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## Front Cover: **GOLDEN JACKAL (CANIS AUREUS SYRIACUS)**

The golden jackal is commonly found in the Northern and Centre of Israel but also in the Northern Negev and the Judean Desert. The jackal is an omnivore and together with its tolerance for dry conditions, enables it to live in different habitats. The jackal's long legs and small body size allow it to run over great distances in search of food. It is both a predator, a scavenger and an opportunistic forager. Golden jackals in Israel are predators of snakes. Golden jackals from Israel have a higher genetic diversity than European jackals which is thought to be due to Israeli jackals having hybridized with dogs, gray wolves and African golden wolves. The pictures were kindly provided by Assaf Grinwald, a nature photographer from Kibbutz Maagan.