

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Changing Crop Area in the Region of the Former Soviet Union

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

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

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Subject of Review: Total planted area in the major agricultural countries of the former Soviet Union—Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine (KRU)—fell during the transition decade of the 1990s. Although area has rebounded somewhat in Ukraine and Kazakhstan, total planted area (as well as area for grain) in Russia and Kazakhstan currently is far below the level of the late Soviet period. However, since 2000, area for oilseeds (throughout this report separate from grain) has risen in all three countries, while corn area has increased substantially in Ukraine and modestly in Russia. This report examines why KRU grain and overall crop area fell during the 1990s, as well as the potential to return the lost grain area to production. It also examines the changing composition of crop area and discusses why area for certain crops, in particular oilseeds and corn, has increased rather than decreased.

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: 05/27/16 End: XX/XX/16 Completed: XX/XX/16

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 [X] No

