



Is your tree

Kosher?



We look for a hechsher on food packages

A certificate at restaurants

Is the tree you bought kosher?

>> Why do trees need a hechsher? <<

What should we do?

Garden owners

Buy trees from supervised nurseries only.
For a list of supervised nurseries:



(Or Google: משתלות מפקחות)

Gardeners

Refer clients to supervised nurseries and encourage other nurseries to receive supervision

Nursery owners

Join the family of supervised nurseries, and enjoy exposure to the mitzvah observant community. Join here:



Kilayim: Forbidden Grafts

Most people are not aware that nearly all trees sold at nurseries today are grafted.

What is grafting? A branch with the desired fruit (scion) is connected to a trunk with a hearty root system (rootstock).

Grafting itself is not necessarily forbidden. The Torah allows grafting similar species and there are many trees that are conventionally grafted in permitted ways (figs, dates, grapevines, etc.). Nurseries do not necessarily ensure that the grafts in the trees they sell are halachically permissible.

If a forbidden graft was performed, the one who plants such trees in their garden transgresses the kilayim prohibition (according to many posekim) and buying the tree constitutes a partnership with transgressors. What can you do? Buy a kosher tree!

The supervised nurseries ensure that all grafts are performed in a permitted fashion and the trees are kosher lemehadrin!



Orlah

The Torah forbids eating fruit from trees in their first three years. But what happens when you buy a mature tree?

According to halachah, only trees that meet certain criteria at nurseries throughout their period of growth will not need to restart the orlah count when transplanted in the private garden.

Many nurseries do not ensure that the halachic requirements are in place, and buyers are not aware that they need to wait another three years to eat the fruit.

Supervised nurseries ensure that the trees are connected to the ground to make it possible to count orlah years. Trees are marked with their orlah year age, so you will know if you need to wait a year or two, or can eat the fruit right away!

Dear all garden owners and gardeners in every location,
We have the tremendous merit to plant trees in the Land of Israel, but we must plant them in accordance to halachah.

Unfortunately, many are unaware of the kilayim (grafting) prohibition prevalent among fruit trees; so, too, many purchase mature trees and eat the fruit while according to halachah the trees are considered in their orlah years and their fruits are forbidden.

Torah VeHa'aretz Institute has launched a worthy initiative to supervise nurseries and ensure that the trees sold there are not the products of forbidden grafts and the orlah years are counted correctly.

We call on all nursery owners to take on the institute's supervision and on the public to buy trees only from these nurseries. With Hashem's help, planting trees in Israel in accordance with halachah will increase our stronghold throughout our land.

Rabbi Dov Lior

Former Rabbi of Kiryat Arba

Rabbi Yaakov Ariel

Former Rabbi of Ramat Gan

Rabbi Aryeh Stern

Former Rabbi of Jerusalem

Rabbi David Dudkowitz

Rabbi of Yitzhar

Rabbi David Hai HaKohen

Rosh Yeshiva Netivot Yisrael, Bat Yam

Rabbi Yeshoshua Katz

Rabbi of Maaleh Adumim

Rabbi Noach Nandsberg

Rabbi of Sedot Dan Council