

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Agricultural Market Access Under Tariff Rate Quotas

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

ERR

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

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Subject of Review: In 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) established an extensive system of tariff-rate quotas (TRQs) as part of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Agriculture (URAA). TRQs are a two-tier tariff scheme that sets a lower tariff charged upon imports under a defined quota and a higher tariff charged on goods above the quota. These complex policy instruments were implemented to facilitate the URAA tariffication process while preserving minimum access commitments. Since the URAA, over 1400 agricultural TRQs have been introduced through the WTO. Twenty years later, most of these TRQs remain intact and continue to influence a significant share of agricultural trade. While TRQs were intended to serve as instruments for trade liberalization efforts, concerns have been raised over prohibitively high over-quota rates, high in-quota rates, limited quotas and administrative inefficiencies and requirements. As multilateral liberalization efforts have largely stalled, it is critical to understand the market access performance of these instruments which govern the trade of highly protected agricultural sectors. This report examines the state of WTO TRQs in today's agricultural trading landscape.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 10/24/17 Completed: XX/XX/17 Withdrawn: XX/XX/17

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

No