



# STUDY TRIP ISRAEL

## OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 6, 2010



www.vabnet.nl May 2010





### INTRODUCTION AND GOAL STUDYTRIP ISRAËL

Welcome on this trip to Israël!

The main goal of this studytrip is to give you a general overview of the primary agricultural and on agriculture based activities in Israel. The programme offers you a wide variety of items from the North of Israel, till the Dead Sea in the south-east and Jerusalem in the middle. Besides agriculture there will be time to visit a few touristic hotspots of this country.

Part of this studytrip is the Israël Introduction Day in The Hague, in september 2010, to be organised later on in cooperation with the Centre for Information and Documentation on Israël (CIDI).

We wish you a very instructive and pleasant trip!

Project Group International Affairs, Association of Consultants in Agriculture

> Hein-Willem Leeraar Peter Greijmans Doede de Jong Han Meurs Yvonne van de Camp



Vereniging Agrarische Bedrijfsadviseurs P.O. Box 1634 3800 BP AMERSFOORT the Netherlands T. 0031 33 45 35 330 E info@vabnet.nl I www.vabnet.nl



2. HULEY VALLEY - SYRIAN-AFRICAN RIFT

3. AMARYLLIS

4. BEAT SHEAN VALLEY

5. YAIR EXPERIMENTAL STATION



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### **ISRAEL**

Israel is a country in Western Asia located on the eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea. It borders

Lebanon in the north, Syria in the northeast, Jordan in the east, and Egypt on the southwest, and contains geographically diverse features within its relatively small area. Also adjacent are the West Bank to the east and Gaza Strip to the southwest. Israel is the world's only predominantly Jewish state with a population of about 7.5 million people, of whom approximately 5.62 million are Jewish. The largest ethnic minority group is the segment denominated as Arab citizens of Israel, while minority religious groups include Muslims, Christians, Druze, Samaritans and others, most of which are found within the Arab segment.

The modern state of Israel has its historical and religious roots in the Biblical Land of Israel (Eretz Yisrael), a concept central to Judaism since ancient times, and the heartland of the ancient kingdoms of Israel and Judah. Following the birth of political Zionism in 1897 and the Balfour Declaration, the League of Nations granted the United Kingdom the British Mandate of Palestine after World War I, with responsibility for establishing "... such political, administrative and economic conditions as will secure the establishment of the Jewish national home, as laid down in the preamble, and the development of self-governing institutions, and also for safeguarding the civil and religious rights of all the inhabitants of Palestine, irrespective of race and religion..."

In November 1947 the United Nations decided on partition of Palestine into a Jewish state, an Arab state, and a UN-administered Jerusalem. Partition was accepted by Zionist leaders but rejected by Arab leaders leading to the 1947-1948 Civil War in Mandatory Palestine. Israel declared independence on 14 May 1948 and neighboring Arab states attacked the next day. Since then, Israel has

**Land Use** Arable land Irrigated farming Rough grazing/subsistence farming Wasteland Urban or built-up area Cereals (wheat Cotton Fruit Grapes Olives Vegetables

fought a series of wars with neighboring Arab states, and in consequence, Israel controls territories beyond those delineated in the 1949 Armistice Agreements. Some international borders remain in dispute, however Israel has signed peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan, though efforts to resolve conflict with the Palestinians have so far only met with limited success.

Israel is a representative democracy with a parliamentary system and universal suffrage. The Prime Minister serves as head of government and the Knesset serves as Israel's legislative body. The economy, based on the nominal gross domestic product, is the 44th-largest in the world. Israel ranks highest among Middle Eastern countries on the UN Human Development Index. Jerusalem is the country's capital, seat of government, and largest city, while Israel's main financial center is Tel Aviv.

(Source: www.wikepedia.org).





### PROGRAMME STUDYTRIP FROM DAY TO DAY

### **DAY 1 - SATURDAY OCTOBER 30**

5.00 hrs. Reporting at Schiphol Airport. Due to very strict safety regulations on flights to

Israel: Make sure to be in time!

