

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Economic Effects of and Responses to Changing Honey Bee Health

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

EIB

☒ Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service  
USDA

☐ Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: Since 2006, overwintering losses of honey bee colonies have averaged 28.8 percent, approximately double the 15 percent figure thought to be their historical rate, raising the concern that agricultural and food supply chains will suffer disruptions as pollination services become more costly and less available. We describe how beekeepers can both restock colonies in response to over-wintering losses through splitting and avoid losses through measures to reduce bee risk on the colony supply side while farmers and wholesale food producers can substitute away from pollination services, should pollination services become prohibitively expensive. We explore how bee colonies have fared over the past 20 years, and the effect of pollination service fees on costs both at the farm and the retail level.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 08/31/16 End: X/X/16 Withdrawn: X/X/16

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

