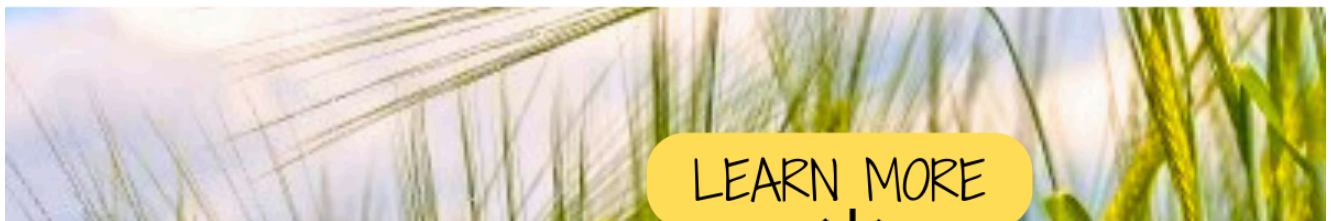


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This month shall be the beginning of months for you;
it is to be the first month of the year to you. (Exodus 12:2)

BARLEY INSPECTION REPORT

1st Inspection - 7 March 2024



Devorah's Date Tree



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Dear Friends,

We are back from our first Barley Inspection of the season, and want to thank the Creator for His protection, and all of you for your heartfelt prayers and support.

To remind you, the purpose of this inspection was to determine whether the upcoming New Moon (11-March-2024) will be Chodesh HaAviv, i.e. the first month of the year. What does the development of the barley have to do with when we are to begin the new year? Well, we're commanded to begin the year with Chodesh HaAviv (Ex 12:2, Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt 16:1), which is the month in which the barley fields have finished developing and can now be cut (Ex 9:31-32, Ex23:15, Lev 23:10, Lev 23:14, Dt 16:9, Dt 16:16-17, Joshua 5:10-12). The barley can then either be left in the sun to finish drying, or it can be dried immediately by parching it with fire (Lev 2:14, Lev 23:14, Joshua 5:10-12, Rut 2:14, 1Samuel 17:17, 1Samuel 25:18, 2Samuel 17:28).

We carried out this Barley Inspection in the Northwestern Negev, Jordan Valley, and Beit Shean regions. The maturity of the field was determined by checking how much moisture was remaining in a random sampling of seeds. The random sampling was taken by walking around the field, sticking our arm out to our side, and blindly choosing a stalk to inspect. We

didn't do any inspection of the field prior to filming, so you are literally discovering what's in the field, right along with us.

On our inspection, we found that the vast majority of barley had just finished flowering and that seeds had not yet been formed. The exception to this was Field #5, which is a volunteer field in the Jordan Valley, which was Aviv. However, as I have inspected this region for many years, I suspect that this field was so much more advanced due to poor soil health, which stresses the barley, and caused it to mature very quickly. We also found a small patch of very ripe barley in Field #2. This field is a volunteer field in the Negev that tends to have a lot of barley with the red hue, which we noticed develops much faster than the normal barley. This field is also usually grazed on by sheep if anyone cares about that. We only found one small patch of very mature barley in this field and the rest of our sampling was of no seeds. However, I suspect that if one was looking to find more developed patches, they would be able to find it there. It should be noted that these two fields are known to have very advanced barley every year, but this year the difference between these fields, and the other fields we inspected, is particularly obvious, and in my opinion shows just how unhealthy the soil of these fields is. We didn't find any planted barley fields on this inspection, the closest we found are Field #3 and Field #7. You are invited to watch the [video](#) of us testing the seeds on the inspection.

NORTHWESTERN NEGEV

00:05 Field #1 -Not Aviv: This volunteer field had just finished the flowering stage and didn't have any seeds yet.

03:04 Field #2 -Not Aviv: This volunteer field had just finished the flowering stage and didn't have any seeds yet. We happened upon a patch of very stressed barley, but the rest of our sampling had empty seeds.

08:42 Field #3 -Not Aviv: This is a large strip of domesticated barley growing voluntarily, which had just finished flowering, no seeds yet.

12:45 Field #4 -Not Aviv: This is usually a planted barley field. However, this year they didn't plant, and the field has been taken over by mustard. We checked a few of the stalks and they had just finished flowering and didn't have any seeds in them yet.