7.05 hrs. Flight from Schiphol to Tel Aviv, via Zürich with Swiss Air

Flight no. LX 737 to Kloten Airport, Zürich and no. LX 254 to Ben Gurion Airport, Tel

Aviv



13.30 hrs. Arrival at Ben Gurion International Airport Tel Aviv (A) and

welcome by Mr. Nachman Karu, agronomist and specialized in

'irrigation issues'. Mr. Karu is our host during the trip.

Address: Gan ha Shikmim 3, Savyon 56905

M: 00 972-54-22 299 39 E: nani.karu@gmail.com

14.15 hrs. | Bustransfer to Kibbutz Ortal in the Golan Heights,

Upper Galilee, 12430



15.00 hrs. Lunch at Bistro De Carmel in Zichron Ya'akov (B) and visit to the Carmel Wineries

Address: Derech Ha Yayin 2

I: www.bistrodecarmel.rest-e.co.il

T: 00 972 - 4 629 09 77

I: www.carmelwines.co.il/en

E: wineculture@carmelwines.co.il

T: 00 972 - 4 639 17 88

19.00 hrs. Arrival and checking in at Kibbutz Ortal (C)

T: 00 972-4-69 60 808.

I: www.ortal.net

Welcome by Mrs. Neta Niron, M: 00 972 - 52 56 123 50

E: neta@ortal.org.il

19.30 hrs. Dinner in Kibbutz Ortal

Margary II



**ROUTE DAY 1** 





### **DAY 2 - SUNDAY OCTOBER 31**

7.15 hrs. Breakfast at the kibbutz restaurant (D)

8.00 hrs. Guided tour by dr. Doron Tiomkin around the kibbutz and surroundings: modern and

large dairy unit; poultry, horses

M: 00 972-52 285 13 56 T: 00 972-4 696 29 29 E: chkl356@netvision.net.il

Address: Erez Street 12, P.O.Box 137, 12900 Kazrin.

Dr. Tiomkin is the local veterinarian. Mr. Tiomkin is graduated in Utrecht University.





10.00 hrs. | Coffee-break

10.30 hrs. Tour around the orchards of the kibbutz: 94 ha's of apples, 10 ha's of cherries, 9

ha's of nectarines, 11 ha's of peaches, 69 ha of grapes;

Explanation by Mr. Steve Applebaum,

T: 00 972-52 56 12 325





12.30 hrs. Lunch at the kibbutz-restaurant

13.30 hrs. Mr. Tiomkin will guide us by a jeep-excursion through the surroundings:

Visit to a Druze-community, Mt.Hermon, Nimrods Fortress, built in 1229 to fight the

Sixth Crusade (B)



15.30 hrs. | Coffee break at Coffee Anan (C)

Tel: 00 972-4 68 20 664





Coffee Anan is situated 1165 m. (3822 ft.) above sea level, making it the highest-altitude restaurant/coffee shop in Israel. The view from Coffee Anan is breathtaking, and quite close to the clouds (anan = cloud in Hebrew). The Golan Heights, Mt. Hermon and the Galillee stretch out beneath you.



www.mounthermon.com

16.00 hrs. If time allows: Visit to the olive- oil production in Katzrin

17.00 hrs. Return to Kibbutz Ortal and break (D)

19.00 hrs. Dinner at the kibbutz restaurant

20.15 hrs. Lecture about the origins of the kibbutz as well as challenges and threats of the future for the kibbutz-movement by

Mr. Yoni Gal, founder of Ortal.

21.30 hrs. | End of programme



### **ROUTE DAY 2**







### DAY 3 - MONDAY NOVEMBER 1

7.00 hrs. Breakfast in kibbutz Ortal (A)

7.45 hrs. Departure for Nature Reserve 'Huleh Valley',

8.00 hrs. Visit to Oforia Visitors Centre (B)

T: 00 972-4 693 70 69 T: 00 972- 4 686 01 14

The Huleh Valley is an agricultural region in northern Israel with abundant fresh water. It is an important bottleneck site for birds migrating along the Syrian-African Rift Valley between Africa, Europe and Asia.

