

## Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Soil Health and Conservation Practice Adoption in Major Crops: Tillage, Nutrient Management, and Cover Crops

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 long-term productivity and quality of soil can be improved when farmers keep the soil covered, minimize soil disturbance, feed the soil with year round plantings, and diversify planting with crop rotations and cover crops. Conservation practices such as no-till, nutrient management and cover crops contribute to soil health improvement in addition to reducing the impacts from crop production on the environment. This report provides information on the farm-level adoption of these practices in the U.S. for four major crops.

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: 02/2/15 End: 07/24/15 Completed: 07/24/15

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

