

בית הוראה דיעטראיט
BAIS HORAAH OF DETROIT
HALACHA HOTLINE

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF **HaRav Shmuel Irons** שליט"א VAAD HALACHA **Rav Aharon Yoel Sorscher** • **Rav Yissachar Wolf** • **Rav Boruch Miller**

KITCHEN • SHABBOS • YOM TOV • BRACHOS • AVEILUS • TAHARAS HAMISHPACHA • EVERYDAY SHAILOS

ISSUE #8 – PAS YISROEL FAQs

Commonly Received Questions and their Answers

The Shulchan Aruch recommends that one should eat only Pas Yisroel during the Aseres Yemei Teshuva (from Rosh Hashana through Yom Kippur). Even those who are lenient in this area the rest of the year should be stringent during this time. Below are some common questions relating to this halacha.

● **Are cookies and crackers included?**

- Yes. Cakes, cookies, crackers and any bread-like item must be Pas Yisroel. The general rule is that any pas haba b'kisnin items are included in this halacha. Pas haba b'kisnin is defined as baked mezonos items which require washing and bentching when eating a large amount of it.

● **Are breakfast cereals, noodles, or granola bars included?**

- No. These items are either not baked or are not considered bread-like.

● **Are donuts included?**

- Donuts which are deep fried are not included since only baked items are included

● **Are bagels included?**

- Yes. Bagels are considered a baked item. Even though bagels are boiled, they are not edible until they are then baked.

● **Is corn bread or rice bread included?**

- No. Only items made from the five grains are included; wheat, barley, rye, spelt and oats.

● **What if the corn bread contains a small amount of wheat flour?**

- For Pas Yisroel we go after the majority ingredient. Even though the bracha would be mezonos or hamotzi, it is still not considered bread with regard to the laws of Pas Yisroel.

● **Do breadcrumbs need to be Pas Yisroel?**

- Yes. In a case where something was accidentally made with non-Pas Yisroel breadcrumbs, a halachic authority should be consulted.

● **Is raw dough that was made in a non-Jewish factory problematic?**

- No. As long as the baking is done by a Jew, the finished product is considered Pas Yisroel.

● **Are par-baked items, pizza crusts, and pie crusts included?**

- Yes. However, if these items are baked further by a Jew, they are rendered Pas Yisroel. Note: this leniency only applies to items where the extra baking time improves the taste and creates a thicker or darker crust.

● **Are hot pretzels included?**

- Yes. Even if warmed up by a Jew, such heating does not qualify as an improvement. These items must be purchased as Pas Yisroel.

● **Are waffles, pancakes, wafers and ice cream cones considered pas?**

- There is room to be lenient with these items as many poskim do not consider them bread-like.

● **Are wraps included?**

- Yes. Wheat wraps are considered bread-like.

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- **How far am I required to travel to obtain Pas Yisroel during Aseres Yemei Teshuva?**
 - If Pas Yisroel is only available more than 18 minutes away from where you are situated, you may purchase and consume non-Pas Yisroel. (In the event you are already driving, see the next question.)
- **I will be driving during Aseres Yemei Teshuva. May I purchase non-Pas Yisroel products along the way?**
 - While driving, one may eat non-Pas Yisroel unless he knows that Pas Yisroel will be available within the next 72 minutes of driving (in the direction that you are traveling).
- **I reached my destination and I still have non-Pas Yisroel items left over. May I continue to eat them?**
 - During Aseres Yemei Teshuva, one should be stringent and not eat the leftovers.
- **Is there any leniency if the non-Pas Yisroel product tastes better, is less expensive, or if a particular variety is not available?**
 - During the year, halacha allows for the purchase of non-Pas Yisroel when comparable tasting Pas Yisroel products are not available, more expensive, or not available in a particular variety. However, during Aseres Yemei Teshuva we are stringent even in such cases to only purchase Pas Yisroel.
- **Is one who is not generally makpid on Chalav Stam or Yoshon required to be makpid on these stringencies during Aseres Yemei Teshuva?**
 - These halachos are specifically related to Pas Yisroel. One who wants to keep additional chumros during Aseres Yemei Teshuva should consult with his or her personal Rov.
- **Do the bread items used for lechem mishna on Shabbos and Yom Tov during the rest of the year need to be Pas Yisroel?**
 - Yes. In a case where Pas Yisroel is completely unavailable, there is room to be lenient.
- **What about cakes, cookies or other bread-like items which are not being used for lechem mishna?**
 - One should try to be machmir on Shabbos and Yom Tov, even not during Aseres Yemei Teshuva. However, there is room to be lenient with items where the non-Pas Yisroel variety is preferable due to taste, price or availability.

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