More information: See appendix

9.15 hrs. Departure

9.45 hrs. Arrival at Kibbutz Dan, focus on fish ponds: trout, carps, sturgeon and tilapia

Explanation by Mr. Amiram Efrati (C)

Company Dan Fish Farms, Upper Galilee 12245

T: 00 972-50 79 11 837 E: <u>daneels44@hotmail.com</u>

I: www.danfish.co.il

Dan Fish Farms develops new species for agriculture, fish vaccines and vaccination systems, fish feeds and feeding experiments and assimilation of biotechnology products in fish.



11.45 hrs. | Departure for Kfar Nahum, a ruin village along the edge of the Sea of Galilee.

Markus hoofdstuk 1:

21 En zij kwamen binnen Kapernaum; en terstond op den sabbatdag in de synagoge gegaan zijnde, leerde Hij. 22 En zij versloegen zich over Zijn leer; want Hij leerde hen, als machthebbende, en niet als de Schriftgeleerden. 23 En er was in hun synagoge een mens, met een onreinen geest, en hij riep uit, 24 Zeggende: Laat af, wat hebben wij met U te doen, Gij Jezus Nazarener, zijt Gij gekomen om ons te





verderven? Ik ken U, wie Gij zijt, namelijk de Heilige Gods. 25 En Jezus bestrafte hem, zeggende: Zwijg stil, en ga uit van hem. 26 En de onreine geest, hem

scheurende, en roepende met een grote stem, ging uit van hem. 27 En zij werden allen verbaasd, zodat zij onder elkander vraagden, zeggende: Wat is dit? Wat nieuwe leer is deze, dat Hij met macht ook den onreine geesten gebiedt, en zij Hem gehoorzaam zijn! 28 En Zijn gerucht ging terstond uit, in het gehele omliggende land van Galilea.

12.45 hrs. | Boattrip on Lake Kinneret (Sea of Galilee), Holyland Sailing, to Ginosar (D)

T: 00 972-4 67 23 006 I: www.jesusboats.com



13.30 hrs. | Lunch at Libanese Restaurant Tanureen, near Migdal (E)

T: 00 972-4 671 28 96

I: www.2eat.co.il/tanureen



15.00 hrs. Arrival and checking in at Kibbutz Lavi (F)
Upon arrival welcome by Mr. Marc Walg

15.30 hrs. Tour around the kibbutz by Mr. Walg, hotelmanager and agronomist: ecological and religious farming at Kibbutz Lavi with vineyards and olives.

The kibbutz was founded in 1949 by a religious youth organization from England. Part of them were amongst the 10,000 Jewish children of the refugees whom were brought to the United Kingdom from Germany as part of the childrentransports of 1930s. Nowadays, around 770 people live in the kibbutz.

Address: Kibbutz Lavi, Lower Galilee 15267,

T: 00 972-4 67 99 457

T: 00 972-50 32 31 521 (Mr. Walg)

I: www.lavi.co.il







# 18.30 hrs. Dinner at Kibbutz Lavi **ROUTE DAY 3** Majd al-Sha Meer. Ein Kinya El Mes ade Mas'ada Odem Buq'ata Khashab Shmona Tebnine El-Rum Bent Jbail Qatmoun Habashan Sde Ell'ezer Hurfesh 89 Aâmoûdîyê 87 Keshet Haglilit Bayt Jan Safed Ani'am Nahf Rame Mghar nin Araba 1anda Nujeidat ©2010 Google, Kaarteegevens ©2010 Mapa GISraelik





### **DAY 4 - TUESDAY NOVEMBER 2**

7.45 hrs. Breakfast at Lavi (A)

8.30 hrs. Departure and checking out

9.00 hrs. Arrival at Yardenit, baptismal site on the

Jordan River (B)

1: www.yardenit.com





10.00 hrs. Departure for Sde Elyahu: biological pest

control, organic farming, water-purificationplant, visiting a flower grower at a moshav (C)

Upon arrival received by Mr. Beni Gavrieli

T: 00 972-54 56 40 573 M: 00 972-54-56 40 983 E: <u>bio-tour@sde.org.il</u> I: <u>www.bio-tour.com</u>

10.15 hrs. Visit to goat farm 'As Is' in Menachemiya.

