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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)

TYPES OF BARLEY FIELDS

Which should determine the beginning of the year?

Image is for illustrative purposes only.

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Devorah's Date Tree



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

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Dear Friends,

We want to thank you for partnering with us to restore the Biblical Calendar, and to take this opportunity to try and respond to some of your questions regarding the types of barley fields we find on our Barley Inspections.

Volunteer Barley Fields

These are abandoned plots of land that have wild barley growing on them. The barley in these fields are under a lot of stress due to the soil not being tilled, the seeds not being spaced out, and the crop not being rotated. Because these fields aren't tilled, the soil can't properly absorb the heavy rainfall, which in turn often drowns the barley. Tilling is also important in preventing weeds, and so these fields often become infested with oats, flowers, and other vegetation, with whom they must fight for resources. Similarly, because the seeds haven't been spaced out, they end up reproducing on top of each other and suffocating one another. And because the crop isn't rotated, it lacks the nutrients it needs to thrive. Because of all these stressors, the barley ripens prematurely in an effort to produce seed before it dies. This is why the seeds are sometimes very thin and dry out before they've finished

developing. Also, the stalks and heads are very frail causing them to shatter easily. Volunteer barley fields are not harvested.

Highly Cultivated Barley Fields

These are planted fields with a strain of barley that ripens very quickly. We've even seen the seeds become Aviv when the head is just starting to emerge from its sheaf. It's important to note that these fields are often combined. Combines are a very efficient piece of machinery, that reaps (cuts the stalks), threshes (separates the grain from the stalks and husk), and winnows (removes the chaff), all in one process. The problem, is that the farmer usually desiccates the field (accelerates the drying process using chemicals) before combining, as the crop needs to be quite dry, and they're often not interested in waiting for this to happen naturally. I've also noticed that when I walk out of these fields, I have an immediate rash on the inside of my arm, which I suspect is a reaction to some sort of pesticide/herbicide they're using.

More Natural Barley Fields

These are planted fields, which use a strain that looks similar to the wild barley we see. These fields are swathed (cut and left on the ground to dry) when they become Aviv, as the Ancient Israelites would have done. And I don't get a rash when I go through them. We feel these are the best fields to use when determining the beginning of the year.

Concluding Thoughts

We are commanded to begin the Biblical Year with Chodesh HaAviv (Month of the Aviv) (Ex12:2, Ex 13:3-4, Ex 23:15, Ex 34:18, Dt 16:1). This ensures the Biblical Calendar stays in sync with the solar cycle, and the 7th month begins at the right time. Every year, we carry out thorough Barley Inspections to know when to begin the Biblical Year. On 7 April 2024, we [found](#) that the more natural fields of planted barley (Gen 3:19, Ex 23:10, Ex 23:16, John4:36-38), in the Plains of Jericho (what's today referred to as the Jordan Valley) (Dt 8:7, Joshua 4:19), had become Aviv, and was either waiting to be cut, or had recently been swathed (cut and left on the ground to dry).

Based on when the barley became Aviv in the more natural planted fields (and the current state of the harvest), we believe the 7th month is to begin with the upcoming New Moon observation on 4 October 2024. We don't presume that our understanding is necessarily correct, it's simply the conclusion we've reached based on what we think we're seeing in the fields, and our current understanding of the relevant scriptures.

[The Holiday at the End of the Agricultural Year](#)

[When is Yom Teruah \(2024\)](#)

[Impossible to Sight the New Moon](#)

2024

7th MONTH HOLIDAY DATES

according to the Biblical Calendar

1 st Month Holidays	Scenario #1 <i>New Moon sighted on 11-March-2024</i>	Scenario #2 <i>New Moon sighted on 9-April-2024</i>
1 st Day Chag HaMatzot	<i>Healthy Fields in Plains of Jericho (Jordan Valley) NOT AVIV</i>	<i>sunset Apr 23 - sunset Apr 24</i> Passover Sacrifice would be brought on Apr 23 at sunset
Yom HaNafat HaOmer		April 28, 2024
7 th Day Chag HaMatzot		<i>sunset Apr 29 - sunset Apr 30</i>
Chag HaShavuot		<i>sunset Jun 15 - sunset Jun 16</i>

7 th Month Holidays	Scenario #1 <i>New Moon sighted on 4-October-2024</i>	Scenario #2 <i>New Moon sighted on 5-October-2024</i>
Yom Teruah (Day of Trumpets)	<i>sunset Oct 4 - sunset Oct 5</i>	<i>Based on New Moon sighting on 4 September 2024, beginning of 7th month will be 4 October 2024,</i>
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement)	<i>sunset Oct 13 - sunset Oct 14</i>	
1 st Day of Chag HaSukkot (First Day Feast Booths)	<i>sunset Oct 18 - sunset Oct 19</i>	
Shemini Atzeret (Eighth Day of Assembly)	<i>sunset Oct 25 - sunset Oct 26</i>	

The above dates are based on the year beginning when the healthy barley fields, in the Plains of Jericho (Jordan Valley) (Joshua 5:10-12), are Aviv in time for the men to bring an omer of their harvest to the Priest when they go up to the Temple for Chag HaMatzot (Feast of Unleavened) (Lev 23:10); and the month begins when the crescent New Moon (Gen 1:14, Ps 104:19) has been sighted from the Land of Israel (Dt 6:1). Please partner with us to provide reliable first hand-hand reports from Israel. 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.

Be sure to subscribe to our [newsletter](#) and [social media](#) platforms, so you receive the New Moon and Barley Inspection reports, as soon as they come out.

We could really use your prayers and support to carry out this important work. If reliable first-hand New Moon and Barley Inspection reports from Israel are of value to you, please partner with us to restore the Biblical Calendar. 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

Devorah's Date Tree (Judges 4:4-5) provides first-hand New Moon Observations and Barley Inspection Reports from the Land of Israel. This important effort is headed by Devorah Gordon, who has been living in Israel, and working on restoring the Biblical Calendar, for over 25 years. We are honored that our reports are considered the most reliable and respected New Moon and Barley Inspection Reports from the Holy Land, and a blessing to countless people around the world. Thank you for partnering with us to restore the Biblical Calendar.
