

ועד הכשרות קהילות חרדים דליקוואוד וסענטרל דזשערזי

Vaad Hakashrus Kehillos Chareidim of Lakewood & Central Jersey

חמשה עשר בשבט
שנת תשפ"ד



Kashrus

For the Educated Consumer



206 5th Street, Lakewood, NJ 08701 · (732) 901-1888 · KCLKASHRUS.ORG

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NEW FRUIT ON TU B'SHVAT

REVIEWED BY RAV YAAKOV
FORCHHEIMER SHLITA

There are few halachos of Tu B'Shvat mentioned in Shulchan Aruch; the halachos of not saying Tachanun and *issur taanis* are mentioned in passing.¹ The Magen Avrohom² though, quotes the *Tikkun Yissachar*³ that Ashkenazim have a *minhag* to eat fruits that grow on trees (*pri ha'eitz*) on that day. In the past few centuries, various *minhagim* have been added (primarily based on *sifrei Kabbalah*), including davening for an *esrog mehudar* and saying certain *tefillos*. However, when performing a *minhag* one must first be sure that all the halachos are kept as well.

For example, many use dried fruits simply because that was what was available in Europe; but many dried fruits are infested with *tola'im*, and today, fresh varieties are generally available to us. (Dried varieties of figs and dates can have *tola'im* issues, though pomegranates and olives do not.)

This brochure contains a detailed guide to checking various fruits and nuts. Here we will discuss some of the halachos of the *brachah* of Shehecheyanu.

SHEHECHEYANU ON NEW FRUITS ON ROSH HASHANAH

We are unsure if the second day of Rosh Hashanah requires a new Shehecheyanu like every

other second day of Yom Tov; or perhaps, Rosh Hashanah is a *yoma arichta*, Shehecheyanu on the first day covers the second day as well. Therefore, we take a new fruit and have in mind that even if Rosh Hashanah does not require Shehecheyanu it won't be a *brachah l'vatalah*, as the Shehecheyanu will apply to the new fruit.

Some add that since Rosh Hashanah begins a new year we want to start with a new fruit, because a person is compared to a tree and its fruit; possibly, this is the *makor* of the Shehecheyanu on Tu B'Shvat as well – since it is Rosh Hashanah Le'Ilanos and fruits are symbolic of a person, we begin with the *brachah* of Shehecheyanu.

Another source for the *minhag* of Shehecheyanu on Tu BiShevat is based on the Yerushalmi,⁴ saying that Rabbi Elazar ate fruits once a year to give praise to Hashem. Since Tu B'Shvat is a Rosh Hashanah Le'Ilanos, it is an auspicious time for this, and although Shehecheyanu isn't mentioned, the context of "once a year" implies that Shehecheyanu may have been part of the *inyan*.

ORDER OF BRACHOS TO AVOID A HEFSEK

The Shehecheyanu on a new fruit may be said in advance of eating it; it is only a *minhag* to wait until the actual eating. Therefore many Poskim⁵ hold that Shehecheyanu should be said not between Ha'eitz and eating, but

before Ha'eitz, to avoid a *hefsek* between the *brachah* and the *achilah*. Alternatively, one may make Ha'eitz on a common fruit first, and make Shehecheyanu separately on the new fruit. However, the *minhag ha'olam* is to say Shehecheyanu right after the Bracha of Ha'eitz.⁶

DEFINING A NEW FRUIT: AVAILABILITY

The Rema⁷ says that in order to make Shehecheyanu on a fruit, the fruit must be seasonal: even if someone did not eat it in a long time, he still wouldn't make Shehecheyanu on it if it is always readily available. The Rema adds that if the fruit is available only bi-annually, we can still make Shehecheyanu; the Magen Avrohom proves this from the fact that the *mishmor* of Kohanim in the Bais Hamikdash made Shehecheyanu when doing the *avodah* even though they had the opportunity twice a year. The *Igros Moshe*⁸ says that perhaps even if the fruit is available three or four times a year, a *brachah* may be said.

However, while in days of old it was impossible to obtain fruits during the off-season, today fruits are imported from other countries and available all year round. This may impact the *brachah* of Shehecheyanu, as the fruit is not considered "new" if it is always available.

cont. on back



1 שו"ע סימן קלא סעיף ו לענין תחנון, וסימן תקעב סעיף ג לענין תענית.
2 שם סימן טו.
3 דף סב ביאור קביעות השנים חודש שבט, הובא בספר כנסת הגדולה הגהות ב"י סי' ה.
4 קידושין מה. ב הובא במג"א סימן רכו סי' יד וט"ז סוף סימן רכו.
5 ראה משנה ברורה סימן רכה סי' יא, שו"ת מהרש"ג חלק ג סימן ג, ועין עוד בערוך השלחן סימן רכה סוף סעיף ה שכתב שכן הוא נהוג.
6 ראה ערוה"ש שם.
7 סימן רכה סעיף ו.
8 אורח חיים חלק ה סימן מג אות ב.





