

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Economic Implications of Ending the Issuance of Karnal Bunt  
Phytosanitary Wheat Export Certificates

Publication Series: Outlook Special Report

Agency: Economic Research Service  Influential Scientific Information  
USDA  Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: Karnal bunt is geographically isolated, limited to the Indian subcontinent, a small area of Mexico, and the southwestern United States. The fungus does not pose health risks when consumed, but Karnal bunt affects flour quality if more than 3 percent of the grains are bunted. Many U.S. trading partners will not accept U.S. wheat exports unless the wheat is certified to be from areas where Karnal bunt is not known to occur. However, some have proposed that Karnal bunt regulation be ended, suggesting that wheat contaminated by Karnal bunt an issue of quality. This paper analyzes the market effects of ending the issuance of these certificates in the face of continuing barriers in many overseas markets.

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  
WAOB  
 Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 04/14/10 End: Completed: 5/14/10

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

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists and market analysts, policy administrator

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

