Peer Review Plan


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

Agency: Economic Research Service
USDA

Agency Contact: Ephraim Leibtag: eleibtag@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: Broad descriptions of farms based on U.S averages can mask variation among different sizes and types of farms. Small family farms dominate the farm count, but midsize and large-scale family farms account for the bulk of farm production. Averages like sales per farm, therefore, can be misleading. Information on the different kinds of farms—and the farmers who operate them—is important for understanding the economic well-being of farm households and the impact of farm policy. This report aims to provide an accurate, detailed, and unbiased source of information on the structure and finances of U.S. farms, their financial performance, sources of farm household income, and the extent of off-farm work. The report also provides information on long-run trends in farm operators’ income and net worth.

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

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 07/03/14 End: 08/15/14 Completed: 10/21/14

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: Agency [X] 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