

## AGRICULTURE AND HERDING

In fields outside the town walls, various crops were grown and harvested such as grains (wheat and barley), grapes, and olives. Lentils, cucumbers, beans, onions, garlic, figs, **raisins**, melons, and pomegranates were also grown.

Food production involved several steps. First the wheat or barley had to be grown and then harvested using wooden sickles outfitted with sharp **stone blades**, as seen below. Next the plant was dried and winnowed in order to separate the wheat from the chaff. The remaining kernels of grain were then ground down to into flour using a saddle quern and muller, just like the one pictured on the right that was found *in situ* (in place) at Tell en-Nasbeh. The flour could then be used to make bread.



Milk and its products were available from flocks of sheep and goats that were tended locally. These livestock also provided wool and meat, though the latter was usually reserved for festival occasions. Honey, spices and salt supplemented the regular diet.

Place raisin box here



Place stone blade here