Welcome by the owners Mr. Assaf and Mrs. Rinat Vagenfeld. We hear all about their

special milking machines designed for goats.

T: 00 972-57-72 92 996

11.15 hrs. Depart for Moshav Beit Yosef/Yardena, settlement established by immigrants from Kurdistan and Iraq. 'Yarden' is Hebrew for 'Jordan'.







11.30 hrs. Visit to a greenhouse with tomatoes with use of Bio-Bee products.

Mr. Rafael Zarfati, Bio-Bee field advisor, will show us around.

M: 00 972-54-56 40 607

12.40 hrs. Visit Water Treatment Plant

13.30 hrs. Lunch at Kibbutz Sde Elyahu, Lower Galilee 10810

I: www.seliyahu.org.il





14.15 hrs. | Tour around the kibbutz

16.15 hrs. Lecture by Mr. Gadi Durlecher from the Regional Council

Topic: Water and water use in the district of the city of Beit Shean. The sources are: natural springs 60-70%, deep drills along the button of the Gilboa range 20%, Jordan

river 10-20%.

T: 00 972-050-88 98 660 I: www.maianot.co.il E: gadid@maianot.co.il.

More information: See appendix

17.15 hrs. Visit to Moshav Tel Teumim

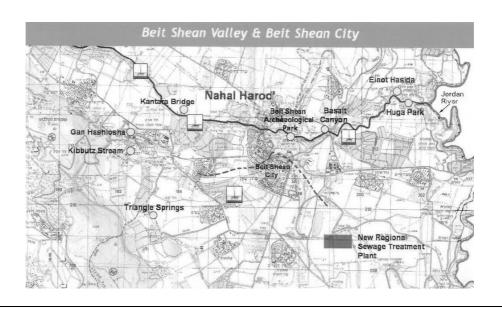
Welcome by flower grower and exporter Mr. Aryeh Yitzchak.

Mr. Yitzchak grows Amaryllis flowers.

T: 00 972- 50 62 41 608

More information: See appendix









18.30 hrs.

Departure and dinerpackage in the bus

20.30 hrs.

Checking in at Kalia Kibbutz Hotel near Dead Sea, 90666 Kalia (D)

T: 00 972-2 993 63 33 I: www.kibbutz.co.il

The Dead Sea is the lowest point on earth, some 400 m. below sea level









Comparison of Major Elements in the Dead Sea, the Mediterranean sea and Typical ocean Water.					
	Dead Sea	Mediterrane an Sea	Ocean Water		
Chloride	224,900	22,900	19,000		
Magnesium	44,000	1,490	1,350		
Sodium 40,100		12,700	10,500		
Calcium	17,200	470	400		
Potassium 7,650		470	390		
Bromide 5,300		76	65		

### **ROUTE DAY 4**







### **DAY 5- WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 3**

7.30 hrs. Breakfast at the hotel, taking lunch packets with us (A)

8.00 hrs. Departure for Masada

8.30 hrs. Swimming stop at the beach north of Ein Gedi

9.30 hrs. Departure for Masada, Elazar ben Yair (B)
Masada is a desert Fortress overlooking the Dead Sea

Since we long ago resolved never to be servants to the Romans, nor to any other than to God Himself, Who alone is the true and just Lord of mankind, the time is now come that obliges us to make that resolution true in practice...We were the very first that revolted, and we are the last to fight against them; and I cannot but esteem it as a favor that God has granted us, that it is still in our power to die bravely, and in a state of freedom.



12.00 hrs. Lunch at the bus

12.30 hrs. Arrival at ICL Fertilizers, Dead Sea Works (C)

Address: Potash House, P.O. Box 75, Beer Sjeva 84100

T: 00 972-8 64 65 364/00 972-52 27 07 991

I: www.iclfertilizers.com

Upon arrival received by Mrs. dr. Patricia Imas, chief agronomist

E: patricia.imas@iclfertilizers.com

T: 00 972-8 646 56 17









14.30 hrs.

Departure for Hatzeva

15.00 hrs.

