

Abib Inspections: Tuesday February 25, 2020

Hi Folks,

We landed yesterday in the rain and it was off and on all day. Today we drove through some rain in all 3 regions which grow grain crops of Israel: north, central, and south. We only use locations where good soil conditions are found. No stony soils, etc. as mentioned in all our literature and reports over the past 19 years.

We made our way to the majority of our traditionally early fields of volunteer/wild barley. Because of the extent of the young barley (looks like grass) in all three regions we focused on taking pictures of the most advanced in each for representative examples to weigh things out with. You will see the following pictures have a written account with each.

As we had stated last year after the inspections, we were quite confident, based on the pattern of intercalation started in 2005 that we would be looking at adding a 13th month to this year. That is why we put up the dates accordingly last summer, as well as the dates for 2021. Of course, we back that up with inspections as well as with past experience. This year the evidence is overwhelming to say the least. You will be able to compare wavesheaf quality fields in pictures from last year to this year in the reports.

None of the traditionally early figs showed any hint of green coming out. The almonds were blooming nicely in various parts of the country as they should be for, they are a late winter bloomer, at least the “early birds” are.

Who mentioned grapes? A long way from putting forth their blossom clusters. The only grapes with green on them in the areas we drive through were in the Jordan Valley under dark mesh and being irrigated. Even they were not that robust.

We saw lots of white egrets today and some nice raptors. However, no sign of the actual bird witnesses in scripture. Hopefully you can use this information to assist you in making your personal decision as to the year. We will continue to send out pictures and some videos as the month moves along from here in the Land.

Our peace we give to you

Brian and Linda

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Traditionally early fields in the North as well as everything else in the region is young. In the boot, emerging from the boot, and out of the boot with florets.



This is a standout early field at the confluence of the Jezreel and Jordan Valleys. The oats have not even risen above the young barley grass yet. This is the result of a lot of extra rain on good soil. Look at how broad the leaves are. Tillering is exponential and holding back the main stalk from maturing.

The next picture is of another traditionally early field near Rehov just north of the one above. Some of the heads are emerging but still well into flowering with the rest several Zadok stages behind. It did rain off and on at this location early this morning.



Old olive grove in the background.

Inspections in the SW Negev: Tuesday 2/25/2020

Quite a mixed bag in the south at our T.E.F. (traditionally early fields). We will write up a description with each picture or group of pictures so you can compare them to those of last year at the end of the 12th month.



Many will remember this as the wavesheaf location from last year. The farmer took back more of the land but the picture speaks volumes. Notice that there is wild mustard growing in it. The heads are in the boot and out of the boot. The following pictures clearly show the age.



Notice both strains are present here with the red strain being more mature but still has some florets attached to it. We broke the news to them: "Not this year boys!"

Next, we have the adjacent ridge which was also Aviv by wavesheaf day but slightly behind the winner of the crown.



Please take note of all the heads out of the boot. However, they are very young even though the sun shining on them makes them look older. The following picture of the heads lends us understanding to the fact they are just out of flowering.



North of Re'im

Here we are at a prominent location from last year which is subject to the 4-legged lawn movers the past 5-6 years. Chanse and I call this the Todd and Brian location. Notice the oats mixed in with some dropping seed.



Also notice the red strain is dwarfing the standard volunteer/wild barley. The sheep and goats have made trails through much of it and in some areas eaten it down. We were able to extract some advanced red strain dough heads randomly spread throughout the younger plants.



This red strain head here is what we call an early bird. It can be dried in the sun or roasted to achieve what is required for a Leviticus 2:14 wavesheaf offering. Unfortunately, all the rest of his friends want to suck on the milk bottle much longer. This specimen is far too advanced for harvesting with a sickle as we have often pointed out. Just touching the head sends it apart as it was designed to do. This does not happen with domestic barley of this age for it is designed, through

manipulation by man, for the seeds and awns not to disperse unless under a violent event. Like a harvesting machine.

Here is a great picture with Linda holding some beautiful young red strain wild barley. Only in wet years can it achieve such stature. But we all know the lesson in that. The more water the longer the plant puts off seed production.



Notice it is flowering. Florets are clearly visible.

Some miscellaneous pictures from today.

Lots of sheep out and about. We only saw one lamb today in one of the other flocks not seen here. The young man said the little ones are about to pop out. Some of these mums here are really ready.





Tare in with the young barley. Once they show in the head, they expose themselves for what they are.

The following picture is of a sea of oats surrounding flowering barley. The oats are traditionally 3 weeks before the barley when found in good ground.

