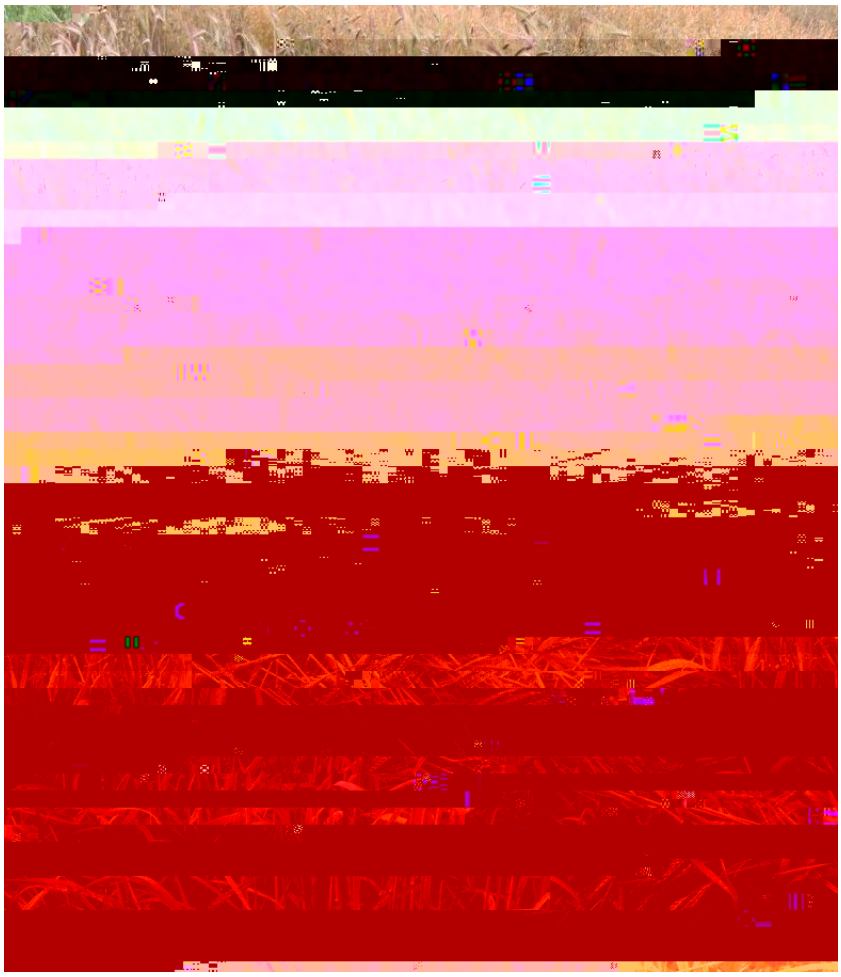
2017 Barley Weed Control Trial



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Demand for local, organic grains has been increasing in recent years as businesses such as flour mills, malt houses, and bakeries have grown and developed business models to include a higher proportion of local ingredients in their products. The organic grains industry requires the use of innovative strategies to control weeds and address disease issues to grow grains in the most efficient manner. In 2017, the University of Vermont Extension Northwest Crops and Soils Program conducted the second year of a trial to evaluate the impact of row spacing and cultivation on weed prereW*ed pre

Table 2. Barley seeding methods, Alburgh, VT, 2016.

Treatment	Row Spacing	Planter
Band	6”	Gandy air seeder
Band with cultivation	6”	Gandy air seeder
Narrow	4.5”	Kverneland grain drill
Standard	6.5”	Sunflower grain drill
Wide with cultivation	9.1”	Kverneland grain drill

Variations in yield and quality can occur because of variations in genetics, soil, weather, and other growing conditions. Statistical analysis makes it possible to determine whether a difference among hybrids is real or whether it might have occurred due to other variations in the field. At the bottom of each table a LSD value is presented for each variable (i.e. yield). Least Significant Differences (LSDs) at the 0.10 level of significance are shown. Where the difference between two hybrids within a column is equal to or greater than the LSD value at the bottom of the column, you can be sure that for 9 out of 10 times, there is a real difference between the two hybrids.

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Figure 1. Barley yield and weed pressure by row spacing, Alburgh, VT, 2017.

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