

JULY 1983

# UFO rings considered a hoax

A set of five strange rings in a field near Wantage has started a UFO mystery. They have appeared in a field of wheat just below The Ridgeway, off the Newbury Road, and can be seen clearly as dark circles in the green corn.

The main theory is that they are the work of a hoaxer trying to copy the rings which appeared last week in Warminster, Wiltshire — the centre of many UFO stories and mysteries.

There is a large circle about 50 feet across and four smaller ones about 12 feet across on land near the Old Berks Hunt point-to-point course.

The field is owned by Wantage farmer Mr David Castle, who was not available, but a neighbouring farmer said: "I reckon it is a big hoax. I hope the idea doesn't spread or we shall all be having crops knocked down for people's amusement.

If something had landed, it isn't likely that all the corn would have been laid down in a near-perfect circle."

Already the circles have attracted visitors who appear to have trodden down other tracks from the edge of the field to get a closer look.

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