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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 corn being harvested from plots in a farm field in Jericho, Vermont. The experiment is designed to evaluate the effects of different nitrogen management systems on nitrate leaching to groundwater. Research Technician, Evan Stewart, is weighing silage samples. Photo provided by Dr. Hugh Brown, Department of Plant and Soil Science, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405.