

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Supermarket Loss Estimates for Fresh Fruits, Vegetables, Meat, Poultry, and Seafood

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) ERR

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

Agency Contact: Elise Golan, egolan@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: ERS would like to know what and how much Americans are eating. One way to estimate consumption is through the amount of food available for consumption, specifically ERS's Loss-Adjusted Food Availability data. Some of the food loss (e.g., moisture loss, spoilage) assumptions used in this data set may be potentially outdated and may not reflect current manufacturing, retail, and food preparation practices. ERS obtained updated food loss estimates at the retail level for individual fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry, and seafood through a competitive grant with the Perishables Group, Inc. The Perishables Group used a sample of data from six large, national and regional supermarket retailers from their proprietary database. For each store in the sample, supplier shipment data was paired with point of sale data to identify food loss percentages for each covered commodity. For fresh meat, poultry, and seafood, data was supplemented by the Perishables Group with qualitative information from about a dozen retailers.

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: 07/10/08 End: XX/XX/XX Completed: 10/14/08

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

