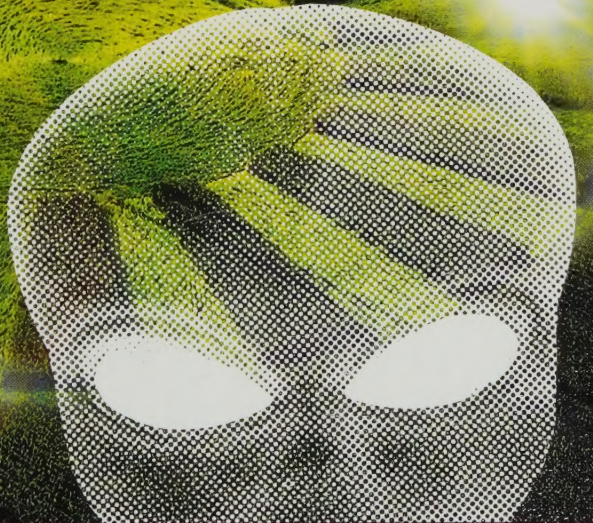



CROP CIRCLES

QUARRY
PARK
LIBRARY

WORLD BOOK

BOLT





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2023 with funding from
Kahle/Austin Foundation

https://archive.org/details/isbn_9780716693550

CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

JAN - - 2018



Strange ... But True?

CROP CIRCLES

KYLA STEINKRAUS

 **WORLD BOOK**





This World Book edition of *Crop Circles* is published by agreement between Black Rabbit Books and World Book, Inc.

© 2018 Black Rabbit Books,
2140 Howard Dr. West,
North Mankato, MN 56003 U.S.A.
World Book, Inc.,
180 North LaSalle St., Suite 900,
Chicago, IL 60601 U.S.A.

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced in any form without written permission from the publisher.

Marysa Storm, editor; Grant Gould, interior designer; Michael Sellner, cover designer; Omay Ayres, photo researcher

Library of Congress Control Number: 2016050039

ISBN: 978-0-7166-9355-0

Printed in the United States at CG Book Printers,
North Mankato, Minnesota, 56003. 3/17

Image Credits

Adobe Stock: Luca Oleas-
tri, Cover; Alamy: Dale O'Dell,
6-7, 20 (field), 26; Dennis Halli-
nan, Cover; John Henshall, 15; Peter
Widmann, 11; iStock: Georgethefourth,
19; Newscom: Mirrorpix, 22; Shutter-
stock: abramsdesign, 4-5; andrea crisante,
16-17; aslysun, 12 (bottom); canbedone, 1,
32, Back Cover; daulon, 31; Lena_graphics,
20 (alien); NikolayN, 28-29; solarseven, 3;
Temporary Temples: Steve Alexander, 8-9,
12, 25

Every effort has been made to contact
copyright holders for material repro-
duced in this book. Any omissions
will be rectified in subsequent
printings if notice is given
to the publisher.



Contents

CHAPTER 1

A Crop Circle Mystery. . .4

CHAPTER 2

History of Crop Circles. .14

CHAPTER 3

UFOs in the Corn.18

CHAPTER 4

Crop Circle Hoaxes. . .23

Other Resources.30



A Crop Circle Mystery

It was a fall morning. Edwin Fuhr worked in a field. Suddenly, he noticed something weird. He saw five strange shapes **hovering** above the field. They looked like silver bowls turned upside down. They began to spin. Then they shot up and into the sky. They left behind five flat circles in the field.





Many Questions

Were those strange shapes spaceships?
Did aliens make the marks in the field?

Crop circles are designs that appear in fields. Some are simple circles. Others are large patterns. No one really knows where they come from. Some people think aliens make them. Others think there's a down-to-earth explanation.



WHAT'S GOING ON?

CROPS BENT IN SWIRL PATTERN

FLATTENED STALKS

MADE MOSTLY AT NIGHT

An aerial photograph of a harvested agricultural field. The ground is dark brown with visible furrows from a harrow. A large, light-colored, tangled mass of crop residue is on the left. Two large, round hay bales are in the lower right. Colored arrows and text boxes highlight specific features: a yellow arrow points to the residue, a blue arrow points to the furrows, a red arrow points to the absence of tracks, and a yellow arrow points to the overall field layout.

