

FARM SHOW

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PULLS PRAIRIE DOGS, POCKET GOPHERS, MOLES RIGHT OUT OF THE GROUND

“Vacuum Evictor” Sucks Up Underground Rodents



Operators slip hoses down tunnels to suck rodents out “alive and kicking”. Main hose has enough suction to pick up a bowling ball.

By Mark Newhall, Editor

They're calling it the “Prairie Dog Sucker Upper” - a huge new machine that's the most promising new solution to the problem of prairie dogs, gophers, moles and other underground rodents that we've ever seen.

Invented by Colorado residents Gay Balfour and Dave Lindhorst, who operate a welding and machine shop, the machine eliminates the need to shoot, trap, drown, gas or poison underground pests. Instead they simply suck them out of the ground into the back of an enclosed truck where they're either gassed or “relocated”.

“Unlike poisoning, it doesn't endanger other animals and it's fast, safe and cheaper than any other method ever developed,” says Lindhorst.

To build the machine, Balfour and Lindhorst simply modified a surplus street sweeper machine that's got a huge-capacity vacuum powered by a Cummins engine. It had a pipe coming out of the back of the truck - for sucking trash out of street gutters or drainpipes - that the two men modified for use in fields. The big hose coming out of the truck is supported by a boom that pivots to either side. Two 4-in. dia. flexible tubes, which come out the end of the big hose, are used to suck the prairie dogs out of their tunnels. Two operators can work at once.

Vacuum power turns the underground colonies into 300 mph wind tunnels, literally sucking the critters out alive and depositing them

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