The Horticulture Farm received timely rainfall, and most of the vines reached the top wire.
ISU Armstrong R&D Farm
September, 2002

The Armstrong Farm suffered from drought, and none of the vines reached the top wire.
Spring 2003

The vines were pruned to a double trunk and the prunings were weighed.

Pruning consisted of removing lateral canes and cutting back to live tissue that was at least ¼ inch in diameter.

A considerable amount of cane die-back was found during pruning. At bud break, the height above the ground of the highest emerging bud was recorded.
Prior to bud swell, all management systems received an application of liquid lime sulfur.
Nitrogen fertilizer was applied at the rate of 45 lb of actual N/A as Corn Gluten Meal (10% N) for the organic approved treatment, and Urea (46% N) for the conventional and best management treatments.
The organic approved rows were hoed and a wheat straw mulch was applied as 2 inch flakes. Oryzalin pre-emergence herbicide with a follow-up application for Roundup herbicide was used for weed control in the conventional and best management rows.
Wheat germinated in some of the straw.
Vines in the mulched rows (front row) exhibited a lighter green foliage color than vines in the conventional and best management Rows (2nd row). It appears that the fresh straw tied up nitrogen.