HAPPENS IN FIELDS OF
WHEAT, RYE, CORN,
AND BARLEY

CLEAN EDGES


PLANTS KEEP
GROWING

NO TRACKS

Attracting Attention

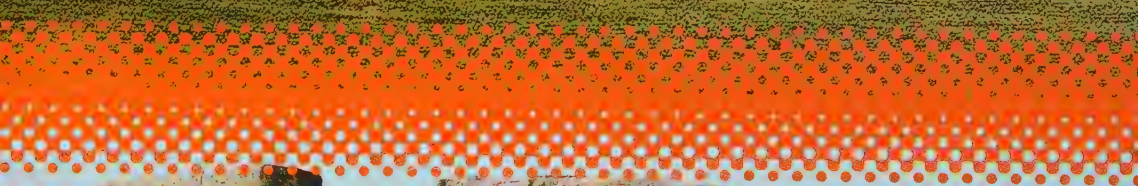
Crop circles appear in the summer. They last until farmers harvest the crops. **Tourists** travel to see them. Visitors come from all over the world.

Some farmers charge a **fee** to see the circles. Others don't want the tourists. They mow over the circles.



More
than 10,000
people visited
the Julia Set
crop circle.





Stonehenge is a stone circle. It is in England. Some people believe it has magic powers. Many crop circles appear near similar places.

Famous Circles

In 1990, a circle appeared in Alton Barnes in England. It was one of the first crop circles to use multiple shapes. Thousands of people went to see it.

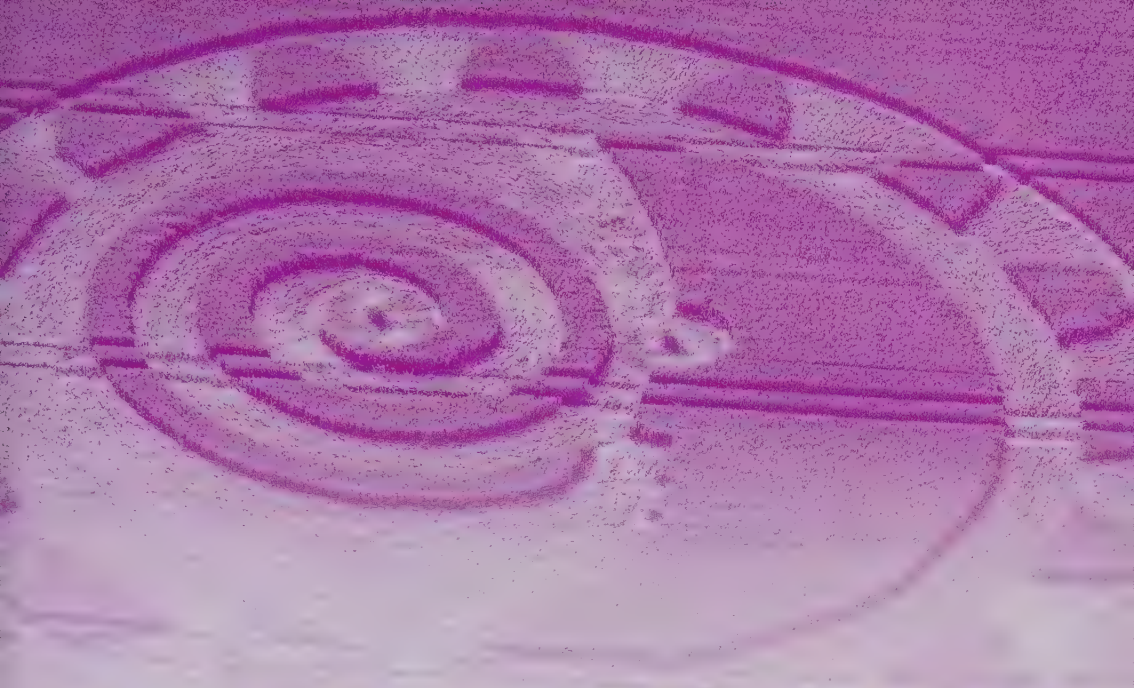
In 1996, a circle formed near Stonehenge. It was called the Julia Set.

• • • • It appeared during the day. **Witnesses** say it formed in only 30 minutes. The spiral was 900 feet (274 meters) long. The design had more than 140 circles.