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ראוי לאדם להסתכל במה שאוכל ועל ידי זה ינצל מכמה חולעים.
ומעיד אני עלי שכמה וכמה פעמים נצלתי על ידי זה ברוך השם.
(חכמת אדם ל"ה כ')

CHECKING RECOMMENDED DUE TO POSSIBILITY OF INFESTATION

ראוי לבדוק - יש חשש לנגיעות

Almonds, Walnuts, Sunflower Seeds and Cashews

1. Check that there is no webbing in between the nuts.
 2. Check for holes in the almonds. Those with holes should be halved and checked.
 3. Cashews: Take a sample of approximately 10 to 20 pieces, halve them and check that it is clean from infestation.
 4. Pistachios are mostly clean but it is a *chidor* to check them.
 5. Sunflower seeds should be checked as they are opened.
- All types of nuts that have been roasted or fried must have an acceptable kosher certification.

NUTS

שקדים, אגוזי מלך, גרעיני חמניות וקשיו

1. לבדוק שאין בנמצא קורי משי בין הפיצוחים.
2. לבדוק שאין בנמצא חורים בתוך השקדים. אם ישנם חורים יש לחצותם ולבדקם.
3. בקשיו יש לקחת מדגם של 10-20 יחידות ולחצות ולראות שנקי מחולעים.
4. פיסטוקו אצלנו נקי בדרך כלל, אבל מ"מ מהודר יותר לבדוקם כנ"ל.
5. גרעיני חמניות יש לבדוק בשעת פתיחתם. כל סוגי הפיצוחים שעברו קליה או טיגון חייבים בהכשר מעולה.

פיצוחים

Whole Dried Apricots and Dried Dates

1. Check on the outside that there are no flies or other insects attached to the fruit.
2. Halve the apricot or date and check inside for signs of infestation such as a reddish worm in apricots or brownish worm in Dates. California Medjool Dates and Apricots are usually clean nevertheless it is better to check them.
3. All types of dried fruit are recommended to be checked outside that there is no fly or insect attached.
4. All types of dried fruits require kosher certification.

DRIED FRUIT

משמש שלם ויבש ותמרים מיובשים

1. לבדוק מבחוץ שלא נדבק זבוב או חרק.
2. לחצות ולבדוק מבפנים שאין חולעים, במשמש בצבע אדום ובתמרים בצבע חום. תמרים ומשמים מקליפורניא נקיים בדרך כלל ומ"מ מהודר לבדוקם כנ"ל.
3. כל סוגי הפירות המיובשים מומלץ לבדוק אותם מבחוץ שלא נדבקו עליהם זבובים או חרקים.
4. כל סוגי הפירות המיובשים צריכים הכשר מעולה.

פירות מיובשים

Should be peeled and all the brown holes indents should be removed and rinsed.

FRESH PINEAPPLE

לקנף ולהסיר את כל האיזורים החומים המצויים על הפרי ולשטוף.

אננס

Grapes should be removed from the stems and put in soapy water for 5 minutes and then should be rinsed well, a few at a time, under running water. Grapes should be washed before Shabbos.

GRAPES

להפריד את הענבים מהאשכול ולהשרות במים עם סבון נוזלי ל-5 דקות אחר כך לשטוף היטב כמויות קטנות במים זורמים. יש לרוחץ הענבים קודם שבת.

ענבים





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A person should always inspect what he is eating to avoid eating insects. I personally was saved numerous times from transgression because of inspection. (חכמת אדם ליה כ)

REQUIRES CHECKING-FREQUENTLY INFESTED צריך לבדוק - מוחזק בנגיעות

STRAWBERRIES
BLUEBERRIES
FIGS, CAROB/
BOKSER AND
RAISINS,

Due to infestation that is usually found in these types of products and the need for expertise in checking them, it is recommended to refrain from eating these types of fruits and berries. Frozen strawberries and blueberries that have a Mehudar kosher supervision that guarantees they are free of infestation can be used. Zante Currants are generally clean and may be used.

עקב נגיעות המצויות בפרות אלו וצריך מומחיות רבה לבדוקם מומלץ להימנע מלאוכלם. אפשר להשתמש בחותים ואוכמניות קפואים עם הכשר מהודר. צימוקים מסוג "זאנטע קארענטס" נקים בדרך כלל.

חותים, אוכמניות,
תאנים, חרובים,
וצימוקים

RASPBERRIES,
BLACKBERRIES
AND GOJI
BERRIES

Due to frequency of infestation and these products cannot be checked one should refrain from eating them. There are no Frozen berries of these types that have a KCL approved kosher supervision.

עקב נגיעות המצויות והקושי לבדוקם, יש להימנע מלאוכלם. אין במצא קפואים עם הכשר המאשר על ידינו יש להימנע מלהשתמש.

חות עץ, פטל,
חות גוגי'

DOES NOT REQUIRE CHECKING - GENERALLY NOT INFESTED אין צריך בדיקה-בדרך כלל נקי מנגיעות

CRANBERRIES,
PRUNES AND
CHERRIES USA
FRESH OR DRIED

1. Make sure that there is no fly or insect on the outside of the dried fruit.
2. Dried fruits should be purchased with kosher certification.

