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.
ISU Armstrong R&D Farm
September, 2003