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Export Sales Reporting Program of U. S. Agricultural Commodities

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General Comment

The new reporting system put forth by the USDA is not user-friendly, requires much more information than previously asked for and takes exponentially more time. It takes more time to gather the information and to report the information. Also, we have never successfully been able to upload all our weekly data into the testing site as there are always errors. What takes us 25-30 minutes to report in the Legacy system takes frustrating hours of entry and is never successful in the new system. The earlier roll-out of the system was a disaster because the new site was not fully tested and there was nowhere near enough technical help available to handle the issues. But the worst thing about the new system is it does not seem to have been designed by or had any input from people you actual enter the information into the system. Unless all the information can be uploaded by bulk entry successfully every week then the burden this new system will cause large exporters will be tremendous. It will add hours of manpower each week to gather the information and to enter it into a system that is not user-friendly, bulky and overly complicated. Also, if the USDA moves forward with the new system, then the budget needs to increased for a massive re-design and to hire the needed technical help to handle all the issues during testing and when it goes live.