

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Food Safety Practices before Implementation of the Food Safety Modernization Act Produce Rule: A Survey of U.S. Produce Growers

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

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

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Subject of Review: The 2011 Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) mandated that the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) establish comprehensive, prevention-based food safety controls. The Produce Rule, formally known as the “Standards for Growing, Harvesting, Packing and Holding of Produce for Human Consumption,” the first on-farm FDA regulation for U.S. produce, sets specific preventative requirements for produce that is sold and consumed raw. In conjunction with U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Economic Research Service (ERS) surveyed U.S. produce growers about their microbial food safety practices in a two- part survey carried out in 2015 and 2016. This report presents descriptive statistics of the survey covering third-party audits (not required by the PR); selected costs; personnel qualifications and training; water use; manure product use; animal contamination; harvesting; hygiene; and cleaning and sanitizing equipment and tools.

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: 1/17/2018 Completed: 04/02/18 Rejected: XX/XX/XX

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