

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Brazil's Ethanol Sector Impacts on Crops, Livestock, and Agricultural Land Use

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

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

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Subject of Review: Brazilian agriculture has been growing rapidly with farm output expanding by an annual average of 4.2 percent between 1970 and 2013 (FAO, 2013). This high rate of expansion has been accomplished with increases in both area and productivity. Brazil is one of the few countries with large areas of unused arable land. While 58 million hectares currently are cultivated in annual crops, 146 million hectares are covered by perennial crops, forest, and pasture, and over 125 million hectares of land suitable for agriculture remain unfarmed (IBGE, 2013). Thus, while land availability is not an issue, the dynamics of land use conversion, forest cover change, and the drivers of agricultural expansion have come to the forefront of analyses on Brazilian agriculture. This report uses a simulation model to analyze the effects of expansion of ethanol production in Brazil's gasoline demand, land use, regional agricultural production, and trade.

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: 08/22/14 End: 02/24/2015 Completed: 02/24/2015

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



