

## Rim Crusher Gets Rid Of Tires Fast

By Jim Ruen, Contributing Editor

Paul Miller's crusher makes light work of removing tires from old rims. It was cheap to build, too, which is important when rims are being sold for scrap.

"If I don't count labor, I have about \$50 in it, and that was mostly for the old hydraulic cylinder," says Miller. "Still, it works great. I can crush a 20-in. truck tire in about four minutes."

Miller says the secret to crushing the big truck rims is to set the cutting point against the valve stem, as the rim at that point is often already cracked. However, the real key is to build a strong crusher.

Miller used a section of bus frame left over from a trailer-building project. The 10-ft. long section only needed a few additions to form an ideal platform for crushing rims.

The 5-in. hydraulic cylinder came complete with a steel plate at the butt end that Miller welded to a cross piece on one end of the bus frame. At the other end of the frame, he centered a 5-ft. length of I-beam between the frame sides and welded it to cross supports.

The ram end of the cylinder, with its 4-ft. reach, uses its original clevis and 1-in. pin to connect with the cutting blade fixture. To hold the cylinder arm and cutting blade in line, Miller welded two pieces of steel to the base

of the cutting point and wrapped them around the I-beam.

"When the cylinder extends, the cutting point rides down the I-beam toward the backstop," explains Miller. "I put a cutting point on the backstop also to crush the rim from both sides."

A platform for the rims to rest on at I-beam level was made from four pieces of 4-in. channel iron and some scrap steel plate. Two pieces of channel iron are welded to cross supports on either side of the I-beam. The other two pieces are welded to the outside beams of the bus frame.

Miller welded the backstop to the I-beam. It is reinforced with a brace welded to 2 by 2-in. steel tubing that is welded across the end of the frame.

"I made the cutting blade and the cutting point for the back stop from new grader blade sections," says Miller. "I've crushed quite a few rims, and I have seen no signs of stress on the crusher. The tractor hydraulics will bail before the crusher will."

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**"If I don't count labor, I have only about \$50 in it," says Paul Miller about his home-built wheel rim crusher. He can crush a 20-in. truck rim and extract it from the tire in only about four minutes.**



## Multi-Use Crop Loaded With Benefits And Profit Potential

Sea buckthorn is a "new" crop that may be good for your health and your wealth, suggests Brian Lang. The British Columbia plant breeder promotes the crop throughout Canada and the U.S., also selling a wide variety of products made from the plant's leaves and seeds.

"The market is at a good stage," he says. "Most people haven't heard of it yet."

Those like Lang that have heard of the plant are enthused. It has been considered a health food for thousands of years throughout Asia and Europe. One website even claims Genghis Khan and his armies drank the juice to increase stamina and speed the healing of wounds. In Russia and other countries, the oil has been used to treat burns, skin lesions and other skin problems, as well as mouth ulcers and other inflammations and problems of the gastrointestinal tract.

It's loaded with vitamins C, A, E and K, as well as antioxidants, bioflavonoids, amino and linoleic acids, and various microelements. The fruit can be used for juice, preserves and other products, though Lang describes it as an acquired taste.

"It has a very tart, very acidic flavor," he says. "It works well in marinades, as flavoring and in salad dressings."

The leaves are used in herbal tea, and some think this use has the greatest potential market, says Lang. Oil pressed from the seed also has many uses. Lang markets it in gel caps, lotions, creams, lip butter, shampoos, body cleansers and more. He also offers fruit oils



**Plant breeder Brian Lang sells a wide variety of products made from the leaves and seeds of sea buckthorn.**

and teas on his website.

So far, Lang has concentrated on selling plants through his nursery. He imports oil and tea for the value added products he sells. Most of his customers, he says, plant the shrubs for personal use. "They gather the berries and juice them in blenders or pick the leaves for tea."

Lang sells a broad selection of sea buckthorn varieties. Fruit size, oil content, fruit color, yield and harvest, mature height and even the extent of thorns differ from one variety to another.

He says the plants are easy to grow and will spread in search of water. However,



**Sea buckthorn has been considered a health food for thousands of years.**

disking alongside a row of plants can contain them. The challenge, he says, is in picking the fruit.

"The berries don't release easily," says Lang. "Researchers in Alberta are working to develop picking equipment, including leaf pickers."

He notes that in China and other areas, sea buckthorn is also planted for erosion control. The plant fixes nitrogen and can be grazed. In fact its Latin name *Hippophae* refers to its positive impact on the appearance of horses.

"I have put chickens into older plants, and they can't get enough of the berries," he says. Lang sells unrooted cuttings as well as

rooted plants. Prices vary by variety and the age of the plant, ranging from \$6.50 to \$15 for rooted plants.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Okanagan Sea Buckthorn, Inc., P. O. Box 318, Kaleden, British Columbia, Canada V0H 1K0 (ph 250 497-7186; [www.hippophae.ca](http://www.hippophae.ca) or [okanaganseabuckthorn.com](http://okanaganseabuckthorn.com)).



## Magic Heat Captures Excess Chimney Heat

There are many chimney inserts on the market and they can be great at getting more heat out of a stove. However, if they pull off too much heat, you can have trouble. Flues can fill with creosote, leading to chimney fires. If temperatures fall to 212 degrees, water will condense and corrode the stove and flue.

Gary Gill, Nelson Products, says the Magic Heat pulls heat but never too much. "It's thermostatically controlled to shut off if the flue temperature drops below 350 to 360 degrees. Basically, Magic Heat is a way to improve the efficiency of your fuel heating system."

The Magic Heat system is designed to install easily in the flues of standard heating systems. The thermostat and fan plug directly into a 110-volt outlet.

"The secret to Magic Heat is the amount of heat exchange surface within the small firebox design," says Gill. "It has a much greater area than anything else on the market, so it gets more heat out."

Exhaust heat and gasses travel up the flue and circulate around the exchanger tubes. The pre-set thermostat turns on the blower fan which has an output of 225 cfm on an 8-in.

dia. flue. The Magic Heat is available for 6, 7 and 8-in. flues with prices ranging from \$185 to \$205.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Nelson Products Co., 100 Front St., P.O. Box 390, Sioux Rapids, Iowa 50585 (ph 712 283-2562; fax 712 283-2950; [info@nelsonproductsco.com](mailto:info@nelsonproductsco.com); [www.nelsonproductsco.com](http://www.nelsonproductsco.com)).

**Magic Heat is thermostatically controlled to shut off if the flue temperature drops below 350 to 360 degrees.**