

## Reb Nachman and the Spiritual Connections of Plants

1) All medicines come from the earth. So at the time the “earth yields its produce” (Psalm 67)--when the earth gives its power to all trees and plants, the time of the forming of fruits (*ha'khanitah*)-- which is the month of Iyyar--at that time, there is greater power in all the [plant] medicines...This is why the Hebrew letters of Iyar [אייר] are the same as the first letters of the words “Ani YHVH rofecha” (I am YHVH your healer--Exodus 15:26).

(Reb Nachman of Breslov, 1772-1810, Likkutei Moharan 1:277, and breslevmeir.com website)

2)

אם היית זוכה לשמע את קול השירות והתשבחות של העשבים, איך כל עשב ועשב אומר שירה להשם יתברך בלי פניה ובלי שום מחשבות זרות ואינם מצפים לשום תשלום גמול, כמה יפה ונאה כששומעין השירה שלהם וטוב מאד ביניהם לעבד את ה בראה.

A follower of Rebbe Nachman from Zlatipolia, where the Rebbe lived circa 1800-1801, related that one summer day the Rebbe sent his daughter Sarah to call for him. “When I came, he suggested that we take a stroll. We soon reached the outskirts of the town and were walking in a grassy meadow. ‘If only you could hear the song and praise of this grass,’ the Rebbe said, ‘how each blade sings to the Blessed One without any ulterior motive, without any distracting thought, without any expectation of reward. How wonderful it is to hear their song and how good it is to serve God with awe in their midst.’”

- Reb Nachman of Breslov, *Sichot HaRan* 163

Know that when a person prays in the field, then all of the grasses/plants together come into the prayer, and they help him, and give him strength within his prayer.

- Reb Nachman of Breslov, *Likkutei Moharan* 2:11

Also see:

- [http://www.neohasid.org/audio/shirat\\_haasavim/](http://www.neohasid.org/audio/shirat_haasavim/)
- Recon siddur Kol Haneshamah p. 762 (although the prayer there should be attributed to Reb Nosson Sternhartz [Reb Nachman's chief disciple])

3) "The Song of the Grasses" by Israeli songwriter Naomi Shemer based on Reb Nachman.

Know that each and every shepherd has his own tune.

Know that each and every grass has its own song.

And from the song of the grasses the tune of the shepherd is made

How beautiful, how beautiful and pleasant to hear their song.

It's very good to pray among them and to serve Hashem in joy  
And from the song of the grasses the heart is filled and yearns.

And when the the heart is filled by the song and yearns for the Land of Israel  
a great light is drawn forth and goes from the Land's holiness unto it.  
And from the song of the grasses the tune of the heart is made.

Transliterated:

*Da l'kha shekol ro'eh ve ro'eh yeish lo nigun m'yuchad mishelo.  
Da l'kha shekol eisev v'eisev yeish lo shirah m'yuchedet mishelo.  
Umeishirat ha'asavim na'aseh nigun shel ro'eh.*

*Kamah yafeh, kama yafeh vena'eh k'sheshom'im hashirah shelahem.  
Tov me'od l'hitpaleil beineihem uv'simchah la'avod et Hashem.  
Umeishirat ha'asavim mitmalei haleiv umishtoikeik.*

*Ukh'shehaleiv, min hashirah mitmalei umishtoikeik el erets yisra'el.  
Or gadol azai nimshakh v'holeikh mikdushatah shel ha'arets alav.  
Umeishirat ha'asavim, na'aseh nigun shel haleiv.*

For a beautiful recording, see:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDw\\_2sHhxXQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GDw_2sHhxXQ)