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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)

BARLEY

INSPECTION REPORT

March 16 & 19, 2023

Devorah's Date Tree

The most reliable and respected New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel

25+ Years Experience
New Moon Observers Across Israel
Thorough Barley Inspections

Dear Friends,

We are glad to be back from the Barley Inspection and are extremely grateful for the protection and provisions Yehovah provided us, and for all of your heartfelt prayers and support!

We carried out this inspection in the Jordan Valley and the Beit Shean Region on March 16, 2023, and in the Northwestern Negev on March 19, 2023. Our objective for this inspection, was to note the current state of maturity of barley fields in various regions in the Land of Israel, so those following the Biblical Calendar will have the information they need to decide when to begin the year. To this end, we inspected both cultivated and uncultivated fields.

A cultivated field is one in which the seeds have been planted (Ex 23:10), the soil is tilled, and the crop is rotated. Tilling mixes organic matter into the soil, helps control weeds, and breaks up crusted soil; rotating the crops prevents the soil from inevitably losing the nutrients that

particular crop needs. These practices produce a healthy crop with pretty consistent maturation throughout the field, and I believe is how they grew barley in Biblical times.

One of the concerns we heard you have about relying on cultivated fields to determine when to begin the year is that it will be irrigated “by man”, however we know from archeological findings that they would use canals, ditches, and channels in order to move water for irrigation and drinking. The other concern we heard you have is that the crop will be GMO and sprayed with pesticides, we therefore reached out to one of our contacts and were given special permission to inspect their organic barley field (Field #1).

In case you still don't like relying on cultivated fields to determine the beginning of the year, you will be pleased to know that we also looked at a lot of abandoned/volunteer fields, while avoiding as much as possible fields in which the soil is very hard, the crop is infested with weeds (wild plants growing where it's not wanted and in competition with crop), and fields in which the barley reproduced so many times that it looked like the crop may be fighting for resources and suffocating.

We inspected over 25 fields over the two-day period, however we felt it would be overkill to include all of them in this report, and have opted instead to just share just a few fields from each region. You can find a written description of what we saw below as well as watch us inspect the fields in this [video](#). We tried to mention when we were looking at stalks with a red hue, which I believe to be stressed barley and why we consistently see those being way more developed.



NORTHWESTERN NEGEV

- This is a huge cultivated organic barley field which was Aviv.
- This is a volunteer field of barley, just outside of the organic field, but on the same property. It is the strain of barley we typically see in a volunteer field, as opposed to a cultivated field. We saw a good amount of Aviv in this field, but as it's a volunteer field, so there we saw all states of development.
- This is a huge volunteer field of barley, in which we found large amounts which were close to being Aviv.
- This is a huge tell (raised mound marking the site of an ancient city) with tons of volunteer barley. We only inspected the West side, because that's the side which gets the strongest sunlight and therefore is more developed. It had lots of patches of Aviv and Ripe barley, which may be a result of sides of the tell blocking the elements and because it's a big mountain rainwater falls down. It should be noted that there were also lots of parts on this West side, which were blocked from the good sunlight, and were therefore less developed.

BEIT SHEAN REGION

- This is a huge field with cotton and worm stages. I'm not sure whether the field is still be tended to.
- This is a huge cultivated field, 90% hadn't finished developing and the heads were still in the boot, the tall ones in which the head had emerged were in the worm and cotton stages (a few anomalies were ripe).
- This field seems to be abandoned. We found a large patch of ripe barley, however the seeds were extremely small. I suspect this patch was under stress and so it ripened quickly before the seeds had a chance to develop. This also explains why the rest of the field was still in the cotton stage.

JORDAN VALLEY

- This is a huge field on the East side of the highway. It was mostly still baby barley and some in the water stage. We actually stopped at a few other places on this side of the highway. Some had more advanced barley than this field, but we noticed the soil at these locations, including this one, was not optimal because the land had been abandoned for so long, and we aren't sure whether this may be causing some stalks to develop quicker under the stress and maybe some are underdeveloped due to lack of proper nutrients in the soil.
- Volunteer patches on the West side of the highway. The soil looked much healthier here than it did on the East side. However, it should be noted that this field is on a slope and so it's possible that rainwater running off from it makes it ripen faster.

JERUSALEM

- This is a large patch of volunteer barley in Northern Jerusalem, which was in the flowering stage.
- This is a nice size patch of volunteer barley in Southern Jerusalem, most of the heads hadn't emerged yet, and those that had, the seed hadn't started developing yet.

