



The Giant Pacific Octopus can be found in the coastal North Pacific, usually at a depth of around 215 ft. It can, however, live in much shallower or much deeper waters. It is arguably the largest octopus species, reaching up to 156lbs with an arm-span of up to 14ft. The lifespan of this creature is only 3-5 years. It makes up for this by laying up to 100,000 eggs which are intensely cared for by the female, who will die protecting the eggs.

This massive and alluring species of octopus commonly preys upon shrimp, crabs, scallops, abalone, clams, and fish. Food is procured with its suckers and then crushed using its tough "beak" of chitin. It has been observed in captivity catching spiny dogfish of up to four feet in length.

Hashem gave this creature a gift: an ability to hide from dangerous enemies lurking in the ocean dark. The mantle (or cloak) of the octopus is spherical in shape and contains most of the animal's major organs. By contracting or expanding tiny pigment-containing granules known as chromatophores which consist of complex multi cellular organs, it is able to rapidly change its color. The octopus can do so in order to enable itself to blend in with the environment. It thus disguises itself from its predators.

Hints & Answers* **SHMIRAS SHABBOS:** Shemiras Shabbos Kehilchosa (3:37) writes: *When one opens a melon, it is permitted to remove the seeds that are inside of it, because without that it's not possible to get to the fruit. This is permitted only close to the time of the meal.* **RHYMES:** "seek", "bliss"

TRIVIA Question 1: C Question 2: B. Question 3: B. Question 4: B. Question 5: A.

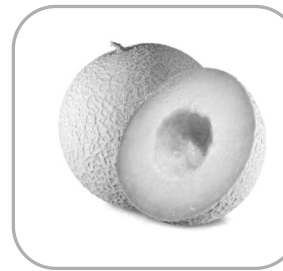
*Note: The answers are based only on the sources quoted and might not reflect opinions of other halachic authorities. As such, Menucha's answer are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha, but rather as a springboard for discussions, questions to a *Moreh Hora'ah*, and further study.



Halacha Challenge



Removing the Seeds of a Melon



"Shoshana, what should we have for the Shabbos party?" asked her younger sister Racheli, "It's starting in 5 minutes!"

"Yesterday, I bought a melon. We can use it for the kids Shabbos party," answered Shoshana.

"I'll be happy to help you cut it up," said Racheli.

"Great!" said Shoshana and took the melon out of the refrigerator. She then placed it on the cutting board and cut it in half. "Here you go," she said to Racheli as she handed one half to her. "First, scoop the seeds out of the melon. Then cut it into slices."

"But I cannot scoop the seeds out of the melon, since that would be *Borer!*" said Racheli.

"It's not *Borer*," said Shoshana, "since the only way to get to the fruit part of the melon is by scooping out its seeds first."

Question: Can Racheli scoop the seeds out of the melon?

(The "Hints & Answers" section is on page 4)

◆ Dedicated anonymously for yeshuos and refuos to all Klal Yisroel





Parsha Pearls

On the day of Korach's rebellion, Moshe sent a messenger to Dasan and Aviram to summon them so that he could solve the dispute. They utterly refused (see Bamidbar 16:12-14). Yet the next morning, Moshe did something unprecedented. The Torah says, וַיִּקָּם מֹשֶׁה וַיֵּלֶךְ ...אֶל-דָּתָן וְאֶבְרָם... (Bamidbar 16:25) And on this verse, citing the words of the Midrash, Rashi writes: כסבור שישאו לו פנים (Moshe thought that they would respect him [and agree to end the dispute]).

In light of who Dathan and Aviram were and in light of how they reacted to Moshe's request to make peace on the previous day, Moshe nevertheless thought that now they will respect his words!

The Torah is demonstrating to us that a Jew should always project positively!



Ask Around Your Shabbos Table

In this week's parsha, Rashi comments: *"What made Korach decide to quarrel with Moshe? He envied the chieftainship of Elizaphan the son of Uzziel whom Moshe appointed ..."* (Rashi to Bamidbar 16:1)

Ask Around Your Table: Jealousy was the root cause of Korach's downfall. But what is the root cause of jealousy?

Answer: The cause of jealousy is looking at another Jew as a person who is separate from you. But by realizing that all of us are connected to each other and we are like one being, then instead of being jealous of someone who has something that you don't, you will rejoice when you see his blessings (based on *Tomer Devorah*, chapter 1, *"lish'eris nachalaso"*).



Rhymes for Kids



A great lesson from parsha we learn this week.
Shalom with your friends you should always ____!
Moshé Rabbzinu is the one who taught us this!
So follow this way, and give your soul a true ____.



TRIVIA



כל חלב וְכֹל־חֶלֶב תִּירוֹשׁ וְדָגָן רִאשִׁיתָם אֲשֶׁר־יִתְּנוּ לָהּ לַיהוָה נְתַתִּים

The excellent portion of the oil and the excellent portion of the wine and grain, the first of which they give to Hashem, to you I have given. [Bamidbar 18:12]

In this week's parsha (from the above-quoted verse) we learn about the mitzva of Teruma Gedola. See how many trivia questions below you can answer correctly about this mitzva.

1. We know that when Yisroel collects produce from his field, he must separate Teruma Gedola and give it to a kohen. Now, what should a kohen do if he grows his own produce?! Pick the correct answer: (A) He does not need to separate Teruma Gedola at all. (B) He needs to separate Teruma Gedola and give it to another kohen. (C) He needs to separate Teruma Gedola but he can keep it for himself.
2. Although by the Torah law, Teruma Gedola can be of any amount, *m'derabannan*, it is proper to separate: (A) 10% (B) 2% (C) 5%
3. Nowadays, although Teruma Gedola is not given to kohanim (due to *tumah*), we should nevertheless separate the same amount as we used to separate back in the days when Teruma Gedola was given to kohanim. (A) True (B) False
4. Although, the verse above mentions explicitly only olive oil, wine, and grain, according to all opinions the Torah implies that fruits of other fruit trees are also subject to Teruma Gedola. (A) True (B) False
5. According to all opinions vegetables are subject to Teruma Gedola only by the Rabbinic law. (A) True (B) False