Arrival at Yair Experimental Station, Sapir, M.P. Arava 86825 (D)

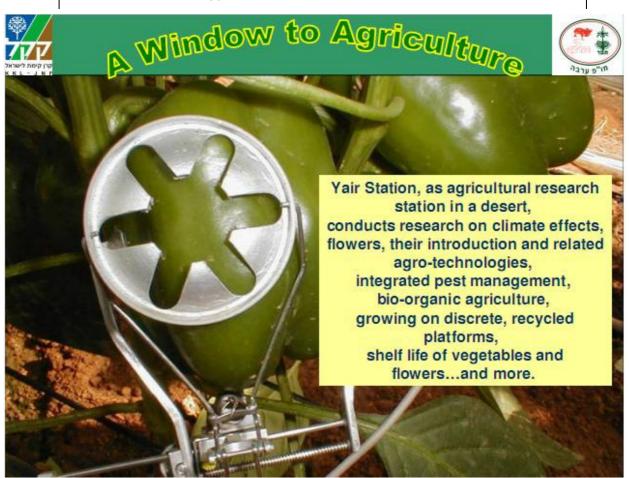
Theme 'Agriculture in arid regions'

The station was founded due to the upsurge of protected agriculture in the Arava Valley during the late 1980's. The unique environmental conditions of the Arava Valley, which include high solar irradiation during most of the year, large daily amplitude of temperature and low relative humidity, along with the tendency to expand the production beyond the traditional winter season in the Arava Valley called for research and development efforts aimed to create the special know-how and the detailed protocols required for sheltered agriculture in the region.

T: 00 972-8 659 22 50 E: mop-arava@arava.co.il

I: www.arava.co.il/haklaut/English/about\_yair.htm

More information: See appendix



Upon arrival received by Mrs. Ossi Winter, general explanation and tour around the station.

Subjects and crops: soil substitutes, use of different water qualities, climate control, cut flower, pepper, and tomato.





17.00 hrs.

Departure for Bedouin-camp: Kfar ha Nokdim, north of Arad

18.00 hrs.

Arrival at Bedouin-camp, dinner and good night (E) I: www.kfarhanokdim.co.il



### **ROUTE DAY 5**







### DAY 6 -THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4

7.00 am Breakfast at the Bedouin-camp (A)

7.30 hrs. Departure for Machon Vulcani, Beit Dagan

9.30 hrs. Arrival at Vulcani Research Centre (B)
I: www.agri.gov.il/en/home/default.aspx

Upon arrival received by Mr. Baruch Bar Tel

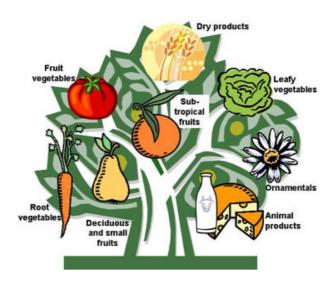
T: 00 972-50 62 20 669.

Mr. Bar Tel comes from Tilburg, is a graduate from Wageningen and is living 35 years in Israel now

Programme: general introduction,

Group I: crop oriented interest: visiting trial plots: avocado, mango, lichi, citrus

• Group II: animal oriented interest: dairy research department, animal-hospital



12.30 hrs. Lunch at a local restaurant near the institute

14.30 hrs. Visit to Yad Vashem, Har Ha Zicharon, Jerusalem

I: www.yadvashem.org

Yad Vashem is established in 1953, as the world center for documentation, research, education and commemoration of the Holocaust.

'And to them will I give in my house and within my walls a memorial and a name (a "yad vashem")... that shall not be cut off.' (Isaiah, chapter 56, verse 5)









17.00 hrs. | Check in at Jerusalem Gates Hotel (C)

Address: 43 Yirmiyahu St., Jerusalem 94467,

T: 00 972-2-50 08 500

E: info@jerusalem-gate.co.il
I: www.jerusalemgatehotel.com



18.00 hrs. Departure for dinner, accompanied by the representatives of the Dutch Embassy and

the Dutch community living in Israël (B)

Including poster presentation Dutch participants

Address: Beeri Street 4, Rishon le Zion (near Tel Aviv)

