

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Agricultural Trade Deficits in an Era of Free Trade: How is NAFTA Connected?

Type of Report  
(ERR, EIB, EB,  
TB, SOR,)  
SOR

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information  
USDA [ ] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: In most years from the implementation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in 1994 to 2014, the United States had an agricultural trade deficit with Canada and an agricultural trade surplus with Mexico. Since 2015, however, the United States has had an agricultural trade deficit with each NAFTA partner. During 2015-17, the agricultural trade deficit with Canada and Mexico averaged \$6.1 billion per year. To explore the causes of this development, this report examines five major changes that took place in North American agriculture between 2012-14 and 2015-17: rising produce imports from Mexico, lower prices for several of the main agricultural commodities that the United States exports to Mexico, rising oilseed production in Canada, the adverse effects of citrus greening on the U.S. orange juice industry, and unresolved trade issues with Canada and Mexico.

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 [X] Individual Reviewers  
[ ] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 7/13/2018 Completed: XX/XX/18 Withdrawn: XX/XX/18

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

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: [X] Agency [ ] Designated Outside Organization  
Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? [ ] Yes [X] No

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

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [ ] Yes [X] No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [ ] Yes [X] No