

Shoel U'Mashiv

Eggs, Milk and Meat on Pesach

Rabbi Noah Whittenburg

Q - “Can I use the frozen raw chicken and meat in my freezer for *Pesach* or do I need to buy new meat?”

A - What is the problem?

The *Mishnah Berurah* 448:33 discusses as an aside the question of whether one can drink the milk of an animal on *Pesach* if it was fed *Chametz*. He says it is a debate amongst the *Achronim*. He quotes the *Pri Megadim* as allowing the milk if the animal was milked 24 hours after eating *Chametz*. He adds that some even allow it if the animal ate *Chametz* in the morning and was milked in the evening. The *Sharei Teshuvah* 17 says that the same question applies to the meat of the animal. He quotes his uncle that one is allowed to *Shecht* and eat an animal on *Pesach* that was fed *Chametz* on *Pesach*. The *Mishnah Berurah* 30 says that the meat is allowed *B'dieved*—which implies that *L'chatchila* one should not do so.

What is the practical *Halacha*?

The *Piskei Teshuvos* 448:45 says that the accepted *Minhag* is to be *Machmir*. Meaning, that a person should not drink milk or eat eggs and meat during *Pesach* from an animal that was fed *Chametz* on *Pesach*. The reason he gives is because of how severe the prohibition of *Chametz* on *Pesach* is and how careful we are with regards to it. Practically speaking, one should either stock up on all their milk, eggs, chicken and meat before *Pesach* or make sure to only buy products that are certified as being kosher for *Pesach*.

Can one use the frozen chicken and meat they have for *Pesach*?

One can certainly use the frozen raw chicken and meat they have. When it comes to milk there is an additional factor. Most milks have vitamins added to them and those vitamins often include elements of *Chametz*. The OU says if one buys the milk before *Pesach*, it is no problem since the ratio is so that the *Chametz* is *Batul* (nullified). However, on *Pesach* itself one should only buy milk that is certified as being kosher for *Pesach*. The reason is because *Bitul* is only effective before *Pesach*, but not during *Pesach* itself. Cold cuts always need to be certified as kosher for *Pesach*.