?? Return to hotel

### **ROUTE DAY 6**







### **DAY 7 - FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5**

8.15 hrs. Breakfast in the hotel

9.00 hrs. Start of touristic programme in Jerusalem: Mount of Olives, Temple Mount, the Western Wall, Old City, Via Dolorose and soukh.

www.jerusalem.muni.il





12.30 hrs. Lunch along the way

13.30 hrs. | Continuation of the touristic programme

18.30 hrs. Dinner at own arrangement

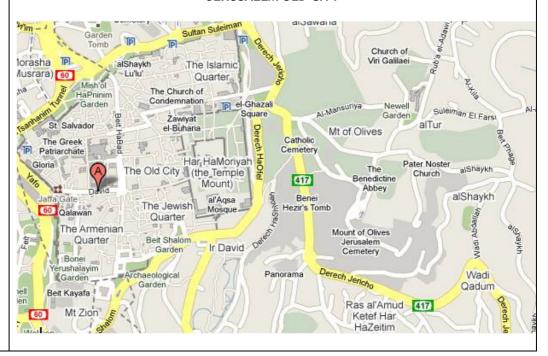
Stay in Jerusalem Gates Hotel

Address: 43 Yirmiyahu St., Jerusalem 94467,

T: 00 972-2-50 08 500

E: info@jerusalem-gate.co.il
I: www.jerusalemgatehotel.com

### JERUSALEM OLD CITY







DAY 8 - SATURDAY NOVEMBER 6							
11.30 hrs.	Lunch at the hotel (and breakfast for the early ones)						
12.00 hrs.	Departure for Ben Gurion Airport from the hotel						
15.55 hrs.	Flight number LX 255 to Zürich and LX 736 to Amsterdam						
22.00 hrs.	Arrival at Schiphol Airport						
	アプログロス アンドウ (tot volgend jaar!)						





### **DUTCH PARTICIPANTS STUDY TRIP 2010**

	Name	Company	Tel.	E-mail	Photo
1	Alfred Beeftink	Alfa Accountants en Adviseurs	06- 52045415	abeeftink@alfa- accountants.nl	
2	Harm Brinks	DLV Plant	06- 20423895	h.brinks@dlvplant.nl	
3	Yvonne van de Camp	Vereniging Agrarische Bedrijfsadviseurs	06- 51625382	yvonnevandecamp@vlb.nl	
4	Peter Greijmans	ZLTO Advies	06- 29520293	peter.greijmans@zlto.nl	
5	Bram den Hollander	ZLTO Advies	06- 21232603	bram.den.hollander@zlto.nl	
6	Tjalling de Jong	Accon avm adviseurs en accountants	06- 51889724	t.dejong@acconavm.nl	
7	Doede de Jong	Accon avm adviseurs en accountants	06- 51898612	d.dejong@acconavm.nl	





8	Jan Kuiper	GIBO Groep Accountants en Adviseurs	06- 53553321	jkuiper@gibogroep.nl	
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10	Han Meurs	ING Bank	06- 38927417	han.meurs@ing.nl	
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12	Roel Schutten	ZLTO Advies	06- 21212408	roel.schutten@zlto.nl	
13	Drees Visser	Agrivastgoed	06- 51249178	avisser@agrivastgoed.nl	
14	Broer Witteveen	Accon avm adviseurs en accountants	06- 22210767	bwitteveen@acconavm.nl	





### **COMPANIES DUTCH PARTICIPANTS STUDY TRIP 2010**





















### **APPENDIXES**

### 1. BACKGROUND ARTICLES GENERAL

dereen in de regio de kraan meren kan, maar alleen als ielig stroompje rioolwater. Reani-De Jordaan, ooit een bruisende rivier, is tegenwoordig een ziewat minder ver open zet.

