

BOYCOTT ISRAELI DATES

The two main Israeli date producers are

Agrexco



Hadiklaim



Agrexco has brand names

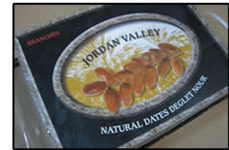
Carmel



Jordan Plains



Jordan Valley



Hadiklaim has brand names

King Solomon



Jordan River



Hadiklaim also supplies Israeli dates to supermarkets who market them under their own brand names, these include:



M&S

Marks & Spencer



Sainsbury's

Sainsbury's



TESCO

Tesco



Waitrose

Waitrose

Always check the label, sometimes they are labelled "produce of West Bank" - this just confirms they are grown in the illegal Israeli settlements.

www.inminds.co.uk/boycott-israeli-dates.php

Innovative Minds
www.inminds.co.uk



Islamic Human Rights Commission
www.ihrac.org



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In 2004, the International Court of Justice ruled that the Israeli settlements are illegal – they are built on stolen Palestinian land. Growing dates is one of the major agricultural activities carried out by nearly half of the illegal Israeli settlements located in the Jordan Valley, and contributes significantly to their economic viability.

Picking of the dates is hard work, so the Israeli settlers bring in Palestinian labourers to do this back breaking work. During the pruning season the workers are dropped on the date palm trees by a hoisting crane at 5 o'clock in the morning left perched on palms that soars to a height of 10 or even 12 meters - the height of a three- or four-story building, left there swaying in the wind for up to 8 hours without a break and with no means to come down until the crane returns at the end of the day, the workers cling to the tree with one arm and work with the other to meet their quota. They can't even take a break to go to the toilet. If they complain or fall behind their quota they will lose their jobs and their families will starve. But Israelis prefer to employ kids - even issuing them official work permits, as they are quick and light, can climb trees faster, work for less and it's easier to cheat and humiliate them. Out of desperate poverty Palestinians are forced to take their kids out of school and give them to the settlers to work for a pittance.

Most of the Israeli date crop - up to 80%, is exported, mainly to Europe where it has around 10% market share. In 2005, dates were Israel's leading fruit export. The two major Israeli companies involved are Agrexco and Hadiklaim. Agrexco, owned by the Israeli state, handles 60-70% of all goods produced in the illegal settlements. Its dates have brand names Carmel, Jordan Plains and Jordan Valley. Last September, a week before the start of Ramadan, Carmel boasted in their press release that they had managed an early crop in order to meet the Ramadan demand for dates from Europe's Muslims! Hadiklaim sells 65 percent of all the dates produced in Israel. Its dates have brand names King Solomon and Jordan River. They also supply Israeli dates to supermarkets and retail chains who market them under their own brand names. These include Marks & Spencer's, Sainsbury's, Tesco's, and Waitrose. Sometimes they are labelled "produced in the West Bank" - this just confirms they are grown in the illegal Israeli settlements.

Peace activists who visited the Palestinian village of last year discovered that villagers are slowly being the Israeli army. The only livelihood left open to Carmel Agrexco. The activists even spoke to two under the age of 12 who were working for workers whose land had been stolen and were Carmel in order to feed their families – they peace activists, a plea for anyone who would them to take action against Carmel Agrexco that support Israeli apartheid. What excuse is to boycott Israel? If you oppose the illegal settlements target their dates. Boycotting can make a real difference.

Fasayl in the Jordan Valley forced off their land by them is to work for Palestinian children Carmel. The Palestinian forced to work for had a message for the listen – they urged and such companies left for us not



For campaign pack and DVD

www.inminds.co.uk/boycott-israeli-dates.php