

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Sources, Trends, and Drivers of U.S. Dairy Productivity and Efficiency

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: This report estimates a productivity model to generate measures of total factor productivity of dairy farms which are then used to provide estimates of proximate drivers and sources of TFP growth, including: scale-and-mix efficiency, technical efficiency, technological progress, and environmental effects. Results indicate that productivity growth in the dairy sector has increased at a modest pace of 0.83 percent per year between 2000 to 2016. Productivity growth in the dairy sector was widespread, albeit with considerable variations across regions and by herd size. Southwestern states – Idaho, California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas were the fastest growing, whereas southern states – Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, and Missouri were the slowest. Larger dairy operations experienced faster growth compared to their smaller counterparts. Growth in smaller dairy operations was partially offset by declines in scale-and-mix efficiency, and technical efficiency. Organic dairy operations grew at a slower pace compared to their conventional counterparts.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 04/28/2021 Completed: 09/07/2021 Withdrawn: XX/XX/XX

Number of Reviewers: [X] 3 or fewer [ ] 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