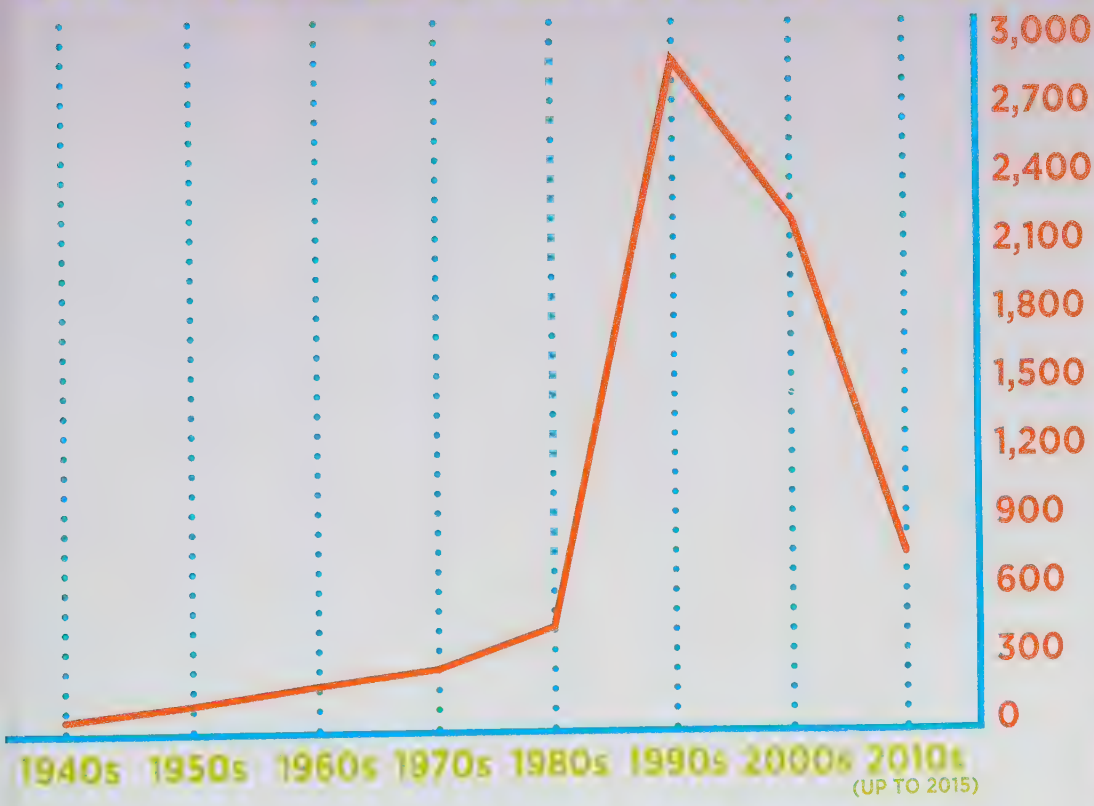
History of

Crop Circles

Before the 1970s, few people reported crop circles. Today, people find hundreds of circles every year. Years ago, crop circles had simple designs. Now, they are larger. They're also more **complex**.



CROP CIRCLE SIGHTINGS BY DECADE



POPULAR CROP CIRCLE SITES

Crop circles form all around the world. But some places get more. About 85 to 90 percent of circles appear in England.





... **NETHERLANDS**

← ... **GERMANY**

... **ITALY**

UFOs

in the Corn

Some people don't believe humans made all crop circles. They think some circles were too hard for humans to make in one night.

People who study crop circles have a name. They are called cereologists.

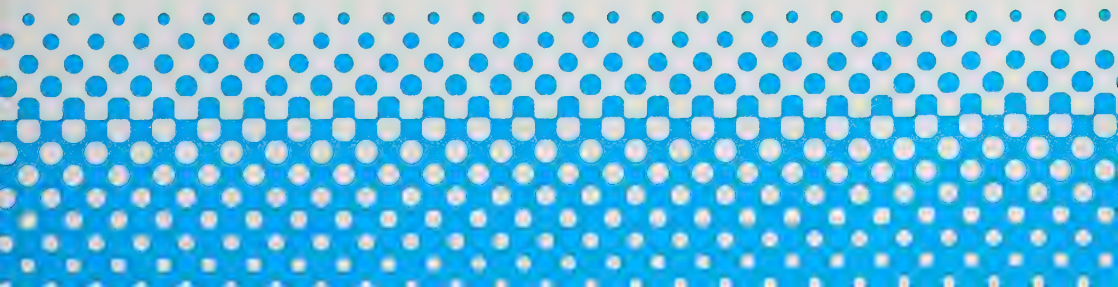




Reasons to Believe

Believers think crop circles are made by aliens. They say the circles are from spaceships. Some people believe the circles have special energy.

Witnesses support those **claims**. They say they've seen strange lights near the circles. Some have seen flying objects. Others have felt dizzy or sick. They've heard weird crackling noises.





Crop artists use rope and flat boards to make their circles. They tie a piece of rope to each end of a board. They use the board to flatten crops. This tool is called a stalk stomper.

