SUBJECT: Request for a Foreign National to visit ARS

 TO: Jay Johnson, Associate Director, Midwest Area

THROUGH: John Sadler, Research Leader

 FROM: Kenneth A. Sudduth, Agricultural Engineer

**Kyuho Lee** will be conducting PhD research at Cropping Systems and Water Quality Research Unit. This memo is to request formal approval for Mr. Lee to work in the unit.

Mr. Lee has been accepted into the University of Missouri Bioengineering PhD program and began taking classes in January 2019. Mr. Lee’s visit is currently **self-funded** by his family. We are exploring funding options to transition him into a graduate assistantship. His interest is in technology for crop production automation and precision agriculture. I’ve talked to him and reviewed his credentials, and he would be a good contributor to our research in soil sensing and development of decision support tools for cropping systems. He’s requested that I serve as his research advisor, and I would like to assume that role.

Mr. Lee is a native of the **Republic of Korea**. His anticipated dates with our unit are **03/01/2019 to 12//31/2021**.

Mr. Lee will be conducting research in the **Cropping Systems and Water Quality Research Unit, located in the Agricultural Engineering Building on the University of Missouri campus, Columbia, Missouri** and at our research farm facilities located in Columbia and Centralia, Missouri.

Mr. Lee’s work will benefit ARS by contributing to **Objective 1** of our NP216 Project Plan (5070-12610-005), In **sub-objective 1b**, “Improve decision support for variable-rate grain crop nitrogen management”, he will assist with programming of a decision support system for wheat N management. In **subobjective 1d**, “Develop and evaluate proximal sensing approaches to provide spatially-dense information important in soil management and soil health applications”, he will help investigate various data processing and analysis techniques.