An old 275-gal. fuel oil tank works great as a wood-hauling bucket for Frank Fowler.

He cut a large hole into one side of the tank, cutting into the tank. Then he built a large metal frame to hold and protect the tank. He placed the tank to the loader.

Fowler says, "The lip on front holds chunks of wood in. It's not strong enough to do any digging," says Fowler, who notes that he thoroughly rinsed the tank with water before he started cutting into the tank.

Funk bought the “Weed Blaster” last fall, but hasn’t had a chance to use it yet. He purchased the unit from “Pumps and Pressure” in Edmonton, Alberta which had been leasing it to the City of Calgary. Funk knows this type of system works well because he also has an acquaintance in Ontario who uses one to get rid of weeds around playground equipment and to kill grass on soccer field boundary lines where no chemicals are allowed.

At this point, I’m only passing on second hand news – other people have used it to kill weeds and had good results, but I plan to test it in a farm application for spot-spraying thistle, dandelion and quack grass patches around my shelterbelts and buildings. It’ll be interesting to see how well it works on those plants.

The unit consists of a 300-gal. tank mounted on a four-wheel trailer. It has a diesel-powered boiler and a gas generator that powers a pump, plus 30 meters of hose on a reel. There’s a wand for spot-spraying and a meter-wide boom on wheels for bigger jobs.

Funk says the base unit cost him $6,000 (Canadian), the trailer was $3,000, and he paid another $1,000 for the gas generator water tank, bringing his total expense to $10,000.

If all goes well with his testing, Funk plans to rent out the machine to other organic producers in his area. He feels it may even be suited to some large-scale farming applications.

“The unit could be used by anyone requiring weed control where chemical applications might be hazardous to the environment,” Funk says. “It will kill weeds near trees and other plants.”

Weed Blaster Uses Steam To Kill

This summer Dayton Funk of west central Saskatchewan is trying something he thinks will interest other organic growers like him.

He’s going to experiment with a weed-blasting machine that steams unwanted plants to death. No chemicals or other additives are needed.

The heat from steam produced by the unit bursts the plant cells, killing them instantly.

Funk bought the “Weed Blaster” last fall, but hasn’t had a chance to use it yet. He purchased the unit from “Pumps and Pressure” in Edmonton, Alberta which had been leasing it to the City of Calgary. Funk knows this type of system works well because he also has an acquaintance in Ontario who uses one to get rid of weeds around playground equipment and to kill grass on soccer field boundary lines where no chemicals are allowed.

“Unfortunately, I’ve only passing on second hand news – other people have used it to kill weeds and had good results, but I plan to test it in a farm application for spot-spraying thistle, dandelion and quack grass patches around my shelterbelts and buildings. It’ll be interesting to see how well it works on those plants.”

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“The unit could be used by anyone requiring weed control where chemical applications might be hazardous to the environment,” Funk says. “It will kill weeds near trees and other plants.”

Weed blasting machine steams unwanted plants to death. No chemicals are added.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Dayton Funk, R.R. 1, Richard, Sask., Canada S0M 2P0 (email: Dayton.Funk@sasktel.net).

Hay Wagon Converted Into Low-Cost Portable Feeder

“We used scrap wood and metal roofing to convert a used four-wheeled farm wagon into a low-cost, portable feeder. By regularly moving the wagon to another part of the pasture, we can prevent the mud holes that cows make when they feed at the same spot all the time,” say Karl and Debi Weinert, Big Sandy, Tenn.

The converted wagon holds 38 to 42 small square bales. To convert the wagon, they built a bulkhead at one end and made wooden feed panels with uprights on 14-in. centers along both sides.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Cornie Folkerts, c/o Inwood Machine Inc., 1846 240th St., Inwood, Iowa 51240 (ph 712 753-3230 1-800-834-9665 phone 1-800-834-9665).

Spring-loaded tender swings over top of hitch pin. You have to lift and turn it to pull out the pin.

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