the marketing and procurement of organic products in 2004 and 2007. Contracting is widespread in the organic sector, and nearly all contracts required suppliers to provide evidence of organic certification.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: Panel Review Individual Reviewers

Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 08/21/09 End: X/X/X Completed: X/X/X

Number of Reviewers: 3 or fewer 4 to 10 More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: Agency Designated Outside Organization

Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No