We hope this report has been helpful to you in deciding when to begin the year based on your own criteria. If you would like us to inspect anything again just before Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread), let us know, and we'll see whether we can accommodate that. In the meantime, we are planning on looking for the New Moon on March 22, 2023 in the evening, so be sure to subscribe to our e-mail list and social media platforms, so you don't miss that report. ➡ linktr.ee/devorahsdatetree

2023

1st MONTH ^{potential} HOLIDAY DATES

according to the Biblical Calendar

New Moon Observation March 22, 2023	Scenario #1 <i>New Moon is sighted on 22-March-2023</i>	Scenario #2 <i>New Moon is sighted on 23-March-2023</i>
1 st Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset April 5 - sunset April 6</i>	<i>sunset April 6 - sunset April 7</i>
Yom HaNafat HaOmer	<i>April 9, 2023</i>	<i>April 9, 2023</i>
7 th Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset April 11 - sunset April 12</i>	<i>sunset April 12 - sunset April 13</i>
Chag HaShavuot	<i>sunset May 27 - sunset May 28</i>	<i>sunset May 27 - sunset May 28</i>

New Moon Observation April 20, 2023	Scenario #3 <i>New Moon is sighted on 20-April-2023</i>	Scenario #4 <i>New Moon is sighted on 21-April-2023</i>
1 st Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset May 4 - sunset May 5</i>	<i>sunset May 5 - sunset May 6</i>
Yom HaNafat HaOmer	<i>May 7, 2023</i>	<i>May 7, 2023</i>
7 th Day of Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset May 10 - sunset May 11</i>	<i>sunset May 11 - sunset May 12</i>
Chag HaShavuot	<i>sunset June 24 - sunset June 25</i>	<i>sunset June 24 - sunset June 25</i>

Above are the potential holiday dates for the 1st month of the upcoming Biblical Year. Our faithful team is planning on inspecting the barley fields just prior to the New Moon observation on March 22, 2023, in order to determine whether this will be a leap year. If first-hand reliable New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from the Land of Israel are important to you, be sure to subscribe our email list and our social media platforms, so you don't miss our reports. ⇨ linktr.ee/devorahsdattree

The dates above for Chag HaShavuot (Feast of Weeks), are based on the understanding that Yom HaNafat HaOmer (The Day of the Wave Sheaf Offering) is the Sunday during Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread) [see Joshua 5:10-12].

Please support our efforts to restore the Biblical Calendar
 PAYPAL at <https://bit.ly/3QSSXZ2> or send a CHECK to POB 7816, Jerusalem 9107801, ISRAEL

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We want to once again thank Yehovah for the protection and provisions He provided us on our journey, and each and every one of you, for all of your support and prayers. Also, a big thank you to Cristian Pricop for participating in this Barley Inspection with me. You not only

served as a witness to the state of the barley, but also contributed greatly to the overall success of the inspection by sharing many insightful observations throughout the expedition.

This concludes this Barley Inspection Report. 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 on the inspection.

If you have a question regarding the Biblical Calendar, feel free to [send it to us](#) and we'll do our best to try and answer it in a future newsletter. All of our answers are based on relevant Biblical verses, what we've seen in the Land over the past few decades, and much study and prayer.

[Subscribe](#) to our e-mail list and social media platforms, to ensure you receive important information regarding the Biblical Calendar and our first-hand New Moon and Barley Inspection Reports.

If you have been enjoying our New Moon Reports, Barley Inspection Reports, and the studies we provide on the Biblical Calendar, please partner with us to restore the Biblical Calendar. We could really use your support to carry out this important work. Contributions can be made via [PayPal](#), [Patreon](#), or by sending a Check to Devorah's Date Tree, POB 4263, Jerusalem 9104201, ISRAEL.

Together we can restore the Biblical Calendar!

Devorah Gordon
Jerusalem, Israel

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Devorah's Date Tree organizes 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 crescent New Moon and participating in Barley Inspections, for over 25 years. Today our reports reach countless people around the world and are considered the most reliable and respected New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from the Holy Land. If reliable first-hand New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel are of value to you, please support our efforts to restore the Biblical Calendar. Contributions can be made via [PayPal](#), [Patreon](#), or by sending a [check](#) to Devorah's Date Tree, POB 7816, Jerusalem 9107801, ISRAEL.

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