Van onze correspondent Ad Bloemendaal

en slaat dan driemaal een kruis, waar-bij hij verwachtingsvol naar de hemel kijkt. zaam daalt hij de trap af en waadt naar het midden van de stroom, die hier niet meer dan 7 meter breed is. Het drabbiman haalt diep adem, gaat kopje onder ge bruine water reikt tot zijn middel. De de man in een lang wit hemd. vlonder wijken voor een forsgebouw-KASSER EL YAHUD - De pelgrims op de . Lang-

Michael Michayev komt uit Moskou "In dit hemd wil ik begraven worden", zegt hij plechtig als hij op de vlonder staat uit te druipen. Zijn begrafenis kon wel eens sneller komen dan hij denkt, water van want hier, bij Kasser el Yahud, is het water van de Jordaan uitgesproken slecht voor de gezondheid. Het water

is zelfs zo slecht dat het Israëlische le-ger aan de westelijke oever en de Jor-daanse overheid aan de oostkant het



Michael Michayev reikt tot zijn middel in het drabbige bruine water van de Jordaan. Foto GPD

pelgrims ernstig ontraden zich onder te dompelen. Zo'n 100 kilometer noordelijker heeft

is er zelfs nooit in de buurt geweest. één groot bezwaar: Johannes de Doper een alternatieve doopplaats aange-leggt; Yardenit. Die trekt jaarlijks zo'n half miljoen bezoekers. Het water, di-rect afkomstig uit het nabligelegen Meer van Calilea, is schoon, maar er is waagschaal. Michayev daar hun gezondheid in de dat Jezus is gedoopt bij Kasser el Yahud, en dus stellen ware pelgrims als Bijbelgeleerden zijn het erover eens net Israelische ministerie van toerisme

Jordaan een schone en onstuimig brui-sende rivier. Ofer Levin (65), bewoner het water tot je enkels reikt. knijpen. Je mag trouwens blij zijn als schoon water. Nu moet je je neus dichtde Jordaan zwom. "Er was toen volop zich nog goed hoe hij als jonge man in van kibboets Ashdot Yacov, herinnert Nog niet eens zo lang geleden was de

zuidelijke richting. bouw hebben een zwaar beslag gelegd op het Jordaanwater. Het verschil met vroeger laat zich het spectaculairst zuiden van Yardenit, sijpelt stinkend, zien en ruiken even ten zuiden van Yarmet witte vlokken overdekt denit. Achter de Alumot-dam, even ten Bevolkingsgroei, industrie en landwater in

rang geen.

nog weinig.

Op een conferentie in de Jordaanse hoofdstad Amman komt de regionale daan volgend jaar al gedeeltelijk droog komt te liggen. Om de rivier weer tot leven te wekken is volgens milieudes-kundigen jaarlijks zeker 400 miljoen kuwe studies. Die concluderen onder meer dat als er niets gebeurt de Jormilleu-organisatie Friend of the Earth der kosten dan het ontzilten van zeeaanvullen van de Jordaan economisch Middle East deze week met twee nieuwater, dat Israël nu de hoogste voorrendabel. Besparen op water zou minbieke meter schoon water nodig Volgens de studies is het reinigen en

Onderweg naar de Dode Zee is de Jordaan een soort opvangreservoir van riooiproducten en landbouwafval uit de hele omgeving. Zo'n 30.000 Isra-eliërs, 250.000 Jordaniërs en 20.000 PaBaden in Jordaan is een aanslag op de gezondheid

stallatie bij de Alumat-dam, maar aan Jordaanse en Palestijnse kant gebeurt in de regio, zuivert op dit moment bouwt het er nu ook een zuiveringsinzware druk van de milieubeweging procent van zijn rioolwater. Onder estijnen lozen op de rivier. 

property on the sour solutions or word bruitfair primate your do

Somethe ) washing

authors on darmer legen we con

Bless To proceed was detailed absolute.



van 1897 zijn de dikom krajs da riveer die Dahaland van Feden

graved in Praient, der ill Josher vijk. Som mermann hert lannen beschi ge-konti.

Verreit de lucht is goed to zien has sie Oder han wellersten her stiden van het Probe stide Stidse end

mogelijk zijn. Zeventig procent Zander het ufvalwater van de ste-den zop landbouw in kraël niet Riool van Tel Aviv laat woestijn bloeien

Serate de namerar lever op de rangitus, knært net vender das I'' procest." We stage aan de oewer van een me

van het risolwater wordt gezul-

gebruikt voor irrigusie.

