

Peasant farming in Muscovy

R. E. F. SMITH

PROFESSOR OF RUSSIAN, UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

CAMBRIDGE

LONDON · NEW YORK · MELBOURNE

Contents

List of illustrations	<i>page</i> vii
List of tables	ix
Acknowledgements	x
Note on units	xi
Introduction	I

PART I THE ELEMENTS OF THE PEASANT HOUSEHOLD

Introduction	7
1 Tillage implements; the arable land	10
2 The hayfields; livestock	41
3 The forest; gathering and extractive industry	47
4 The family	80
5 A production and consumption model	84

PART II REGIONS

6 Muscovy	99
7 Moscow uezd	111
8 Toropets	158
9 Kazan'	197

PART III

10 Peasant farming and the state	221
----------------------------------	-----

APPENDICES

1 Three-field layout	243
2 A monastic statute	250
3 An assize of bread	256
4 Arable land per tenement and per person, Kazan' uezd	260
5 Registers of the new grants of estates, Kazan' uezd	262
List of abbreviations	264
Bibliography	266
Index	281

Illustrations

PLATES (between pages 196 and 197)

- 1 Sowing and reaping, sixteenth century.
GIM, Muz. sobr., no. 358, list 68.
- 2 Sokha-harrow, c. 1600.
GBL, fond 98, no. 202, list 57.
- 3 Sokha-harrow, c. 1600.
GBL, fond 98, no. 202, list 58v.
- 4 Slash and burn, from a life of St Antony of Siya, sixteenth century.
GIM, Shch. no. 790, list 296v.
- 5 Slash and burn, from a life of St Antony of Siya, sixteenth century.
GIM, Shch. no. 790, list 224v.
- 6 Sowing and harrowing, c. 1600.
GBL, fond 173, no. 103, list 130.
- 7 (a) Mill on high timber platform, seventeenth century(?).
Dioptra ili zertsalo mirozritel'noe; GIM, Muz. sobr., no. 2709, list 53.
(b) Modern mill in Yur'ev raion, Ivanovo oblast.
- 8 Seine fishing, four-timber fence, sixteenth century.
GIM, Shch. no. 790, list 315v.
- 9 Squirrel hunting and the fur trade. Wood carving in a Stralsund merchants' hall, fourteenth century.
- 10 Plan of Sofarino village with three ill-defined fields around it, seventeenth century. TsGADA, fond 27, no. 484, ch. III, delo 99.
- 11 Plan of Mikhailovskoe village, Zvenigorod uezd, to the west of Moscow, seventeenth century. TsGADA, fond 27, no. 484, ch. III, delo 68.

FIGURES

1 Irons.	<i>page</i> 16
2 A farm unit: ranges of net production and consumption by humans.	89
3 A farm unit: ranges of net production and consumption by animals.	90
4 Peasant farms by arable area.	163
5 The family of Fed'ko Popryatov.	181

ILLUSTRATIONS

6 The Rozderishin family.	183
7 The Golenishchov family.	191

MAPS

1 Muscovy	<i>page</i> xii
2 Moscow uezd	112
3 Toropets uezd	159
4 Kazan' uezd	198
5 European Russia: climate and vegetation	220

Tables

1	Implement types found in miniature illustrations	page 14
2	Short-handled scythe types	42
3	Finds of domestic animals	44
4	Woods used for various objects excavated in Novgorod	49
5	Fishes in Novgorod	63
6	Relative proportion of wild to total number of animals	67
7	Meat and fur-bearing animals	69
8	A farm unit: estimates of annual production	87
9	Estimated feed and litter requirements	92
10	Desertions in Moscow uезд	128
11	District categories, tenements per live chet (decrees of 1620-8)	133
12	Moscow grain prices and average index for Russia	143
13	Famine grain prices	146
14	Tradesmen in Moscow (1638)	153
15	Peasant farm size, Toropets uезд	164
16	Old and new settlements	173
17	New hamlets and clearances, and original holders	175
18	Entries relating to Rozderishin holdings	184
19	Settlement size, Toropets uезд	189
20	Estates of two families holding by service	190
21	Holdings of the archbishop of Kazan'	217
22	Summary of soil and climatic data	222
23	Moscow dengas coined per small grivenka of silver	227
24	Allocations by size (estates held by service)	228
25	Sixteenth century tax rates	233
26	Seventeenth century tax rates	235
27	Prices of livestock, axes, rye and oats, Moscow	237