

Boffins in spin over circles

SCIENTISTS investigating mysterious circles that have appeared in cereal fields throughout Southern England say crops involved should be banned from the breakfast table.

They warn that the cereals undergo a change in molecular structure and shape and have urged the Government to take action.

"We have written to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food," said Colin Andrews, a spokesman for the scientists.

"It is possible that a molecular contamination is taking place," added Mr Andrews, technical officer for Test Valley Borough Council, Hants.

So far, more than 160 of the perfect shapes, which are between 10 and 25 yards across and formed by flat-

tened cereal crops, have been spotted. Last Wednesday alone, 11 new discoveries were made.

A team of 60 experts, involved in a study codenamed Operation Whitecrow, has taped sounds and "luminations".

Sound

Mr Andrews, who has put £90,000 of his own money into the investigation, explained: "We picked up a small point of light. A very high pitched energy sound was also recorded."

The tapes are currently being studied by engineers at Sussex University who hope to have preliminary results within a fortnight.

Mrs Thatcher is said to have taken a personal interest

in the teams' work. The Prime Minister wrote to Mr Andrews saying she had read his recent book on the subject and was passing a funding report to the Ministry of Defence.

Mr Andrews said: "Nobody has a clue why the plants grow in such an extraordinary pattern.

"About three weeks after the field is flattened, the plants start to grow into a complex pattern like a huge dartboard.

"The shape consists of seven concentric rings leading into a bull's-eye."

He added that 48 spoke-like outlines are formed, criss-crossing the rings.

"There is evidence of something most important here. We must find out what it is."