

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Articles

- 154** The economics of collecting chaff
M. R. Olfert, Mark Stumborg, Wayne Craig, and R. A. Schoney
- 161** Sustainable agriculture: The wildlife connection
Ann Y. Robinson
- 168** An economic comparison of conventional and reduced-chemical farming systems in Iowa
Craig Chase and Michael Duffy
- 174** Marketing prospects for organic and pesticide-free produce
Desmond A. Jolly and Kim Norris
- 180** The economics of small-scale rabbit production
Tesfa G. Gebremedhin
- 184** *Commentary:* Assessing the character of agricultural production systems: Issues and implications
Sandra S. Batie and Daniel B. Taylor

Departments

Book Reviews—188 • Book Notice—191 • Resources—192 •
Institute News—193 • Upcoming Events—195

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The Institute for Alternative Agriculture is a nonprofit, tax-exempt research and education organization established in 1983 to encourage and facilitate the adoption of low-cost, resource-conserving and environmentally-sound farming methods. It works closely with producer groups, public research and education institutions, and government agencies in promoting a sustainable agriculture system.

Its programs include providing a national information clearinghouse, serving as a voice for sustainable agriculture in Washington, and developing and implementing research and educational outreach programs. It holds an annual scientific symposium and publishes a monthly newsletter.

The Institute is governed by a grass roots Board of Directors, which includes several commercial-scale organic farmers, and maintains a small professional staff. It is supported by memberships and donations and grants from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

Cover Photo

The cover photo shows chaff being loaded in the field after harvest near Wiseton, Saskatchewan, Canada, by farmer Tony Hill. The pickup system, designed by Mr. Hill, attaches to the front-end loader and picks up virtually the entire chaff pile. The chaff is then moved to the farm where it will be ammoniated and fed to cattle. Photo provided by Jack Kernan, Senior Research Scientist, Saskatchewan Research Council, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, S7N 2X8.