ORLA

ORLA: GENERAL QUESTIONS

Orla: Which Uses Are Prohibited

You may not use *orla* fruit for any type of use or benefit (*asur b'hana'a*); the prohibition is not just for eating.

Orla: Which Fruit Is Orla

Do not eat tree fruit for the first three years of the tree (*orla*); any tree fruits from the fourth year (*neta revai*) must be redeemed with a *pruta* before eating, even outside of *Eretz Yisrael*.

NOTE It is not possible to redeem *neta revai* in the old city of Jerusalem!

Orla: Which Part of the Plant Is Prohibited

Only *orla* fruit is forbidden, but the tree may be used.

Orla: Who Is Prohibited from Growing Orla

Orla applies to fruit grown by both Jews and non-Jews.

ORLA: HOW TO CALCULATE

Orla Planting Deadline

Trees planted at least 45 days before *Rosh Hashana* (that is, by *Tu B'Av*) are considered to be one year old on that *Rosh Hashana*.

How To Calculate When Orla Is Over

You may eat tree fruit if the tree's buds appeared after *Tu B'Shvat* of the fourth year. This may be a span of only 2.5 years if the tree was planted on or before *Tu B'Av* (at least 45 days before *Rosh Hashana):*

1st Year *Tu B'Av* to *Rosh Hashana* #1
2nd Year *Rosh Hashana* #1 to *Rosh Hashana* #2
3rd Year *Rosh Hashana* #2 to *Rosh Hashana* #3
4th Year *Rosh Hashana* #3 to *Tu B'Shvat*

EXAMPLE A fruit tree planted on *Tu B'Av*, Aug. 15, 2011, will be one year old 6 weeks later, on *Rosh Hashana*, Sept. 29, 2011. By *Rosh Hashana*, Sept. 5, 2013, the tree will have completed three years and it enters its fourth year. Buds that appear on or after *Tu B'Shvat*, Jan. 15, 2014, and turn into fruit will be *neta revai* and may be redeemed and eaten.

Orla: Doubt about Tree Age in Eretz Yisrael

Do not eat fruit from a tree growing in *Eretz Yisrael* if you are not certain about the age of a tree that might be three years old or less.

Orla: Doubt about Tree Age outside of Eretz Yisrael

You may eat fruit from a tree growing outside of *Eretz Yisrael* if you are not certain about the age of a tree that might be three years old or less.

Orla: Transplanted Trees

If a tree (whether younger or older than 4 years) is transplanted but did not have enough soil on its roots to live for several years, restart counting *orla* from zero.

ORLA: INDIVIDUAL FRUITS

Orla: Grapes outside of Eretz Yisrael

Outside of *Eretz Yisrael*, only grapes (not other types of “tree” fruit) need to be redeemed in the fourth year of their growth in order to eat them.

NOTE We are lenient in using commercially grown grapes due to doubt as to the grapevines' ages.

Orla: Papayas in Eretz Yisrael

Papayas grown in *Eretz Yisrael* may not be usable, since papaya trees don't normally live for four years.

NOTE There is a difference of opinion as to the blessing over eating papaya— *borei pri ha'eitz* or *borei pri ha'adama.)*

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