January 27, 2015

Walter A. Rosenbaum, Ph.D.

Editor-in-Chief

Dear Dr. Rosenbaum,

Please consider our manuscript *How resilient is the United States food system to pandemics and what can society do to increase food system resiliency?*, for publication as a peer reviewed article in *the Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences.* This article takes advantage of a novel model and simulation developed to measures the effects of a pandemic on the United States’ system. This work represents a valuable contribution to the community of models that analyze the impacts of pandemics on food and agriculture systems. With the use of the model, difficult food security and food resilience questions can be answered. We feel the findings of this work would be of particular interest to your readership, given the global interest in food security, production, and resilience. We feel this work represents advancement in pandemic and food systems modeling and simulation and believe that the model discussed in this manuscript could be applied to other global food and agriculture systems.

This manuscript contains original research and unpublished data.

All coauthors have approved of this manuscript.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Andrew G. Huff, Ph.D. M.S.

Senior Research Scientist

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