Pressurized Exhaust Kills Burrowing Rodents

In 2005, Allen Hurlburt invented a system that uses the carbon monoxide from pressurized engine exhaust to kill rodents such as gophers, ground squirrels, prairie dogs, moles and voles.

“The odorless, colorless carbon monoxide in exhaust is extremely lethal,” said Hurlburt. When injected into rodent burrows under pressure, the rodent is surrounded by carbon monoxide before it has a chance to block the burrow or escape.

The carbon monoxide is generated by the system’s internal combustion engine that drives a compressor. The captured gas is cooled from 700° to 100° through a set of stainless steel cooling coils and diverted into the intake port of a compressor. The compressor pumps the exhaust gasses into the pressure tank, pressurizing it to 110 psi. The PERC 412 model is a 4-hose, trailer-mounted unit with ATV tires and a 13 hp gas engine, while the “PERC 206,” is a 2-hose, skid-mounted unit with a 6.5 hp gas engine. The 206T is a trailer-mounted 206. Both are made to pull behind an ATV, and leave no tracks in growing crops or on golf courses or parks.

In 2009 H & M Gopher Control introduced a new model, the PERC 620. With a 20 hp Kohler V Twin driving a V-4 Champion compressor, the PERC 620 is designed for the custom operator and the big acreage ranches.

“We’ve shipped models nationwide and to much of central Canada,” says Hurlburt. Totally automated, the PERC system is safe to use for the operator since there’s no poison bait or explosions involved. “No other control method is as effective, efficient and inexpensive as ours,” Hurlburt says.

A PERC system can treat moderately infested alfalfa fields at about 3.5 acres per hour with a single operator, he adds. Each probed location requires only one to two minutes of injection time.

The PERC 412 sells for $7,249, the PERC 206 is priced at $4,595, PERC 206T sells for $4,995, and the PERC 620 is $12,950, plus S&H.

“Most of our customers are alfalfa producers, but the PERC system has also been very successful in orchards and vineyards,” Hurlburt says. (U.S. Patent No.:7,581,349 Issued 9/1/2009).

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Slick New Way To Make Welding Repairs

Do you have a tractor drawbar with a hitch hole that’s more oval than round? Or maybe you have a chipped gear hub that would cost a small fortune to replace? Or a cracked bushing that seems impossible to work with any electrode or mig welder.

Making any of the above repairs – and many more - is easy with a new set of carbonized rods and plates from Repair Tech that are made out of “heat shield” material that’s similar to what’s used to protect the space shuttle. The rods and plates can be used on any repair project where you need to keep the weld out of certain areas. The weld will not stick to the rods or plates. The plates are great for rebuilding worn edges.

To fix an elongated hole in a drawbar, for example, just select the right size rod, position it in the hole, put a plate underneath, and fill in with weld around the rod. Once the weld cools off, just tap the rod out.

The Repair Tech plates and rods can be cut or shaped to fit any repair job, such as building up corners or acting as a backstop. The plates and rods conduct electricity and will work with any electrode or mig welder.

Repair Tech offers two kits: The “Deluxe Box” includes seventeen 6-in. carbonized steel rods sized from 1/8-in. to 2 1/2-in. dia. Three plates are also included and they measure 3 1/2 by 6 1/2 by 1/2-in. thick. The entire set comes in a water-resistant container and sells for $195.

The “Econo Box” includes thirteen 6-in. carbonized steel rods sized from 1/8-in. to 1 1/2-in. dia. It also comes with three plates measuring 3 1/2 by 6 1/2 by 1/2-in. thick. It sells for $94.

The rods and plates from Repair Tech can also be purchased individually with prices ranging from $2.40 to $26.40. Most problem holes can be repaired without dismantling the machine for repairs.


Reader Inquiry No.27

Elongated holes (top left) can be repaired by simply inserting a Repair Tech rod and welding around it (top right). Cracked bushings (lower left) can be welded right on a rod. Two kits are available (below right).