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**Accession of Black Sea Region Wheat Producers to the WTO: What will it Mean
for World Wheat Trade?**

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Wheat trade accounts for one third of world grain trade and is expected to double by 2050. The Black sea region (Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan) accounts for approximately a quarter of the world wheat exports and is considered one of the key wheat exporters. Ukraine became a member of the WTO only in 2008. Russia has become an official member of the WTO in 2012. Kazakhstan is expected to follow Russia and seal a deal with the WTO shortly. The Russian Federation and Kazakhstan will be entitled to “most favored nation” (MNF tariffs), and, hence, gain improved access to potential markets previously largely inaccessible due to very high tariffs. The Black sea region’s increased market accessibility as a result of successful accession to the WTO has the potential to bring about a major re-alignment of world wheat trade flows, prices and changes in welfare among major wheat trading countries. World wheat trade liberalization effects are examined using the Global Simulation Model.