

# First New Moon of the Year

We sighted the new moon tonight, March 30th from Shores, Israel (west of Jerusalem) at 6:17 pm. The new moon was seen by Bill and Marsha Hastings, Richard and Angie Andrews, and Brian Convery. This picture was taken at approximately 6:25pm from Shores. The new moon was also sighted by others near Jerusalem.



# Abib Inspections 2006

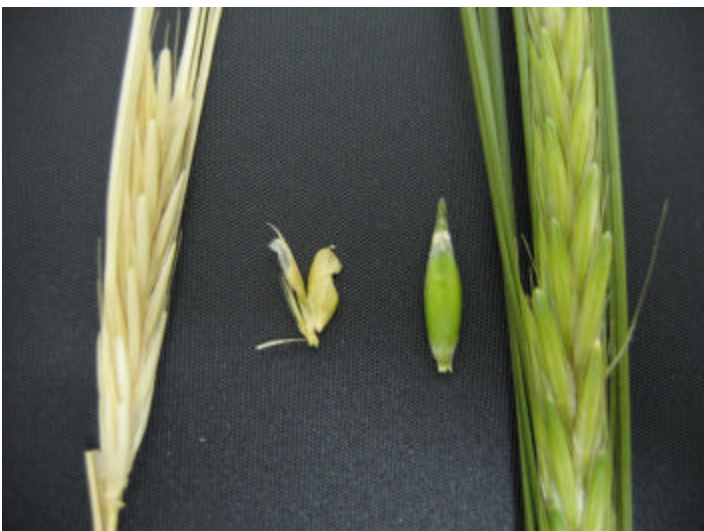
Tuesday, March 28

Thirteen members of the Body of Christ are in Israel to conduct Abib inspections. Our inspectors today focused on the Jordan Valley, Gilboa Mountains, and the Jezreel Valley. The vast majority of the barley we observed and inspected in the Jordan Valley from the intersection of Route 1 and Route 90 north to Route 57, (which is a few miles north of the Fatsa'el Junction) was dead due to stress from lack of water. There was the occasional patch which was still productive, but with very little yield.

North of here it became obvious that there had been more rain, which continued up through the Gilboa Mountains and Jezreel Valley. Fields of domestic barley along Route 65 heading southeast towards Megiddo Junction appeared to be 3 to 4 weeks away from harvest for domestic use. Patches of wild barley in this area will be "aviv" during the month of April as well.

The Gilboa Mountain region as viewed from Route 667 held a real variety of barley growth stages. The areas that contained higher contents of stony soil were far more advanced than the areas of richer soil. Some of the attached pictures and captions will clearly illustrate this.

Speaking of illustrations, we have added some pictures of both Ein Mabu'a and Alon Junction. If you have the pictures from last year, by all means please compare them. Tomorrow we will be inspecting many fields of both wild and domestic barley in the Judean Highlands and the Northern Negev.



These fields are located in the Gilboa Mountains in North Central Israel. In viewing them, one may get the impression that these fields are aviv, but nothing could be further from the truth. These fields are stressed due to lack of water. There is dead barley relatively close to healthy.

The dead barley in the picture to the left has kernels formed that are very small, thin, and still moist. Looking at that barley, one would get the impression that it was completely dried out.

The healthy barley in the picture to the left is 8.5 on the Zadok scale (soft dough). Would this field in fact come to a harvestable condition?





This is the infamous Alon Junction, "a going agricultural concern"???



An important illustration from Ein Mabuā.



Some of this year's cast of inspectors.

# Abib Inspections 2006

Wednesday, March 29

Today was a very successful day of inspections. Our intent was obviously to look at acceptable fields of barley. In doing so, we covered a lot of ground in the Northern Negev and Western Judean foothills, as one will be able to see if they follow along with a map.

One of our other goals was to acquire lots of photos of various conditions or stages of barley in the head. We will be using this information to put out a detailed description of what is “aviv” and what is not. Many have the false impression that if the barley stock and head is yellow in color that it must be aviv. We will clearly show that it is not the case in another report to be released Thursday or Friday. This should be of help to any who are truly interested in the truth of this tremendous symbol in the plan of salvation.

Our first stop was on Route 44 near Kafar Uriyya Junction in the Western Judean foothills. This is a location which has been used by us in the past. The pictures demonstrate the acreage, quality of soil, and health of the plants. It is located in an old “orchard”.



