

However in *Bohvel*, it is two cubits

אבל בבבל ב' אמות -

Overview

ruled that the requirement to distance a tree four אמות from חבירו is only in ארץ ישראל (where the plow needed ד"א), however in בבל where the plow is smaller, distancing two אמות is sufficient. reconciles our גמרא with a seemingly contradictory גמרא.

asks:

תימה דבפרק המוכר את הספינה (לקמן דף פב, ב ושם דף פג, א) גבי קנה ג' קנה קרקע¹ -

It is astounding! for in פרק המוכר את הספינה, regarding the ruling that if he bought three trees he acquires the land between the trees -

דאמר רב יוסף עובדא הוה בדורא דרעותא כולי² -

Where רב יוסף said there was a story in a 'city of shepherds', etc. -

משמע מהתם דבבבל נמי בעינן ד' אמות דבבבל הוה מעשה³ -

It seems from the גמרא there that in בבל we also require distancing ד"א, for that story in דורא דרעותא took place in בבל?!

answers:

וצריך לומר דבהיא דורא דרעותא היה להם מחרישה גדולה כמו בארץ ישראל:

And it will be necessary to say that in that דרעותא they had a large plow like in א"י; however elsewhere in בבל the מחרישה was smaller.

Summary

There was sometimes a מחרישה of ד"א even in בבל.

Thinking it over

How much must one distance his tree in דרעותא?⁴

¹ The rule is if someone buys one or two trees, he only owns the tree but not the land. However if one buys three trees he owns the land between the trees. The issue is how close (or far) do the trees need to be from each other in order to receive ownership of the land as well. One opinion is that it must be between eight and sixteen אמות.

² The case there was that the trees were closer than eight אמות between them (see footnote # 1), and nevertheless ר' ruled that they receive the land as long as the distance between them is כמלא בקר וכליו (the amount of space for an ox and its utensils [plow, etc.]). רב יוסף, who heard this ruling from ר"י was unsure of the size of כמלא בקר וכליו. However, when he learnt our משנה (which requires ד"א) and the ברייתא (which stated that ד"א is הכרם), he deduced that ד"א is מלא בקר וכליו.

³ According to שמואל the size of כמלא בקר וכליו in בבל is only two אמות. How did רב יוסף understand it to be ד"א. Granted that in א"י it is ד"א, but not in בבל.

⁴ See רשב"א.