In the Middle of a Danish Corn Circle

Text and photos: Ole Henningsen

A Danish corn circle received a lot of publicity in September 1995. How it occurred in the field on Lolland is still a riddle. But the markings were investigated and recorded by SUFOI's local representative who gives his personal story of the event in the following article.

It is always exciting to read and see pictures and films of these odd circles and other markings which have appeared during the years in a number of countries. For several years it was the English corn circles that were interesting and mysterious and which in the beginning were linked to UFO's. But they developed from being circle- shaped markings to more and more complicated and artistic patterns.

Together with this development my personal interest for this phenomena diminished quite a lot. The change of the markings from the primitive to the more sophisticated hinted to me that it was of course the doings of intelligent creatures. And to remain here on earth I felt that the origin of these creatures should be found in the animal world, namely in the ranks of the jokers.

Therefore, it was almost an irony of faith when I suddenly in September 1995 found myself literally in the middle of a corn circle phenomenon in Holeby in the middle of Lolland.

UFO enthusiast alerts SUFOI

Claus Lindloff, Toreby, Lolland, is interested in UFOs. An acquaintance of his made him aware of the fact that in a stubble-field in the northern end of Holeby was a marking which reminded him of the wellknown phenomenon in England.

On 12 September 1995 CL went together with his wife and an acquaintance plus the farm owner Klaus Stentebjerg-Olesen to take a closer look at the markings and measure them. After this CL contacted SUFOI's Alarm Centre which sent the message to Ole Henningsen, the author of this article.

The phenomenon shown on TV

The next morning TV2/East was informed by CL and the TV crew arrived shortly after and made shots of the phenomena in the field, plus interviewed CL and KS-O who have leased the land in question. One of them had a natural explanation of how the markings had occurred. The clip which was broadcast on TV2/east the evening of 13 September at 7.30 pm raised a lot of local interest.

Because of work and meeting activities I didn't have the opportunity to visit the scene immediately. However over the telephone I received a description of the events from CL and KS-O.

The farm owner KS-O said that the marking had been discovered when the harvesting had begun around 8 August. The markings had been drawn whereupon the field had been harvested. The markings were still visible afterwards since it consisted of straw laying on the ground bent down near the surface. When the combine harvester harvested the other corn it was set at a height of 10 cm and did therefor not touch the straw that lay on the ground.

The crop consisted of winter wheat. KS-O also said that there wasn't in any way talk of extraordinary fertilising or spraying with pesticide in the area. Nothing unusual had been done in the cultivation of this field. Not even earlier in the year had there been any spraying, at any rate no more than usual.

No-one seen in the cornfield

The farm owner and his helper have not seen any children in the cornfield or tracks from any walkers. He believed after the discovery that maybe some older children on mopeds had made the markings.

As it is seen in the drawing of the phenomenon (see page 34) it looks a little complicated. There are two large circles which are connected with a straight beam. Approximately in the middle of this beam there is a straight angled middle beam.

The markings seen from a glider

After my conversations with CL and KS-O, I contacted flight leader Boye Hansen from Lolland-Falster Airport which is situated only 2 km away from the now famous field. BH is a glider instructor and he mentioned that the local glider club two weeks prior to the given harvest date had had their summer meeting. In connection with this he himself had flown with a student many times above the area in a glider. From up here they had seen on several occasions this odd marking in the field.

It stood out very sharply and clearly in the wheat field from the air. The markings especially drew the glider's attention because it looked like a symbol situated on the airfield visible from the air to orientate the fliers (see the photo at the bottom of this page).

BH is convinced that he saw nothing other than the two circles connected with a straight beam. If this is true then that means that the marking had been made on two separate occasions!!

Colour photos taken from the air of the area in the beginning of July unfortunately do not show clearly that part of the field where the markings appeared. They can therefore not confirm when the phenomenon appeared and how it looked in the beginning.

A neighbour to the field said that he together with one of his other neighbours had seen the markings in the field as early as up to a month before the harvesting - that is in the beginning of July. Because of the distance and the situation of the field he had not seen the marking itself but only 'a sort of hole in the corn' at the place in question.

The look of the straw indicates further that the phenomenon had not occurred at a very early time in the cultivating process.

Viewer storm on TV

TV2/East received many viewer reactions from the broadcast with many possible explanations for the phenomenon. On Thursday 14 September the broadcast of the markings was made again and this time with the author Preben Hansson, Korsør, in the studio to make a comment.

Preben Hansson who among other things is known for his controversial book of Trelleborg also has an interest in the corn circle phenomena. He mentioned several of the theories for the origin of the phenomena. He also stated that the *"real corn circles"* have the straw bent at 20 cm above the ground.

