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Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, July 3. 1890.

Honorable William F. Wharton,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith, for the use of the Agricultural Department, my "Report on the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of June, 1890."

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

Consul.

Enclosure:
1. Report on the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of June, 1890.

Report on the Agriculture and Horticulture of Palestine for the month of June, 1890.

This is the month specially devoted to threshing. The work is done either in the ancient biblical way by feet of cattle driven on and over the threshing-floors, where the wheat and barley have been properly spread out; or, by a small minority of farmers, it is done in a more modern way, by using a six-cornered stone roller, dragged over the ground by horses, mules, or cattle.

The yield of what would be called a good crop in the Plain of Sharon should be twenty-fold of wheat and fifteen-fold of barley. But this year the crop of cereals in this district has been disappointing, falling far behind the hopes entertained of it at the beginning. The appearance was good, and there was plenty of straw;

but as to the grain, barley yielded only from ten to twelve-fold, and wheat only eight-fold. Mildew in and after the flowering-time is considered as the cause of the draw-back.

The common garden vegetables, as reported last month, continue to come into market in great abundance, the quality being up to the average.

As to the fruits, in addition to those of last month, ~~the large~~ the large green fig has appeared, and the larger and finer flavored apricot has succeeded the small and inferior varieties. The green gage and purple plums, as well as the great egg plums are also ripe, and pears, though of small size and poor quality.

The vineyards at this date promise an extraordinarily abundant yield, the clusters of grapes being of an unusually large size, and all signs pointing to a most favorable vintage. Ripe grapes, small, and otherwise of inferior quality, from the Jordan Valley, have occasionally found their way into market, in trivial lots.

(Signed) A. Gellman
Consul

United States Consulate,
Jerusalem, June 30. 1890.

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Consulate of the United States,
Jerusalem, July 5. 1890.

Honorable William F. Wharton,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Referring to your circular of the 5th ult. [illegible]