The barley is very healthy, young, and self-seeding. Self-seeding classifies this location as volunteer barley. Many of the plants are 4 feet tall. This particular field is 5 weeks from maturity under good conditions. Much of the barley, in spite of its large size is in the flowering stage with florets still visible.

Once again, aviv does not mean “green heads” as some teach. Aviv is an agricultural term to distinguish the month in which barley will be physiologically mature enough to reproduce itself and thus be acceptable to qualify as a wave sheaf offering of first fruits based on the minimum criteria of Leviticus 2:14.



Our second stop was just down the road south of the intersection. This field of volunteer barley is as healthy as the first with some plants being approximately 5 ½ feet tall. It is in the same stage of development as the first and could be a month and a half from maturity. Note the oats coming out of the boot as well.



Our next “official” stop was on Route 353 near Agur. This location has a slight rise to it facing south. That is very important as you can see the results. This field of barley is very healthy with no signs of stress. It is naturally maturing and aging. The individual kernels here range from soft dough to semi-hard dough. Many kernels are only 3 to 4 days away from being hard dough. This field will definitely be aviv within 14 days.



Next, we inspected the Ofakim area. Once again, volunteer barley was in the soft dough stage right through to hard dough. The conclusion here is simple. It will be more than ready to qualify as “aviv” in two weeks.



The next inspection took place near the Re'im Junction at Route 234 and 232. Volunteer barley was located all over great acreages on both sides of the road. Flocks of sheep were very busy in some sections having lunch. Once again, note the color of the majority of the barley. None was hard dough, but it was very close. These fields will have large quantities ready between 2 to 3 weeks at the latest.



The last location we will mention today is a park area located on Route 232 at Gerar. There are hundreds of acres of volunteer barley located here and the resident sheep have invaded sections of it. Here we have almost all the barley in the soft to firm dough stages. This area will be ready prior to, during, and after the Days of Unleavened Bread. We will note that from here we heard a lot of artillery fire focused on Gaza. It is becoming a way of life for all the locals being only a few miles from Gaza.



Many other locations were checked today as well but the consensus is very clear. The barley crop in the Western Judean Foothills and the Northern Negev is very healthy and right on time to start the seven-week barley harvest in April.



As a footnote, we will mention that many fields of wheat have already been harvested and were being harvested in the region. That is one of the reasons why we cannot link the modern day harvest of genetically altered, time-manipulated wheat harvest to that of the volunteer barley and the setting of the month of Abib.



As mentioned last year, the grapes play a scriptural role as well in this timing of the pattern of aviv. Most vineyards we looked at were budding or in initial start of green foliage. As we pointed out last year, the vast majority of vineyards were not even in bud in March.



We will send out another report tomorrow. We think you will find it very informative.

Our peace we give to you.

# Abib Report Summation 2006

Friday, March 31

Today is the first day of God's new year. It has been a very successful trip to Israel. Thirteen members of the body of Christ have put aside their daily responsibilities in order to serve the body. This is accomplished when they gather as much pertinent data each year on the current state of the volunteer barley crop in Israel as is possible in the 3 or 4 days prior to the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> lunar month. A lot of long days, short nights, and endless hours stuck in small cars and traffic are just part of the activities of the participants.

This year's inspections have been successful in many ways. Several of those are:

- 1) The barley crop was found to be at a state of maturity that will allow it to be used as a wave sheaf offering on the Sunday falling during the Days of Unleavened Bread, (April 16<sup>th</sup>).
- 2) Many fields of harvestable volunteer barley were inspected as was witnessed by the photographs sent out with the reports. These fields were very healthy throughout the entirety of the Western Judean hills, Northern Negev, and Jezreel Valley. The barley inspected on the Eastern Judean slopes and the Jordan Valley as denoted in our reports was very unhealthy and in many cases completely dead having never reached maturity due to stressful conditions which ultimately are weather-related.
- 3) Abundant pictures were taken which will allow those who have never had the opportunity to participate in the actual inspections to now be able to have the knowledge to be able to identify what is and what is not aviv barley. This should be of great assistance to any and all and will take any mystery or confusing ideas out of the process.
- 4) Many new locations were inspected this year and have been added to our inventory of harvestable fields of volunteer barley. Each and every one of these are in actuality "harvestable fields" found in "good soil".
- 5) We have gathered lots of pictures of terraced hillsides to clearly show what they look like and what grows in them. As we will demonstrate with picture after picture, these terraces were and still are used to plant trees such as almond and olive and to a lesser extent grapes. They were never used for the direct production of grain crops which were confined to areas of rich soil primarily located in valleys or more moderately pitched terrain. We have also taken the time to show what is not an "ancient" terraced location. In recent times, brethren in the body have been subjected to false and misleading information on this aspect of farming in Israel. It has become important for us to dispel and correct that situation.

