

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Million-dollar Farms in the New Century
Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) EIB
 Influential Scientific Information
Agency: Economic Research Service Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
USDA
Agency Contact: Elise Golan, egolan@ers.usda.gov
Subject of Review: Small farms—those farms with sales less than \$250,000—are a large majority of U.S. farms, but account for a relatively small share of sales. This report examines the other end of the size spectrum—farm with sales of \$1 million or more. There were only 35,100 of these farms as of 2006—about 2 percent of all U.S. farms—but they accounted for 48 percent of the sales of U.S. agricultural products. The report examines the shift in production to million-dollar farms since the 1980s. It lays out the current role of million-dollar farms in U.S. commercial agriculture, including their share of farms, their production of specific commodities, and their receipt of government payments. The report discusses key characteristics of million-dollar farms, namely their finances, commodity specialization, business organization, and number of operators per farm. It also provides detailed information on their business arrangements, including their use of hired labor and contracting.

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: 01/18/08 End: 03/11/08 Completed: 07/03/08

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