

# Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction	1
1. A False Start: The Birth and Early Activities of the People's Commissariat of Agriculture, 1917–1920	11
2. A Struggle for Identity: The Uncertain Transition to the New Economic Policy, 1921–1923	47
3. “Too Many Comrades Misunderstand the Countryside”: A Commissariat Comes of Age, 1923–1926	91
4. Socialism in One Countryside: Architects of a New Rural Russia, 1923–1926	136
5. Professional Identity and the Vision of the Modern Soviet Countryside: Local Agricultural Specialists, 1927–1929	171
6. Better Red than Bread? Purge, Collectivization, and the Defeat of the People's Commissariat of Agriculture, 1927–1929	185
Conclusion	220
Glossary and Abbreviations	229
Notes	231
Bibliography	280
Index	291