Preben Hansson said about the corn circle in Holeby that there was a simple theory and that one could either take it seriously or as a joke depending on one's disposition.

But if one imagined that we were being watched from an alien planet then the spacecraft would probably be hidden behind the moon. When the crew then got bored they would have a little fun by making these markings to see how we would react down here on Earth.

Broadcast nation wide

The news on TV2 at 10 pm the same evening had borrowed some of the shots from the regional station and supplemented it with a short clip from a lecture at the Astrology House in Copenhagen the very same evening about corn circles. Here Robby Curdorf, the director, said that they were a sort of energy mark that came from the outside and that their purpose was to stabilise some energies in disbalance.

The speaker also disagreed with the zoologists who thought that it was deer in heat. The clip from TV2 was spiced up with the famous film clip from England where two ageing pub-goers Dave Corley and Dog Bowerts were walking around and stomping the corn down to make corn circles. The fact that these two gentlemen are not the source of the enormous number of English corn circles phenomena even if they have been doing it since 1978 was not mentioned. At the end of the broadcast an interesting circle phenomenon from a cornfield in Norway was shown.

The local paper *Lolland-Falster Folketidende* had the following day one of their photographers in the air above the area. His colour photos were published on the front page on 16 September with a foreword from the 'local UFO expert' who during the weekend would investigate the markings further.

Large move-in over the weekend

Even from a distance there could be no doubt as to where one should find the markings. It swarmed with UFO interested people and other curious folk.

However we succeeded in getting the necessary measuring and recording done. At the same time soil samples were taken partly from the surface and from a depth of 20 centimetres. Three samples were taken from three places in the marking itself plus control samples were taken from the surrounding fields. Further still there were samples taken from the straw plus samples from the bent straw, their roots and the soil hanging on to the roots.

The UFO expert in TV2/East and the news on TV2.

On Sunday morning TV2/East was on the telephone wanting to get some new clips with the 'UFO expert' to get some comments and a conclusion. These shots and a clip with aviation leader Boye Hansen were made during Sunday afternoon and were broadcast on 17 September.

This time the regional station sent their clips further. And to the author of this article surprise he found himself on the news at 7 pm where TV2 had a small clip on the matter.

To finish off, TV2/East broadcast another clip on Monday 18 September where Ole Juul, Espergærde, was quoted as saying that the markings must have been made artificially, because he himself at a visit to the site had found a hole in the middle of each circle the meaning being that sticks had stood there being used to construct the circles.

I must admit that I also found these holes and being the sceptic that I am in this line of work I had studied them quite closely. These holes were app. 5-7cm deep and with a diameter the size of a thumb. But it is my confirmed belief that these holes were of a newer date because of their looks and the soil around them. My guess is that these holes were made by one of the many interested people who a few days earlier had made their own measuring of the circles.

The paper *Lolland-Falsters Folketidende* brought on 18 September again my conclusions so far in the case. The people in the area had seen various light phenomena. However at the moment these phenomena seem not to have a connection with the corn circles.

This seems also to be the case with the remains of a large rubber ball found on the field which was handed over to me just in case.

Recording the phenomenon

In light of the looks of the phenomenon and the circumstances of its appearance SUFOI hasn't sacrificed resources on analysis or on the samples taken on the site. These have up till now been filed in the archive.

Because of the public interest, the phenomenon has been carefully measured, recorded and photographed on my three visits to the place to verify as many facts as possible before the field was ploughed.

What does the data show?

It is my personal appraisal that the data in the case looks thus:

• The straw is bent close to the ground.

• There are no visible pressure marks in the ground, plus no scorching of the straw left unbroken.

• The straw is not laid down in connection with a direct pressure from above or an air pressure from the side. It is laid down 'from the side' as if with a roller or something like it.

• The measurements show the pattern of the markings are not straight or symmetric. They are not round either. One of the cross beams is in a totally crooked position compared to the other one. Plus there are other 'faults' in the construction.

• It is possible to walk to the markings via the tractor tracks, the tracks used for spraying. The closest tracks are only 80 cm away from the markings.

• According to the glider's notes the markings changed in the period from the flyovers to harvest approx. 14 days later. If this is true it could be an other piece of circumstantial evidence.

The work of intelligent creatures

The phenomenon looks very interesting with its more than 34 meter-large circumference. But all in all the markings and the 'bent' straw look fabricated.

I have no doubt that we are dealing with a marking made by intelligent creatures - and that these creatures come from Earth!

At the same time I urge the 'makers' to come forward. And they can contact me confidentially if they can describe in a convincing manner how and when they made this the most talked about corn circle in Denmark!!!!