



## **KKL-JNF Planting Program for 2015-16**

With the end of the Sabbatical Year (*Shmita*), a new cycle of care for the land begins. KKL-JNF resumes its planting routine for 5776, 2015-16, taking into consideration the many challenges involved in its forestry work.

**Forest rehabilitation** is an essential part of forest management. The program to revive forests addresses the need to care for veteran forests that have degenerated as a result of damage from drought, disease and fire. In rehabilitating burnt forests, KKL-JNF has developed new procedures in which foresters examine the natural regeneration of a forest for one to two years following a fire. Based on their observations the foresters determine the type of planting, if needed. For pine forests, it is important to thin the seedlings, while the eucalyptus forests of the southern region are specially pruned to encourage new growth from their stumps. The list of species planted reflects KKL-JNF's planting policy, which include more trees native to Israel and broadleaf trees, suitable to the landscape and resistant to the region's hot and dry climate.

**This year, approximately 155 hectares (386 acres) will be planted in the southern region.** Planting will only begin after enough rain has fallen to ensure that they take root. Thanks to the savanization technology developed by KKL-JNF, it is possible to successfully plant shrubs and trees in semi-arid regions. Native groves, requiring larger amounts of water and moist soil, sometimes maintained until the end of summer, are planted in limans (banked-up micro catchments) and countour terraces.

- The trees found in the southern region include acacia, eucalyptus, terebinth, jujube, carob, pine and fruit tree orchards. These species constitute the basis for planting, depending on soil conditions and afforestation purpose.

Examples: KKL-JNF in the southern region continues to thicken the green belt around the city of Be'er Sheva by planting at Be'er Sheva River and the community of Kramim. Stands requiring rehabilitation due to degeneration from drought and damage by uncontrolled grazing and disease can be found in the Be'eri Forest, Kissufim in the western Negev, and the Ma'ahaz Forests of the northern Negev. KKL-JNF is planting trees in the Lahav Forest area, recently redesignated from that of an open space to a planted forest.

**This year, an approximate amount of 226 hectares (565 acres) will be planted throughout the Galilee.** Native tree species in the northern region include Palestine oak, Mt. Tabor oak, eastern strawberry, carob, spiny hawthorn, Palestine buckthorn, officinal styrax, Spanish broom, black mulberry, fig, almond, Syrian pear, and Atlantic pistachio. Common species found in planted forests include Aleppo pine, Calabrian pine, Stone pine, and suitable types of cedar, cypress and eucalyptus.

Plantings this year include those in new areas:

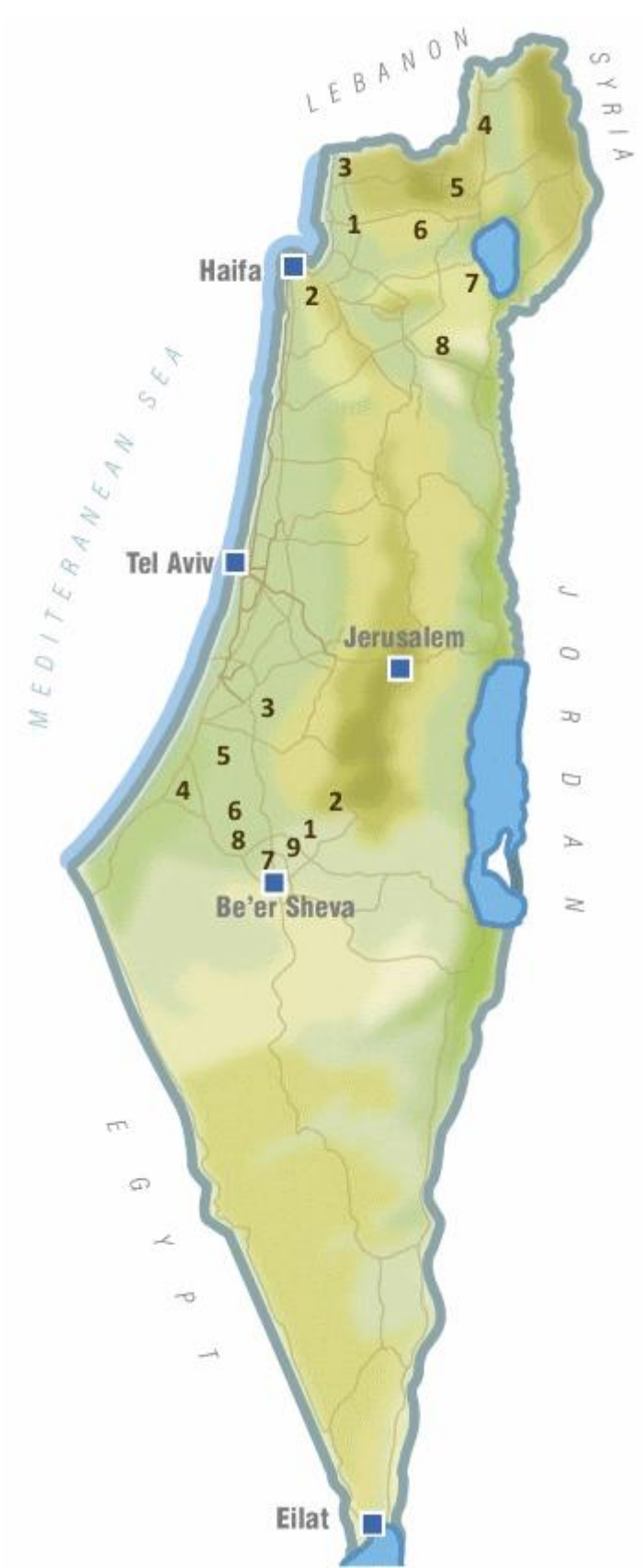
- Woodlands or forests in government approved areas: land that KKL-JNF received and manages, converting it from uncultivated land, quarries and agricultural waste sites to forests, including Gush Segev and the Bet Keshet Forest, in which a total of 73 hectares (183 acres) will be planted.
- Trees for cattle and goat grazing and eucalyptus for bee forage will be planted at Kfar Szold.

