Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: The Adoption of Genetically Engineered Alfalfa, Canola and Sugarbeets in the United States

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

[X] Influential Scientific Information

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

Agency Contact: Ephraim Leibtag, eleibtag@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: Subsequent to their commercial introduction in 1996, genetically engineered (GE), herbicide-tolerant varieties of corn, soybeans, and cotton were rapidly adopted by US farmers. The success of these GE crops led to the deregulation (a regulatory process that enables commercialization) of HT canola (in 1998) as well as alfalfa and sugar beets (in 2005). Although legal/regulatory issues limited the adoption of GE sugarbeets and GE alfalfa during the first decade of the 21st century, adoption rates for these crops have increased rapidly in recent years. This research uses data from the USDA's 2013 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS) to analyze the adoption of GE alfalfa, canola, and sugarbeets in the United States. It also examines legal/regulatory issues associated with the commercialization of these crops, the economic impacts of adoption, and trends in adoption rates.

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Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 03/23/16 End: 07/01/16 Withdrawn: XX/XX/16

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