SALES BELLEVILLE

of the reduced of the state of the second of the party of the second of bracket note betanked rendered to does not be district the physical for the physical formation and the physical property for the physical property for the physical property for the physical property for the physical phy these westermetricals even venderop has even anches, blue even godo pica, with day it do Neger-worselly, is der were also and gestelle. Other is in solution if millioner the test stelled was shoulden on handen

All certifications was de partinge warring of water words geferalte. Mil can be I My between the best words geferalte. Mil can be I My between the married processor of the married processor and between the contents of the Kadamon De bourn and the great set of Kadamon De bourn and the great mil contents of the warring were the words of the words to the words of the words to the words of the words to the words of the wo profess on Medium reservoirs, on or

unity man has lepoin fluthenaut Franks

Will one obsterm unter mucht, is do unherbanden in je bijenoonen genamang-

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### 2. HULEH VALLEY - SYRIAN-AFRICAN RIFT







### 3. AMARYLLIS



Story of an Entrepreneur: Amaryllis Flowers March 2003

Nearly 28% of the residents of the Beit Shean Valley Regional Council work in agriculture, as opposed to approximately 2% of Israel's general population. These farmers work—but they don't always make a living. In the 21st century, traditional agriculture does not represent a sure source of income. In order to succeed, farmers often must cultivate growth programs for unique crops and use new technologies not often found in the agricultural sector.

Carmela and Aryeh Yitzchak from Tel Te'omim analyzed the situation and after much hard work, have built a remarkable farm. On the job as an agricultural consultant, Aryeh learned about the amaryllis flower—very large, bell-shaped flowers that are in great demand abroad during the Christmas season. This area of farming demands great expertise. For that reason, only ten Israeli growers supply 6% of the global demand for the amaryllis, about 30 million bulbs annually. Aryeh has used technology extensively in his amaryllis greenhouse, and by doing so, he has given himself a significant edge over his competitors.

It should be noted that MATI Beit Shean assisted Aryeh throughout the period in which he set up and developed his amaryllis farm. Up to now, we have assisted Aryeh in two efforts to mobilize capital so that he could construct the greenhouses. In both instances, the Jewish Agency helped him out with funding from their special settler's budget funds. The first business plan was written up in 1999, and with the capital raised he constructed 3,000 sq. meters of greenhouses for the cultivation of amaryllis bulbs for export, in addition to the existing 1,500 sq. meters.

The greenhouses were equipped with very advanced technological systems. All the flowers are grown in detached, above-ground bedding, underneath which a drainage system removes excess water. The excess water flows to a collection point, where it is filtered and recycled for reuse. Irrigation and fertilizer controls, as well as humidity and temperature controls in the greenhouse, are automatically computer-monitored. The roof of the greenhouse is a dual-purpose thermal sheet, which is controlled by a UV radiation meter and temperature and humidity sensors, inside and outside the structure. Temperature stability is also achieved through an extensive fogging system, which helps balance the humidity. Aryeh sums up the entire approach: "The computer asks the plant 'How are you?' every ten minutes, and depending on the answer, it makes decisions about the breeding regimen and work in the greenhouse."

Recently we were successful in getting Aryeh and Carmela more funding, also from the Jewish Agency, in order to improve their growing cycle even more, including the mechanization of the extraction and packing processes of the bulbs, as well as developing ways to grow material that allows the flowers to multiply independently, instead of having to buy it from other growers, as they've done until now.

There's no doubt that agriculture could be revitalized if and when we learn how to harness technology to further improve results in various crops. Carmela and Aryeh Yitzchak are examples that this is possible. Recently, their amaryllis greenhouse has become a sort of tourist site, and we at MATI Beit Shean are planning on helping Aryeh design his farm to accommodate agro-tourism, a trend that will expand in the coming years and also contribute to the rejuvenation of agriculture.

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(Source: <a href="http://www.jewishcleveland.net/page.aspx?id=46257">http://www.jewishcleveland.net/page.aspx?id=46257</a>)





### 4. BEIT SHEAN VALLEY





### 5. YAIR EXPERIMENTAL STATION