China’s Meat Consumption: Growth Potential

No precise assessment of growth in meat consumption is possible since there is no direct measure of meat consumption in China and inconsistencies between data sources raise questions about the accuracy of the data. This study analyzes long-term trends in two separate official data sources: (1) disappearance calculated from meat production and net import data, and (2) household purchases of meat reported by a national household survey. The study discusses the divergence of the two data series, trends in consumption of three major categories of meat, growth in household income, and fluctuation in meat prices. The study estimates historical relationships between meat demand, meat prices and household income using two methods: (1) ordinary least squares regressions of three categories of per-capita meat consumption on inflation-adjusted per-capita income and meat prices, and (2) a quadratic almost ideal demand system for expenditure on three meat categories. Using these estimates, the study calculates predicted trends in meat consumption based on assumed paths of income and prices.

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.

Panel Review [X]  Individual Reviewers

Start: 6/27/2022

Number of Reviewers: 4 to 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Opportunities for Public Comment? [X] Yes

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? [X] No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? [X] No