Crop Circle

Hoaxes

Skeptics believe people make all crop circles. In 1991, Doug Bower and Dave Chorley said they faked around 200 circles.

Other people make crop circles as art. They call themselves crop artists. Many crop artists make circles in secret at night.

The Golden Ball Formation

In 2005, a circle in Wiltshire, England, formed. People called it the Golden Ball formation. It was 96 feet (29 m) wide. Years later, people asked a group to re-create the circle. The group made it in about four hours. This test proved people could make circles quickly.



People
who believe
circles aren't
made by humans
are called
croppies.

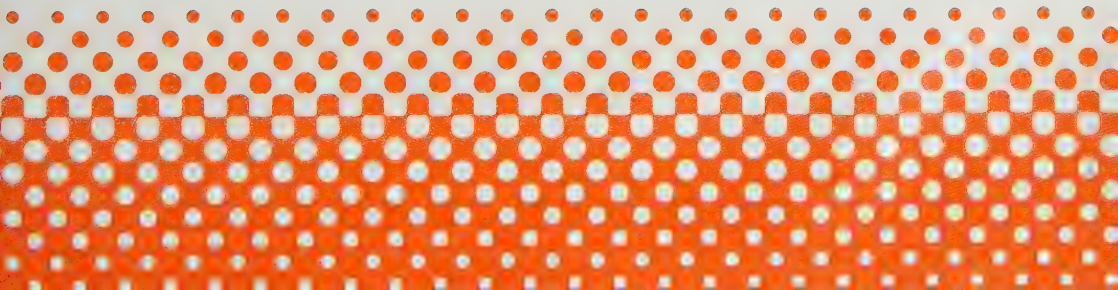


What's Really Happening?

Some people think all circles are human-made. They say people can make perfect shapes with the right tools.

Believers say people couldn't make large circles so quickly. They wonder why there are no tracks in the fields. And they believe witnesses' stories.

Will we ever learn the truth?



QUIZ

Believe It or Not?

Answer the questions below.
Then add up your points to
see if you believe.

1 You see strange lights in the sky.
What do you think?

- A. The aliens are coming for me!
(3 points)
- B. What is that? (2 points)
- C. It must be a plane. (1 point)

2 Look at the pictures in this book again. What's your first thought?

- A. People couldn't have made those. (3 points)
- B. Who or what made those? (2 points)
- C. Those crop artists did a great job. (1 point)

3 You see a strange circle in a field. What do you think?

- A. Humans couldn't have made that. (3 points)
- B. That's a little odd. (2 points)
- C. Someone had fun in the field! (1 point)

.....

3 points

There's no way aliens make crop circles.

4-8 points

Maybe aliens make them.
Maybe they don't.

9 points

You're a total croppie!

A

aliens, 7, 21

C

crop artists, 22–23,
24, 27

croppies, 18, 21, 25, 27

D

designs, 4, 7, 8–9,
13, 14

G

Golden Ball

formation, 24

H

history, 14, 15, 23

J

Julia Set crop circle, 10, 13

L

locations, 7, 12, 13, 16–17, 24

T

tourists, 10, 13



CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY

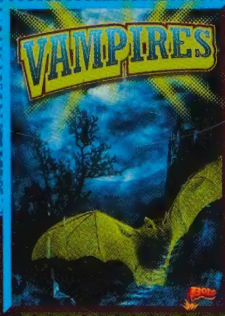
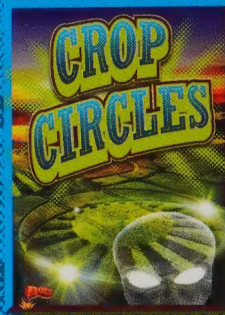
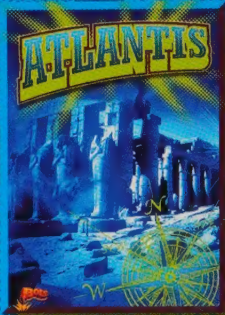
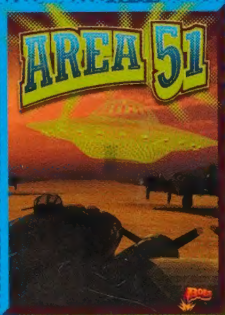


3 9065 154 07668 9

Strange ... But True?

T

he world is full of mysterious stories of hairy creatures and aliens from outer space. But are those stories true? The answer is up to you.



ATOS: 3.3

 **WORLD BOOK**
www.worldbook.com

ISBN 978-0-7166-9355-0



90000



9 780716 693550