

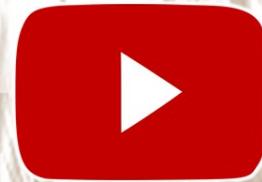
"This month shall be the beginning of months for you;  
it is to be the first month of the year to you." (Exodus 12:2)

2022 - 1<sup>st</sup> Inspection

# BARLEY INSPECTION

## *Land of Israel*

1-2 March 2022



## DEVORAH'S DATE TREE

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Dear Friends,

We are back from our Barley Inspection and want to thank Yehovah for the protection and the provisions He provided us on our journey, and thank each and every one of you, for all your heartfelt prayers and support!

We carried out this inspection on March 1-2, 2022, in order to have an accurate survey of the fields just before the upcoming New Moon observation on March 3, 2022.

We focused our inspection on the volunteer wild barley in three regions of Israel:

1. The Jordan Valley - This is where the Children of Israel celebrated the first Chag HaMatzot (Joshua 5:10-12).
2. The Lower Galilee - This is in Northern Israel, near the Kinneret (Sea of Galilee).
3. The Northern Negev - This is in Southern Israel, near the Gaza Strip.

\* You are invited to watch the [video](#) of our inspection (time codes are provided in the description beneath the video).

### What did you find on your inspection?

We didn't find even one stalk that was anything close to being Aviv. We saw a lot of barley that was still tillering and jointing (looks like grass to the untrained eye), a fair amount that was flowering (meaning we could see the little anthers

on the heads), and a good amount that was in the “cotton stage” (meaning when we squeezed the kernels they felt empty and the seed inside looked like a tiny cotton ball), as well as a few outlying stalks that were in an extremely early “worm stage” (meaning when we squeezed the kernel a slimy seed came out).

### [What is Aviv Barley](#)

### [Why We Inspect Barley Throughout the Land](#)

#### **How developed should the barley be at the beginning of the first month?**

There is no mention in the Tanach of how developed the barley should be at the beginning of the first month. We only know that the first month is called Chodesh HaAviv (Month of the Aviv) (Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt 16:1), that each man would choose a lamb on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the month (Ex 12:3), and that the earliest fields (Dt 16:9) in the Land should be harvestable by Yom HaNafat HaOmer (The Day of the Wave Sheaf Offering) (Lev 23:10, Lev 23:14, Dt 16:9, Joshua 5:10-12).

#### **Is this upcoming New Moon (March 3 or 4, 2022) the beginning of the New Year?**

As I mentioned, the most advanced fields we looked at, were in the cotton stage, there were a few outliers which were in an extremely early “worm stage”, but we didn’t find even one stalk which was close to being Aviv. So I ask myself, how would the ancient Israelites have approached this situation. Being so connected to the Land, would it have been obvious to them that we will have harvestable fields by Yom HaNafat HaOmer (March 20 according to Scenario #1), or maybe obvious to them that we won’t. Or maybe they wouldn’t know because they didn’t have weather balloons back then, and so they wouldn’t start their pilgrimage to the Temple, which would have taken at least a couple of weeks journey for some tribes (which means they would have to leave soon), without being certain that there will be harvestable fields from which the Priest can take the Omer for Yom HaNafat HaOmer (The Day of the Wave Sheaf Offering), and so in situations like this, maybe they would start the New Year the following month. Just to remind you, we can harvest when we need to, as there is no prohibition against harvesting before Yom HaNafat HaOmer, we are only prohibited from eating from the harvest before Yom HaNafat HaOmer (Lev 23:14). For what it’s worth (and it shouldn’t be worth much at all), I personally, am leaning towards the idea that when the fields are this immature by the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> month, we are supposed to add a 13<sup>th</sup> month, but I encourage you to do your own study, contemplation, and prayer and do what you think is right according to your current understanding.

# HOLIDAY DATES of 1<sup>st</sup> Month

Scenario #1	<b>1st New Moon of the Year</b> <i>sunset March 3 - sunset March 4, 2022</i>
	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Day of Chag HaMatzot</b> <i>sunset March 17 - sunset March 18, 2022</i>
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Day of Chag HaMatzot</b> <i>sunset March 23 - sunset March 24, 2022</i>
	<b>Shavuot</b> <i>sunset May 7 - sunset May 8, 2022</i>
Scenario #2	<b>1st New Moon of the Year</b> <i>sunset March 4 - sunset March 5, 2022</i>
	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Day of Chag HaMatzot</b> <i>sunset March 18 - sunset March 19, 2022</i>
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Day of Chag HaMatzot</b> <i>sunset March 24 - sunset March 25, 2022</i>
	<b>Shavuot</b> <i>sunset May 7 - sunset May 8, 2022</i>
Scenario #3	<b>1st New Moon of the Year</b> <i>sunset April 2 - sunset April 3, 2022</i>
	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Day of Chag HaMatzot</b> <i>sunset April 16 - sunset April 17, 2022</i>
	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Day of Chag HaMatzot</b> <i>sunset April 22 - sunset April 23, 2022</i>
	<b>Shavuot</b> <i>sunset June 4 - sunset June 5, 2022</i>

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### So, what's next?

We hope this report has been helpful. We will be leaving very shortly to look for the new moon and will share the New Moon Report with you following the observation, as usual. As for the barley, we are currently talking about doing another Barley Inspection in a few weeks, in order to learn more about the development of the barley, and hope you will consider [supporting](#) this effort.

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### Thank you!

I would like to once again thank Yehovah for the protection and provisions He provided us on our journey and ask that He bless everyone reading this report. I want to also extend a special thank you to Tchiya Jenkins and Chris Guenther for participating on this Barley Inspection with me. You not only served as witnesses to the state of the barley, but also contributed greatly to the overall success of the search. And to all our New Moon Observers, who go out to look for the New Moon each month, regardless of the weather, and send in your observations in a timely manner, we want to thank you again for your dedication. And of course, a huge thank you to all of you who are praying for us and supporting our efforts in a myriad of ways, you are also an integral part of our effort to restore the Biblical Calendar, and we very much appreciate you being a part of our team.

If reliable New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel are of value to you, please [support](#) our efforts. We could really use your help to restore the Biblical Calendar.

Together we are restoring the Biblical Calendar!

Devorah Gordon  
Jerusalem, Israel

\* The observations, interpretations, and opinions presented in this report are that of Devorah Gordon's, and may or may not, represent those of the other participants who partook in the inspection.

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Devorah's Date Tree organizes interfaith New Moon Observations and Barley Inspections in the Land of Israel. This important effort is headed by Devorah Gordon, who has been living in Israel and looking for the New Moon and participating in Barley Inspections for over 25 years. Today, Devorah's reports reach countless people around the world and are considered the most reliable and respected New Moon and Barely Inspection Reports from the Holy Land.

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