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## Financial Policy of the Soviet Administration in the Non-Black Earth Zone of the RSFSR in the Second Half of the XX Century

### Annotation

One of the major conditions of the effective functioning of agriculture is ongoing financial support of the government. Unlike Western governments, the Soviet state was continuously inconstant in financing the agricultural sector of the economy. The budgetary funds were channeled into the industrial development and into defense buildup which undermined on the effectiveness of agriculture nationwide, and most notably in the RSFSR non-black earth zone. Starting from 1954, there was an increase in financing, which had a positive effect on the agricultural production growth, and consequently the period between 1954 and 1958 proved to be the most successful in the history of Soviet agriculture. However, the 7-year plan (1959-1964) saw a constant underfunding of the agricultural sector, which resulted in slowdown in its growth rate, in underperformance of production and state purchase of major types of agricultural production, in growth of unprofitable enterprises. Radical decrees of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum (March 1965), an increase in agricultural investment in particular, allowed to stabilize the situation in the agricultural sector and, moreover, to spur the agricultural production growth rate. In the second half of the 1960s budgeting apportionment once again favoured defence at the expense of agriculture, which led to disruption of the State Plan in production and state purchase. The considerable growth of agricultural investment in the 1970–1980s coincided with agricultural machinery, fertilizers, construction work and services price surge and, which coupled with low purchase prices on major agricultural products did not allow to achieve profitability. All of this proved state agricultural policy to be quite ineffective. The article strives to analyze and capsule the effectiveness of the long-time RSFSR non-black earth zone agriculture state financing. The study introduces a considerable number of declassified documents from the fonds of three state archives – RGANI, GA RF, RGAE – into scientific use, which makes it possible to recover objectivity of the agricultural history of the

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region in the second half of the XX century.



## Keywords

Agriculture, non-black earth zone of the RSFSR, financing, material and technical resources, kolkhozes, sovkhoses

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