

Shabbos Daf Pey Hey

- **Q:** How do we know that we can rely on a determination of the **Rabanan** when it comes to agricultural determinations like this (how much room a seed needs to nourish)? **A: R' Chiya bar Abba in the name of R' Yochanan** explains the pasuk that says, "Asher gavlu rishonim" ("Do not move the boundary of your neighbor, that the early ones marked out"), as meaning one may not plant too close to a neighbor's field and thereby have his crops nourish from his neighbor's field.
  - **R' Shmuel bar Nachmeini in the name of R' Yonasan** explains **R' Yochanan** as follows. A pasuk says "These are the sons of Se'ir HaChori who dwell on the land". Do other people live in the sky that we need to say these people lived on the land? Rather, what the pasuk means to say is that they were experts in the land. They would smell and taste the soil and say which crops the soil was best suited for. From here we see that knowledge of this degree existed (knowing which soil nourishes best and how much space is needed to nourish) and the **Rabanan** learned this from them and used it to help determine issues of kilayim and the like.
- **R' Assi** said, when we say the patch must be 6x6 tefachim, that is 6x6 tefachim of actual growing space, besides the walking path that is commonly prepared around growing vegetables.
  - **Q:** How wide are these walking paths (this makes a difference with regard to certain halachos, where having these paths considers the field to be its own entity)? **A:** A Mishna says that **R' Yehuda** says as wide as the width of the sole of the foot, which is the amount of a tefach.
- **Rav** says, when the Mishna says one may plant 5 species in an area that is a 6x6 tefachim patch, that may only be done where there are no immediately surrounding, planted patches (an immediately surrounding patch means the patches are only separated by the walking path created for each, which means they are separated by 2 tefachim, which is not enough to ensure that they will not nourish one from the other). If there are, the plantings in the immediately surrounding patch will mix with the plantings of this patch and there will be a kilayim issue.
  - **Q:** If one only plants part (e.g. half) of each side of the 6x6 area and plants the surround patches only in the areas opposite the half that is left empty, an immediately surrounding area will not pose an issue!? **A: Rav** said, the Mishna is discussing a case where as much as possible of the full sides were planted. In fact, **Rav** says that one would not be allowed to plant in a staggered way to allow the planting of an immediately adjacent patch, because we are going against that for fear that he may plant the rest of the side and thereby violate kilayim.
  - **Q:** A Mishna allows the continuing of the row of one species into a totally different field. So here, where it is adjacent to a different patch, it surely should not be a problem?! **A:** The Mishna that allows that is dealing with a large field, not a small patch like we are discussing in our Mishna. By a large field, it is noticeable that that the protruding row belongs to a different field, and that is enough to remove any kilayim liability. When dealing with a small patch, a protruding row looks like it belongs in each patch and creates a kilayim problem.
- **Shmuel** says, the Mishna allows planting 5 species in an area that is 6x6 even when there are surrounding patches around this 6x6 area, as long as the adjacent rows are staggered so that they are not within 3 tefachim of each other.
- **Ulla** says, they asked in Eretz Yisrael, if one digs a groove one tefach wide and one tefach deep across the 6x6 patch, is it a problem if it is too close to the parallel rows, or because of its size and depth, is it considered to be a separate and noticeably distinct entity, and therefore creates no problem? **R' Sheishes** says it is a problem, **R' Assi** says it is not a problem.
  - **Q: Ravina** asked **R' Ashi**, how could **R' Assi** permit this? A Mishna says that if one plants 2 rows of one species next to another 2 rows of another species (without 3 tefachim in between the different species) it is permitted. If there is only one row of each species, it

is not permitted. If so, how does **R' Assi** allow it over here?! **A:** The Mishna is discussing species that grow very widely and thus seem very intermingled with the rows of the other species. That's why one row would be a problem. However, our Mishna is not discussing those species, and therefore it would not be a problem.

- **R' Kahana in the name of R' Yochanan** said, if one wants to plant a large field with many different species and wants the cumulative amount planted to be the maximum allowable amount, he should divide the field into 6x6 tefachim patches and do as follows. He should plant one species in a 5 tefach diameter circle within that 6x6 tefach square and then plant other species in the 4 corners. He can do this to each and every 6x6 patch that he can create.
  - **Q:** How can **R' Yochanan** say that he can fill up his entire field with crops in this way? He must leave a tefach walkway around each 6x6 patch?! **A:** **R' Yannai** says that **R' Yochanan** means to say that he can almost fill his entire field with crops, but these walkways will need to be left empty. **R' Ashi** says, he can even plant the space in between the patches in a perpendicular way to the patches itself. In that way it becomes noticeably different than the patches and leads to no kilayim issues.
  - **Q:** **Ravina** asked **R' Ashi**, a Braisa says that 5 species may be planted in a 6x6 tefachim square, and it must be planted as a square. How can **R' Yochanan** say to plant it as a circle?! **A:** The Braisa which requires it be planted as a square, requires that to allow the case where one row protrudes into the adjacent planted field. In that case, if it is planted as a square, it will not be a kilayim issue. However, with regard to allowing 5 species within the 6x6 tefachim square, and maximizing the plantable area, the circle method is the most effective method with the highest possible output of crops.