Many patterns have been identified over the past five years of barley inspections. These are proving to be invaluable tools in identifying the calendar patterns of God. For those of us in the body of Christ who believe that Christ will never leave or forsake us and that He is with us even to the end of the age, these patterns are clearly seen and very relevant. He reminds us in Romans 1:20 of this very principle: "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead so that they will be without excuse".

While on that thought, I would ask that everyone who spends the time evaluating the information received from these inspection trips, to compare the pictures of Ein Mabu'a taken last year with the ones taken this year. You can easily see why this area is totally unusable in the determination of the beginning of the barley harvest, but even more important is the fact that if it was used by some last year, it should have been used by those same inspectors this year to proclaim a normal year starting in the beginning of March. Look at the photographic evidence. The entirety of the grotto was found to be completely dead and has been so obviously for some time as this year's pictures show. In viewing last year's pictures, one can see that patches of the grotto had changed color. By the condition of this year's inspections and the timing of such things, it is clear to see that this unacceptable location would have been in the same state this year in the first week of March as it was last year during the third week of March. For that matter, so was the infamous Alon Junction as the pictures evidence. My point is clear: If it was acceptable to declare a normal year last year, then why not this year? This is not brought up to be a stick poked in anyone's eye, but simply due to a desire for all to understand what is and is not correct in determining something so important to us as the wave sheaf offering of the first fruit harvest, the early harvest of God, and thus the setting of the commanded times of meeting annually with the Father and Son. This has nothing to do with who is right, but with what is right.

This year's team consisted of five hands-on experienced inspectors and eight inexperienced aviv inspectors (those who have not had hands-on experience). They, as well as many of you who are receiving these reports, are training and in fact in some cases have acquired the necessary information and understanding to be able to conduct a search and



inspection as to the determination of aviv in Israel. For those who do not feel they are there yet, I think you will feel differently after reviewing a series of photographs, instructions, and comments we put together on the various stages of barley in the head. Combining that with the many locations we have provided in our reports, you should be able to conduct your own inspections in Israel with a reasonable confidence of an accurate outcome. However, I will add that some of you in the body will not be able to do so as you allow personal bias as well as other vain deceptions to cloud your mind.

What we do each and every year is to compile information on the state of the maturity of the volunteer barley crop in Israel so that you, the reader, can use it to make your own decisions. This is a service we provide to anyone who is interested in keeping the commandments of God and who are overcoming the devil by the blood of the Lamb and word of their testimony. Our testimony should be the same testimony of Jesus Christ. If it is, then we truly have the faith of Jesus dwelling in us both inwardly and outwardly.

We hope you will benefit from the information we have sent out this week and will continue to compile in the near future. We will be putting together a brochure on the process of identifying the barley in the state of aviv, for anyone who will not be able to download it from a computer. It is important to view all the pictures in color and not in black and white.

The inspectors who were present this year were Paul Dickson, Roberta Dickson, Gerald Kirby, Lynn Kirby, Michael Storey, Nelleke Kastelein, Tony Steel, Woody Meilak, Rick Andrews, Angie Andrews, Bill Hastings, Marsha Hastings, and Brian Convery.

Our peace we give to you.



Barley field at the junction of Route 367 and 375 in the Western Judean hills. We found acreages of volunteer barley throughout this area.





Above: This is typical agricultural terracing as found throughout the Judean Hills.

Below: This is a claimed ancient agricultural terrace. Notice the rock debris throughout, little if any sustainable soil, and a constant threat of rocks falling from the cliffs above. This is not an agricultural terrace. In fact, this entire grotto has never been used for agriculture.





# First Pictures of Barley From Israel - 2006

These pictures were taken on Thursday, February 23, 2006 south of Qiryat Gat. This is one of the locations we always check thoroughly in the Northern Negev as one of our "early area's." This particular field compelled Pierre to stop and inspect because of its advanced stages compared to others.

This is a harvestable field of domestic barley (manipulated). Looking at the field as a whole it is easy to see many different stages of growth which is typical with a young field whether domestic or wild. Three distinct stages are visible from this wide view (in the boot, emerging from the boot, and fully emerged from the boot).

