

## לפני הזרע ובשעת הזרע - Before the planting and during the planting

### Overview

The ברייתא stated that the time for selling grain is before the planting season and during the planting season. תוספות explains how they are considered separate times.

תוספות asks:

תימה דכל זה הוא פרק א' דאין הפסק בין לפני הזרע לשעת הזרע<sup>1</sup> –

**It is astounding! for all this is only one season for there is no interruption between before the planting and during the planting.**

תוספות answers:<sup>2</sup>

ויש לומר דבשעת הזרע הוא סוף הזרע שכבר זרעו כל מה שהיה להם -

**And one can say that when the גמרא states בשעת הזרע, this means towards the end of the planting season where they already planted all the seed which they had - ונתחסר להם שלא היה להם כל הצורך:**

**And they are short of seed for they did not have all which they needed.**

### Summary

There is a need for grain בסוף הזרע for they have not purchased enough לפני הזרע.

### Thinking it over

Is תוספות merely explaining why it is considered שני פרקים or is (also) explaining why it is the time to sell?<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Let us assume that the planting season begins ר"ח מרחשון. Before the planting (seemingly) means immediately before the planting or right before ר"ח חשוון, and then the planting begins right afterwards; there is no interruption between them; how can they be considered separate פרקים?!

<sup>2</sup> The reason that לפני הזרע and בשעת הזרע are the times for selling grain is because the farmers need the grain then for planting. They need to purchase grain לפני הזרע so they will have grain to plant, and בסוף הזרע when they run out of seed. Therefore they are considered שני פרקים, one before the planting even starts and one much later when the planting is almost finished.

<sup>3</sup> See תפארת יעקב.