יש לשים לב שלא נדבקו זבובים או חרקים מחוץ לפירות היבשים. פירות יבשים יש להשתמש עם הכשר מעולה.

חמוציות, שזיף
מיובש, דודדבנים
USA טרי ויבש



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KCL Kashrus Clarification

Please **do not assume** that a Chasuna Hall, Supermarket, Caterer or any other establishment is under KCL supervision unless they can present a valid KCL certification letter.

The Following Chasuna Halls are under the KCL Supervision:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| Ateres Riva | Ne'emas Hachaim |
| Ateres Chana | Kesser Moshe Yehuda |
| Eagle Ridge | Ateres Genendel |
| Lake Terrace | |

The Following Supermarkets are under the KCL Supervision:

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Aisle 9 Lakewood | Gourmet Glatt North | NPGS Main Street |
| Aisle 9 Jackson | Gourmet Glatt South | Seasons |
| Bingo | Kosher West | Super Stop |
| Evergreen | NPGS James | Shloimy's Kosher World |
| FoodEx | NPGS Jackson | |

Packaged products are under the supervision printed on their packaging. Fresh fruits and vegetables are not included in KCL supervision unless packaged with the KCL label.

Catering:

There are numerous caterers under KCL supervision. There are also many restaurants and take out stores, both Dairy and Fleishig, under the KCL's supervision that provide catering services. As mentioned, **never assume** that a caterer is under KCL supervision unless they can present a certification letter from the KCL. We will bl"n publish a full list of KCL supervised establishments in a future publication.

cont. from front

A BRACHAH OF SIMCHAH

Another issue raised by the Poskim is making Shehechyanu on fruits that are not desirable. Since Shehechyanu is a *brachah* of *simchah*, a certain level of *simchah* with the fruit is required. For example, when one enjoys the summer fruits (peaches, plums) for the first time that year he makes Shehechyanu. However, on fruits that give no enjoyment making Shehechyanu would not be appropriate.⁹

Sefer V'zos HaBrachah ¹⁰ quotes Rav Elyashiv that we shouldn't say Shehechyanu on *bokser* as there is no *simchah* in eating it. He quotes a similar *psak* in the name of Rav Yisrael Yaakov Fischer *zt"l*. He adds that the Rambam¹¹ says that *bokser* is a 'harmful food.'

ESROG JELLY

Some eat jellied esrog on Tu Bishvat and say

Shehechyanu on it. However, this too has its issues. Rav Shlomo Kluger¹² says that since Shehechyanu was already recited over the *esrog* [with the *lulav*] on Succos, the *simchah* of the new fruit has been covered.¹³

SAFEK SHEHECHYANU

According to the *Bach* (*Siman* 29), in a case of *safek*, Shehechyanu **is** recited. He explains that while the general *klal* of *safek brachos l'hokel* applies to a *brachah* on a *mitzvah*, this *brachah* is on the feeling of *simchah* and *hodaah*, and isn't considered *l'vatalah* but remains applicable even in a case of *safek*.

GRAFTED FRUIT

The Poskim discuss making Shehechyanu on a grafted fruit like a nectarine: Rav Yaakov Chagiz (*Halachos Ketanos* 1:60) says we don't and Rav Yaakov Emden (1:63) says we do. This *she'eilah* is also discussed by the *Igros Moshe* ¹⁴

and the *Minchas Yitzchak*,¹⁵ and both hold that it is a *safek*. The *Minchas Yitzchak* adds that although according to the *Bach* one would make a *brachah* in a case of *safek*, the Chasam Sofer *paskens* that *safek l'kula* applies here as well. However, many hold that only the initial fruit that was grafted is not fit for Shehechyanu, whereas fruits that were planted from the seeds of the grafted fruit are.¹⁶

SUMMING IT UP

Before making Shehechyanu on a new fruit, one must ascertain 1) that the fruit isn't available at other times of the year, and 2) that we have a level of enjoyment from the fruit.

Prepared by Rabbi Moshe Boruch Kaufman, Machon Aleh Zayis

9 ראה שו"ת שבט הלוי חלק ד' סימן כה. ספר וזאת הברכה בשם הגר"ש אלישיב זצ"ל. תשובות והנהגות חלק ב סימן קמד.
10 פרק יח אות ה.
11 הלכות דעות פ"ד הל' יא.
12 שו"ת האלקי לך שלמה סימן צב.
13 וראה עוד במשנה ברורה סימן רכה ס"ק טז טעם שאין מברכים שהחיינו על האחרוג בכלל. ועין בפסקי תשובות סימן חרפה הערה 65 בשם הרבה פוסקים שאין לברך שהחיינו על מרקחת האחרוג.
14 חלק ב סימן נח.
15 חלק ג סימן כה.
16 עין פסקי תשובות סימן רכה הערה 93 בשם הגר"ש אויערבך זצ"ל בספר הלכות שלמה פכ"ג אות יח והג"ר בן ציון אבא שאול זצ"ל עפי' החזו"א כלאים סי' ג' סק"ז.