

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Multi-cropping Practices: Recent Trends in Double Cropping

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

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

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Subject of Review: Growing demand for agricultural commodities over the last decade has increased the incentives for farm operators to increase production. One way to expand production is through an expansion of cropland acres. However, another way to expand production is by intensifying production on existing cropland. One form of intensification is double cropping—the harvest of two crops from the same field in a given year. Increases in double cropping may substitute for expansions of cropland acreage, thereby limiting the negative environmental consequences sometimes associated with cropland expansion. In 2012, farmers in the U.S. double-cropped about 2.2 percent of cropland, or 8.7 million acres, slightly more than the long-run average of 8.2 million acres for the period of 1999 to 2012. This brief examines recent trends in double cropping, along with some of the factors driving its adoption.

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: 8/20/13 End: 1/13/14 Completed: 1/13/14

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