The close up tells it all. It is an excellent picture which captures the "stage" of this field as a whole. Notice one head is almost completely emerged, another is halfway emerged, and others are at various stages of awns coming out of the boot before the head emerges.

If you look to your Zadok scale you can easily place this field's age. It is about 6 weeks after emergence from the soil for it is in the Boot (stage 4) and Head Emergence (stage 5). If you were to use a Feekes scale it would be 10 to 10.5. A small portion of the heads will be in the 6th stage (flowering) as well but not enough to declare it a field in that stage.

Once the head has fully emerged and pollination is complete the barley enters the Milk Development Stages (stage 7) which under good conditions will average about 10 days. Some of the individual heads in this field may hit that in 10 to 12 days but the vast majority will take about 15 to 20 days to get there. After that it will enter Stage 8 which is the Dough Stage. Once again this stage takes about 10 days. With the field in the various stages as it is now it will take the majority of the field approximately another 15-20 days after the Milk stage to be able to classify it as such.

For barley to meet the minimal standards (kernels dried with fire) for a firstfruit offering (Lev. 2:14) and thus a wavesheaf offering during the days of Unleavened Bread, it must be somewhere between stages 8.9 to 9.1 on the Zadoks scale. That would correspond to approx. 11.2 to 11.3 on the Feekes Scale if I am not mistaken. I do not use Feekes myself but I know others do.

From here it is easy to do the math. This particular field (not randomly scattered individual heads) will meet those minimal requirements by the first week of April and meet any harvestable standard by the 2nd or 3rd week. Please keep in mind this is an early field as well. It is also *Hordeum Vulgare* which is domestic barley which undoubtedly is manipulated. All the same it gives us a fair indication of timing. This process could be sped up a little with very hot and dry weather. Unfortunately that would reduce the yield.

The conclusion from this advanced field is it will not be ready by any possible standard as "abib" by the middle of March.

We will keep you posted.









Reply to Karaite Korner Newsletter #263.

Hi Folks,

I received another example of bait and switch from my old friend Nehemia (via someone else forwarding me his most recent report). He just can't bring himself to mentioning names in his critiques. His latest discourse is obviously directed at me for the spring rains comments, I am not aware of who is deserving of the fall comments. It must be someone else who rubs him wrong. He needs to go back and reread our reports from last year for edification, as well as correction. We tied the heavy rains to the temperatures last year in Israel during the aviv inspections, for they were not just an intermittent rain here or there nor were the temp's. This year the temperatures during our inspections were beautiful, in the 60's and 70's during the days, and at night in the 50's and one night high 40's, which is just where they should be in a normal year. That was far from the case last year. We were still in winter with people wearing heavy coats and scarfs during the day. The nights consistently hit the low 30's and in some locals the high 20's. That is all simply a matter of record. I guess we are not to let that get in the way however!

As to the rains on the weekend and the tornado which hit the Galilee being a sign to contend with, the spin mysteer needs to search out a meteorological site on the internet and see that they most commonly occur with two converging weather systems cold and warm causing uplift and downlift at the same time and thus a vortex. They can occur at any time that condition exists but primarily in what we call the spring of the year as is witnessed often here in the states. That is precisely the case in Israel this week. It is also the cause of the recent cloud burst, which we call a gully washer here. No Israel is not experiencing such events all over regardless of what the spin mysteer is saying. They are very limited in geographical area but none the less very severe.

Lets see the accusation is, "Yet mysteriously the voices of protest remain silent!" He must not be privy to my latest e-mails or our reports, so if anyone out there could forward them to him please do so. As well, I think he says I and others just want to follow the Rabbinic Calendar. If he actually believes that he is more deceived than I actually have thought but of course I think most of us know that is just for audience consumption.

He is correct that Rabbinic Jews did not protest the conditions last year for they intercalated, it was he who was in fact protesting the conditions. They were correct in their sticking to the intercalated month based on our inspections and accumulated evidence from the land and the Bible. So why would he have heard "objections" coming from them. Their only comment was he is nuts! And no I am not a "non-Rabbinite group who claim to follow the Torah". I try to follow Christ wherever He goes as I am confident you all try to do also. That means we walk through the entirety of the word of God and do not try to balance on one leg. I truly hope that one day in the future my old friend can come to that understanding. I do not hate him, but that which he does.

Brian