



The Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life  
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## SUKKOT AND THE ENVIRONMENT: TEXTS FOR STUDY

- “You shall celebrate the festival of ingathering, at the end of the year, when you gather in your labors of the field.” *Exodus 23:16*
- “You shall take the fruit of the goodly tree, palm branch, foliage of the leafy tree, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before your God for seven days.” *Leviticus 23:40*
- “You shall live in sukkahs seven days; all citizens of Yisrael shall live in huts; in order that future generations may know that I made the Israelite people live in huts when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, I the Lord your God.” *Leviticus 23:42,43*
- “Hang tapestries, nuts, almond, peaches, pomegranates, branches of grapes, vines, fine meal, wreaths of ears of corn” (on your Sukkah) *Talmud Betzah 30b*
- “Whoever is exempt from eating in the sukkah and does not go out from the sukkah, does not receive a reward for this mitzvah.” *Shulhan Arukh*
- One tradition identifies the etrog, not the apple, as the fruit eaten by Eve and Adam in the garden of Eden. Only the etrog tree has wood and fruit that are good to taste. (*Gen 3:6*)
- “One generation goes and another generation comes, but the earth abides forever... What has been is that which will be, what has been done is that which will be done again, and there is nothing new under the sun.” *Ecclesiastes 1:4,9*
- “Spread over us Your tabernacle of peace.” *Siddur*
- Isaiah’s vision “You shall indeed go out in joy and be led forth in peace. Before you mountains and hills shall should aloud; and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the briar, a cypress shall arise; instead of a thorny nettle, a myrtle shall arise. These shall stand as a testimony to the Eternal, as an everlasting sign that shall not perish.” *Isaiah 55:12-13*

Source: COEJL