**STATE SUPPORT OF THE RUSSIAN AGRO-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX IN THE DIGITAL ECONOMY**

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**Abstract.** The paper focuses on the concept of «state support»; its main types and characteristics are considered. Based on the educational literature, a more detailed definition was developed, which was supplemented and improved. The relevance of the study is determined by the need to solve the problem of developing state regulation of the functioning of the agro-industrial complex in the context of digital transformation, as well as in the development and justification of directions to improve its efficiency. The existing system of state regulation does not fully take into account the needs of the agro-industrial complex in the development of digital transformation, and is not sufficiently focused on stimulating the introduction of digital technologies. The scientific novelty of the study lies in the development of theoretical and methodological provisions for improving the system of state regulation of the functioning of the agro-industrial complex in the digital economy. We have studied the classification of small and medium-sized businesses in the agricultural sector as a key link in our work. Thanks to this study, we have proposed a new type of classification feature of small and medium-sized businesses in the agricultural sector.

**Key words:** agribusiness; complex; state support; digital economy; technologies in agriculture; small and medium-sized businesses.