

Abib Summation February 26, 2017

Hi Folks,

It has been a very uneventful barley inspection trip this year. The barley was the youngest we have seen with only 2005 coming very close to it. But the winner is 2017. Rick and Angie, do you remember how we even considered that the goats and sheep may have had at it prior to our inspections in 2005? It was so immature we had a hard time accepting the fact because we had not seen it that young before. That is what we have here this year, this week. By the way, the yearly cycle pattern from 2005 is once again established this year with it being intercalated.

The anemones are sparse in the North but on fire in the south. I will include pictures of some for you all to see and share in the beauty of the Land.

The Almond trees are incredibly beautiful in many areas we have visited; both cultivated and wild. We will include a picture of them as well. As we know, and as it is confirmed once again, the Almonds are the last stand for winter, its last sentinel. In a few weeks they will have given up their blossoms for the fruit to start maturing into the nut.

We love watching the White Storks when they are migrating through, but unfortunately not this year. The bird reporting groups in Israel have not seen them yet. There are lots of Black Storks up in the Hula Valley, north of the Kinneret. For many years now they have had wintering flocks of them there. They are a very bland compared to the migrating White Stork which is just beautiful to watch in their long funnels reaching high into the heavens. Thousands of tourists come here during March/April to watch this wonder of creation. I am told there were a couple of clowns on a P.T. Barnum religious program trying to discredit this wonder of nature and Biblical sign of the month of Abib starting. Apparently they do not know the difference between a Black Stork and a White Stork. No surprise there; for they do not know the difference between acceptable barley and unacceptable "goat grass."

It may be of interest to some of you that the wild barley in the North is once again more advanced than the south. Not by a whole lot, but it is noticeable in the traditionally early fields.

For any who may be interested the end of the 12th month next year will probably take place after sunset the evening of Sunday March 18th making the 19th the start of the year if barley is found to be mature enough to meet the standards for a wave sheaf offering on Sunday April 8th. That means we will be inspecting the week of March 11, 2018.

We hope you have the information this year to make your decisions as to the start and end of this year's cycle. Pictures for you are below.