JORDAN VALLEY

17:37 Field #5 - Aviv: This field is so much riper than anything else we saw that day, and I suspect that's a result of extremely poor soil health, as this is something we have noticed over the years in the volunteer fields in this region.

BEIT SHEAN

23:13 Field #6 - Not Aviv: This started out as a few barley stalks in a wheat field and then changed into a huge volunteer field. The barley in this field had just finished flowering and

there were no seeds yet, aside for the one worm stage we found.

30:12 Field #7 - Not Aviv: This is a wheat field with lots of last year's barley coming up, there were no seeds yet in the barley.

34:33 Field #8 - Not Aviv: This is a volunteer field, the majority didn't have seeds yet, but we did find a few in the worm stage.

We hope this report has been helpful in deciding when to begin the year. Remember, it's important to begin the year in the month which you believe to be Chodesh HaAviv (Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt16:1), regardless of what month you may currently be in.

As we believe the fields don't need to be Aviv until the 10th of the month (Ex12:3, Joshua 5:10-12), we are hoping to be able to carry out a second inspection around that time, and could really use your prayers and support to make this second inspection happen.

In the meantime, the upcoming New Moon Observation is in just a few days (11 March 2024), so sure to subscribe to our [newsletter](#) and [social media](#) platforms, so you receive that report as soon as it comes out.

We want to once again thank the Creator for His protection, and all of you, for your heartfelt prayers and support. And a special thanks to Shai Asia for participating in this Barley Inspection with me. You not only served as a witness to the state of the barley, but also shared many valuable observations and insights, which contributed to its overall success.

It should be noted that the observations, interpretations, and opinions presented in this report, are those of Devorah Gordon, and may or may not represent those of the other participants on this inspection.

[Planted vs Volunteer Fields](#)

[Leap Years in the Biblical Calendar](#)

2024

1st MONTH ^{potential} HOLIDAY DATES

according to the Biblical Calendar

1st Month Holidays	Scenario #1 <i>New Moon sighted on 11-March-2024</i>	Scenario #2 <i>New Moon sighted on 12-March-2024</i>
1 st Day Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset Mar 25 - sunset Mar 26 Passover Sacrifice would be brought on Mar 25 at sunset</i>	<i>sunset Mar 26 - sunset Mar 27 Passover Sacrifice would be brought on Mar 26 at sunset</i>
Yom HaNafat HaOmer	March 31, 2024	March 31, 2024
7 th Day Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset Mar 31 - sunset Apr 1</i>	<i>sunset Apr 1 - sunset Apr 2</i>
Chag HaShavuot	<i>sunset May 18 - sunset May 19</i>	<i>sunset May 18 - sunset May 19</i>
1st Month Holidays	Scenario #3 <i>New Moon sighted on 9-April-2024</i>	Scenario #4 <i>New Moon sighted on 10-April-2024</i>
1 st Day Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset Apr 23 - sunset Apr 24 Passover Sacrifice would be brought on Apr 23 at sunset</i>	<i>sunset Apr 24 - sunset Apr 25 Passover Sacrifice would be brought on Apr 24 at sunset</i>
Yom HaNafat HaOmer	April 28, 2024	April 28, 2024
7 th Day Chag HaMatzot	<i>sunset Apr 29 - sunset Apr 30</i>	<i>sunset Apr 30 - sunset May 1</i>
Chag HaShavuot	<i>sunset Jun 15 - sunset Jun 16</i>	<i>sunset Jun 15 - sunset Jun 16</i>

The above dates assume the year begins with healthy Aviv fields, and that Yom HaNafat HaOmer (The Day of the Wave Sheaf Offering), is to be observed the Sunday during Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened Bread) [see Joshua 5:10-12]. Because the Biblical Calendar is an observational calendar, the actual dates can only be determined once we carry out the necessary Barley Inspections, and observe the crescent New Moon from the Land of Israel. Our first Barley Inspection is currently scheduled for just prior to March 11, 2024. Please partner with us to restore the Biblical Calendar. We could really use your support to carry out this important work.

Please partner with us to restore the Biblical Calendar

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DEVORAH'S DATE TREE

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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.

Please partner with us to restore the Biblical Calendar, we could really use your prayers and support to carry out this important work. Contributions can be made easily and in any currency 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 4263, Jerusalem 9104201, ISRAEL. Together we can restore the Biblical Calendar!



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