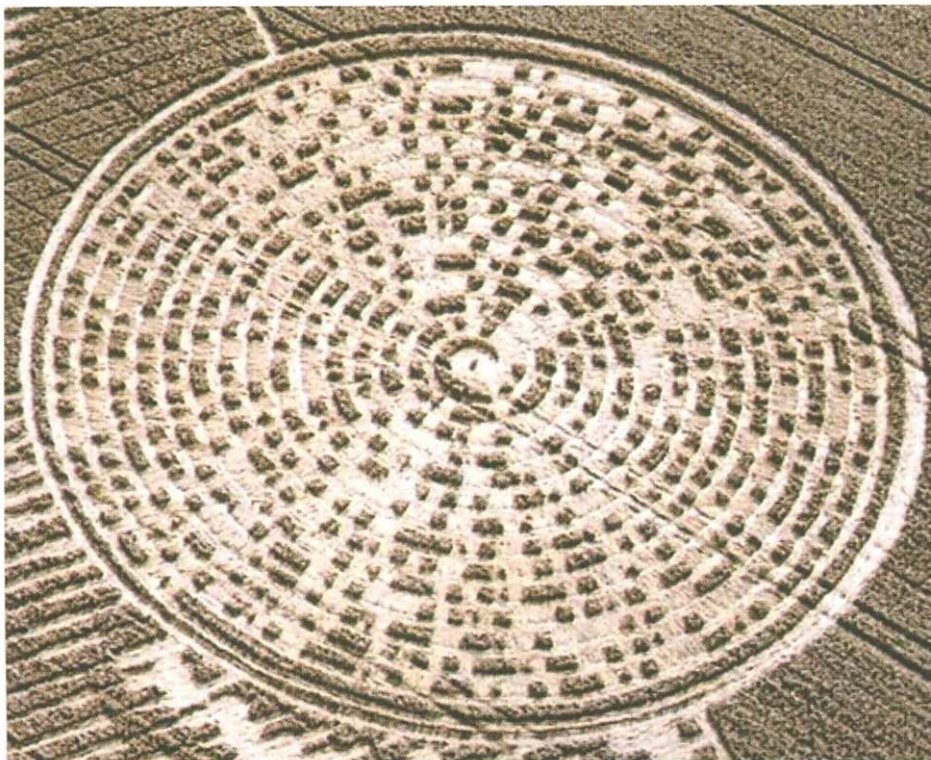


EXTRAORDINARY CROP FORMATION NEAR WINCHESTER.



This aerial photograph was sent to us by reader Derrick Hunt of Bromley, Kent. It shows the controversial and much discussed image of an “alien holding a CD”. The formation occurred at Crabwood Farm House, nr Winchester, Hampshire. Reported 15th August. Interestingly , Derrick Hunt refers to it as *Ugly critter! with automaton play disc?* One wonders what would emerge if that disc were to be “played” through appropriate apparatus...



Early field researchers, reporting on the website below, said that “all laid crop areas were extremely neat when they arrived, with no evidence of prior incursion by more than a couple of people, at most. With the total absence of ‘stomper board’ markings throughout all areas of the formation examined, we had to conclude that it was most unlikely that this is a standard fake. In short, what we experienced on the ground on day one cannot be reconciled with any ground based hoaxing methodology that we are aware of at this time.”

See:-

www.cropcircleconnector.com
<http://home.clara.net/lucypringle/>



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GIANT UFO SEEN OVER YUKON

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EDITORIAL: EXAM RESULTS OUT?

This year has brought a harvest of particularly unusual and peculiar crop formations, and it seems that the mystery surrounding these phenomena forever deepens; indeed, they seem characterised by features of *progression* or *development*, and it is this aspect which has led me to a fanciful line of speculation.

Anyone who has ever done an undergraduate psychology course will know that psychology students can do some mighty queer things -usually to other, non-psychology students- as part of their coursework.

Originally I thought to myself, oh this stuff might be the work of alien Ph.D. psychology students -and then there rapidly followed the realisation that *some* of it could also be the work of *mere undergraduates*....

For what purpose? For the same kind of reason why we place red and blue lollipop sticks into goldfish bowls -to see how the experimental subject responds.

Now, what about the *mechanism*? Well, we human beings have long used what we call computer numerical control to enable us to automatically translate a design or pattern into something physical. We use it to make furniture, for example. A computer connected to a lathe through a suitable

interface can automatically turn out a table leg.

I fancy that this is how the crop formations are created -but we don't know what the interface is. It seems probable that they are formed from above. We only need to envisage a mechanism that is able to exert physical forces rapidly under computer control, and then we have a plausible explanation of the *means* of production.

Really, almost by definition, anything which occurs as if by *magic*, is something for which we *cannot perceive the mechanism* -for logically we know that there *has to be a mechanism* -unless we believe in a *supernatural* which we suppose to be devoid of the need for such.

But, as to the *purpose*, I think we should perhaps be looking to psychology, as well as to physics, as we seek to understand these mysterious phenomena.

Of course, it is always possible that a graphical arts department is involved too, and some of the motive may be purely artistic.

Yet, though it may not be all that edifying for us to discover that we are the subjects of psychological experiments, it just might be the truth. -Editor.■