

## ERS Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Demographic decline in East Asia and the European Union: Assessing the impacts on U.S. agricultural trade

Type of Report  
(ERR, EIB, EB) ERR

☒ Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service ☐ Highly Influential Scientific Assessment  
USDA

Agency Contact: Jeffrey Hopkins, jeffrey.w.hopkins@usda.gov

Subject of Review: In 2024, East Asia and the European Union (EU) together received 36 percent of U.S. agricultural exports, valued at \$63.2 billion. Comprised of mostly high-income economies with large per capita incomes, these regions offer robust consumer markets for U.S. agricultural goods. However, East Asia and the EU are undergoing demographic transitions that are seeing them become smaller and older, and these trends are projected to continue. The United Nations (UN) projects that the population of these two regions will decline by 21.5 percent from 2023 to 2055. Such demographic trends temper the long-term export outlook for U.S. agricultural products, as demand in these top markets is expected to decline commensurately. These challenges may compel the United States to seek agricultural export markets that exhibit demographic characteristics associated with demand growth. Using a computable general equilibrium model, this analysis sought to quantify the expected impact of these projected demographic trends on U.S. agricultural exports to East Asia and the EU and found that these changes are likely to shrink exports in 2055 by \$23.3 billion.

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: 5/27/2025 Completed:

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

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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No