Rubber-Tired Weed Puller Now Works Better Than Ever

"It's aggressive enough to pull the biggest weeds in the most severe conditions," says Dan Bourquin about the update kit he recently introduced for his rubber-tired mechanical weed puller, which was first featured in FARM SHOW back in 1978 - our second year of publication.

The Bourquin weed puller's tires pull tall-growing weeds from low growing crops. The machine went out of production in the 1980's when Roundup-ready crops caught on. It was re-introduced a few years ago when Roundup resistant weeds started developing. A row of wheels, which are driven hydraulically, rotate against each other, grabbing weeds which extend above the crop row.

The original machine used rubber-tired wheels only, but the re-introduced machine combined a rubber-tired wheel with a metal roller that was covered by a rubber mesh material.

According to Bourquin, the new Pos-i-Pull disc kit makes the weed puller work even better. "It's designed to handle the problem of Roundup resistant weeds, which can get big fast and are very hard to pull out," says Bourquin. "We tested the machine last year on an Arkansas farm and it worked even better than expected."

The kit uses notched metal discs that bolt on in pairs on back of the rubber wheels. One disc is flat, and the other one is curved and faces backward so that it doesn't cut the weed's stem. The curved disc is bigger than the rubber wheel, so that the two discs overlap each other by about a half inch.

The machine's rubber wheels and rollers grab the weed, and then the weed gets caught in the notches between the 2 discs and pops out of the ground.

"As the weed gets caught in the notches between the 2 discs it gets shoved sideways, which results

in more pulling pressure," says Bourquin. "The forward motion of the tractor also helps because it causes the weed to develop a twisting action in the soil that does a better job of thoroughly dislodging the roots from the ground.

"It'll pull out weeds with stalks up to $1 \frac{1}{2}$ in. in diameter. With such big weeds the discs might stop rotating briefly, but with the forward motion of the machine once the weeds get caught between the notches the



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bigger than the rubber wheel, so the two discs overlap each other by half an inch. Machine's rubber wheels and rollers grab the weed, and then the weed gets caught in the notches between the 2 discs and pops out of the ground.

discs will start to turn again."

Installation requires removing the hub nuts from the rubber wheels. "Some weed pullers require extended stud bolts," notes Bourquin.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bourquin's Farm Mkt. & Trading Co., Inc., 1603 County Rd AA, Colby, Kan. 67701 (ph 785 462-3300; dan@organicweedpuller.com; www.OrganicWeedPuller.com).

Reader Inquiry No. 41

Trench-Digging Wheels For ATV's

"Turn your ATV into a ditching machine by simply removing the stock wheels, bolting on Trench Wheels, and driving through your fields making trench tracks, which drain unwanted water off your crops," says Steve Raguse, inventor-manufacturer of new trench-digging wheels.

Trench Wheels are narrow V-shaped wheels featuring steel rims with aggressive lugs which enable farmers to drive through mud and standing water making trenches for water to drain.

"We've had tremendous response. Farmers in the Red River Valley love these wheels," he says. "After attending the National Farm Show in Louisville, Ky., farmers all over the nation are using Trench Wheels."

The wheels pay for themselves many times over by draining excess water in spring time to get in fields earlier. However, the wheels make the most money for farmers, by draining water off seeded and growing crops after heavy rains. Trench Wheels are



Wheels make a 4 to 14-in. deep trench in muddy ground. Deeper trenches can be made by making repeated passes in the same tracks. Works great for draining water away from flooded fields.

an excellent water management tool.

A set of four Trench Wheels sells for \$1295.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Steve Raguse, Trench Wheels, 6978 County Rd.



16, Wheaton, Minn. 56296 (ph 320 563-8389 or 320 815-0865; fax 320 563-0092; email: raguse@traversenet.com; website: www.trenchwheels.com).

Reader Inquiry No. 42