Two approaches will be applied in renewing existing forests, according to specifications:

- Renewal of a veteran forest in the lower and central Galilee and in the Carmel involves specific treatment for its weak trees. Trees, such as the Aleppo pine with a short lifespan, those that have reached the end of their life cycle or have suffered from disease and drought are felled, while saplings and hardy specimens are left to spread their seeds and provide nest sites for birds.

- Renewal of forests damaged by fires or snowstorms takes place two years after the event. These include the forests of Bar'am, Naftali Mountains, Ahihud and Yehiam. Seeds and stems are studied for one to two years to determine the extent of damage to forests and woodland and their regenerative potential.

In the western Galilee, 83 hectares (208 acres) will be planted with pine, cypress and various native trees for forest rehabilitation and to implement the National Outline Plan for Forests and Afforestation (NOP 22) in the Segev, Carmel and Hanita regions. In the central Galilee, 87 hectares (217 acres) will be planted with cedars, eucalyptus and broadleaf trees to rehabilitate existing forests, create shade for grazing and serve as security plantings in the Kiryat Shmona region and the Biriya Forest. In the lower Galilee, 95 hectares (237 acres) will be planted to rehabilitate the forests of the Nazareth, Tiberias and Gilboa regions.



### Southern Region: 2015-16 Planting Program

<b>Legend no.</b>	<b>Forest</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Planting area (hectares)</b>	<b>Tree species</b>
1	Kramim	New forest	230	Broadleaf
2	Lahav	Forest rehabilitation	170	Broadleaf + Coniferous
3	Ma'ahaz	Forest rehabilitation	498	Broadleaf
4	Kissufim	Forest rehabilitation	42	Broadleaf
5	Be'eri	Forest rehabilitation	240	Broadleaf
6	Shuvalim	Forest rehabilitation	137	Broadleaf
7	Nahal Ashan	New forest	140	Broadleaf
8	Mishmar HaNegev	New forest	28	Broadleaf
9	Duda'im	New forest	50	Broadleaf
9	Duda'im	Forest rehabilitation	10	Broadleaf

## Northern Region: 2015-16 Planting Program

<b>Legend no.</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Forest</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Tree Species</b>	<b>Planting Area in Dunams (1 dunam = 0.1 hectares)</b>
<b>1</b>	Western Galilee	Segev	New forest	pine, cypress, native	<b>400</b>
<b>2</b>	Western Galilee	Carmel	Rehabilitation of an existing forest	native	<b>130</b>
<b>3</b>	Western Galilee	Hanita	Rehabilitation of an existing forest	pine, cypress	<b>100</b>
<b>3</b>	Western Galilee	Hanita	Rehabilitation of an existing burnt forest	pine, cypress	<b>200</b>
	<b>Western Galilee TOTAL</b>				<b>830</b>
<b>4</b>	Central Galilee	Kiryat Shmona	Rehabilitation of an existing forest	cedar, native	<b>70</b>
<b>4</b>	Central Galilee	Kiryat Shmona	Rehabilitation of an existing forest	cedar	<b>62</b>
<b>4</b>	Central Galilee	Kiryat Shmona	Plantings for shade, grazing and bee forage	eucalyptus, native	<b>50</b>
<b>5</b>	Central Galilee	Biriya	Rehabilitation of an existing forest	native	<b>200</b>

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<b>5</b>	Central Galilee	Biriya	Rehabilitation of an existing forest	cedar	<b>100</b>
	<b>Central Galilee TOTAL</b>				<b>482</b>
<b>6</b>	Lower Galilee	Nazareth	New forest	native	<b>330</b>
<b>7</b>	Lower Galilee	Tiberias	New forest	pine, native	<b>262</b>
<b>8</b>	Lower Galilee	Gilboa	Rehabilitation of an existing forest	pine, native	<b>355</b>
	<b>Lower Galilee TOTAL</b>				<b>947</b>
	<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>2,259</b>