



# Rabbi Yisroel Moshe Guttentag

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## MAASERTEXT [WEEK 2]

Having looked last week at the principles behind the mitzvos of Terumos and Maasros, this week's MaaserText article focuses on the simple and streamlined instructions which have been designed for the separation of Maaser.

### What is the MaaserText service?

MaaserText is a service of the Federation Beis Din which was set up to deal with an increasing demand for assistance with separating Terumos and Maasros from produce grown in Eretz Yisroel. Many people are not educated in the practical observance of these mitzvos. Some people may initially choose to avoid purchasing these fruits and vegetables, in order to avoid the *halachic* issues involved, but once the produce is bought (and sometimes already cooked), they find themselves being required to separate the necessary tithes. MaaserText is on hand to help!

### How does MaaserText help with the performance of this mitzvah?

There are two primary features to our service:

- ➔ Simple and accurate instructions for the *hafroshe* – separation procedure. These instructions are available online, have

been distributed in colourful magnets, and can be forwarded by email as well.

- ➔ *Perutah chamurah* coin – the final stage of the procedure involves transferring the Maaser Sheni *kedushah* from the fruit onto a coin. In some cases, a specially prepared *perutah chamurah* coin is halachically required. Our service makes a *perutah chamurah* available for all. With a simple text sent to our system, members of the public are authorised to make a one-off use of our coin.

### How do I take Terumos and Maasros?

There are five simple stages:

1. **PREPARING THE FOOD** - Separate slightly more than 1% of the edible part of the produce – each individual species by itself. **WARNING** – ensure not to separate less than the required amount.
2. Text the word **MAASER** to **07800 006 913** to receive permission to use the Federation's coin – each individual species requires another use of the coin, so text again for this.
3. **DECLARATION** - Make the following declaration: **"I hereby designate the required Terumos and Maasros, according to the Federation Beis Din's**

**nusach, and I hereby redeem any Maaser Sheni and Revai onto the coin that has been set aside for this by the Federation Beis Din in accordance with Beis Din's nusach, and the terms of usage of the coin."**

4. The entire process should be repeated for each individual species which requires *hafroshe*.
5. Wrap the food you have separated and dispose of it in the bin; the rest may be eaten.

### Do I make a brocho before making the declaration?

Produce grown in Eretz Yisroel may not be eaten until the required Terumos and Maasros have been separated. In rare situations, where one knows that the produce is *tevel vadai* – i.e. it has definitely not been tithed, a *brocho* is made before making the declaration. Israeli produce bought in the UK is considered to be of *sofeik* – doubtful – status, as there is a chance that these *mitzvos* have already been performed before the produce was exported. Therefore, although you need to perform the *hafroshe* ceremony, no *brocho* is made.

**Next week, we will look at occasions when the hafroshe declaration needs to be modified.**

### QUESTION



Thank you to  
Boruch Kahan  
[bkahan47@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bkahan47@yahoo.co.uk)

There is a number associated with this week's Parsha that also links it to a Kappitel Tehilim and the Talmud Bavli of one of the Masechtos of Shas.

What is the number and what are the other 2 items above?

### CLUE

Think of the years that two of the Ovos lived till and it should help.

### ANSWER FROM LAST WEEK

[Question: : Bamidbar is close to Shovuois on which we read Megilas Rus. Two different Pessukim in Parshas Bamidbar have the same three names in them, but they only refer to two people. However in Megilas Rus, one possuk contains two of these names, but it is to two different people, and in a different possuk in the Megila, the third name from the Possuk in Bamidbar occurs but this time refers to a place not a person. Find all the names in both the Parsha and the Megila]

Bamidbar Perek 1 Possuk 7 and Perek 2 Possuk 3 .The three names are Nachshoin and Aminodov, who is in fact one person the Nosi of the Shevet and Yehuda, which was the last of the three names mentioned in those Pessukim.

Megilas Rus Perek 4 Possuk 20 Aminodov and Nachshon are listed as two separate people and Yehuda which comes in Perek 1 Possuk 1 is not a person but a place.

SHAILATEXT  
TEXT 07403 939 613

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL RESPONSE TO SHAILOS ON ANY TOPIC WITHIN FOUR WORKING HOURS

Wherever possible it is preferable to take shailos to your own rov who knows you personally. ShailaText is not intended to be used as substitute for a rov but L'zakos es horabim. For more information visit [federation.org.uk/shailatext/](http://federation.org.uk/shailatext/)

To sponsor a day/week/month of Shailatext, please email [Batsheva.pels@federation.org.uk](mailto:Batsheva.pels@federation.org.uk)



This week's Shailatext is

לע"נ שמעון בן שרגא ז"ל

QUIZ TIME Living with Mitzvos  
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2. What is the significance of *Parshas Naso* coming straight after *Shavuos* (in most years)?