

Owners Report On Multiplaz Welder

After our recent reports on the first-of-its-kind Multiplaz welder, which uses water and alcohol instead of gas, a number of readers called to ask if “that new welder really works”. So we chased down a few owners to see what they had to say. The welder is not much bigger than a breadbox and runs on 110 or 220-volt power in addition to the water and alcohol. To get more info on the welder itself, call toll-free 855-314-5551 or go to www.multiplaz.com. Reader Inquiry No. 17

Dale Schoepflin, Ellinwood, Kan.: “I’ve done just about every kind of welding in the past 45 years and I have to say the Multiplaz 3500 has worked very well for me. It does everything the company says it will, although the documentation was poor. It does a beautiful job of welding. A friend welded 2 pieces of 1/16-in. steel with as nice a bead as you’d ever see. Penetration was phenomenal. I built a lawn cart just to get the hang of it, and by the time I got done I was doing some real nice work. I’ve deliberately made some bad welds and then was able to re-build them into real quality-looking beads. It’s a lot like working with an oxy torch, only it gets 3 times as hot. I did a little stainless and was real impressed. For portability you can’t beat it. It doesn’t matter if you plug it into 110 volts or 220 volts. I think 99 percent of the time you can use 110 and never trip a breaker. After using this I’ll probably never use my acetylene again. I

think I can even use it to weld copper. For people who are in remote areas, if they’ve got a generator and a Multiplaz, they can repair or build just about anything. You can also bend metal. Heat up 1/2 to 3/8-in. thick steel and it’ll bend like butter. Not a lot of heat invasion like you’d have with a torch.”

Larry Land, San Luis Obispo, Calif.: “The cost of the Multiplaz 3500 tool is a great selling point. No other tool has the flexibility that the Multiplaz has, and the cost of running it is almost zero compared to any other form of cutting or welding. I think the way it cuts stainless steel is the most impressive thing it can do. When we were cutting out circles and plate in stainless using the Multiplaz hole cutter, it was amazing. It cut right through, with a pretty clean cut. The amount of gear necessary to compete with the Multiplaz could easily go over \$5,000. The fact that the machine can run on 110 volts or 220 volts and has a



Farmer Ken Summa’s patented branding iron.

brain to switch over to the proper voltage that it’s plugged into makes it easy to use.”

“No Blow” Gas Eliminates Burrowing Rodents

Al Dentone has found a way to eliminate burrowing rodents that’s safe, quiet and won’t anger his customers’ neighbors. Instead of liquid propane and oxygen systems that create underground explosions, he came up with his patent pending Eliminator that uses CO₂, an inert gas that is heavier than air. “It settles into the tunnel, displacing oxygen. The rodent is eradicated by lack of oxygen,” explains Dentone.

Dentone says the biggest challenge was designing the metal probe. He used a double wall that ensures the low-pressure gas outlet doesn’t plug with soil when inserted into the rodent tunnel.

“With gophers, simply insert the probe in a tunnel and turn the handle to release the gas,” says Dentone. “A 30-sec. release of gas at 15 psi is usually enough. With ground squirrels, you need to cover the holes the night before. Pick the hole that is most used the following day, insert the probe, crank up the pressure for about 90 sec., remove the probe and cover the hole.”

Dentone predicts 95 to 98 percent eradication initially with subsequent treatments reaching 100 percent. While the inert gas kills rodents in the tunnel, if it spills out of the tunnel it simply dissipates harmlessly

into the air.

“CO₂ is on the OMRI certified organic product list,” says Dentone. “We are waiting for certification of our equipment. When we get it, it will be the first product approved for rodent control in organic production. Until now the only option they had was trapping or shooting with non-lead bullets.”

Worker safety is another nice thing about the Eliminator. “There’s no problem with workers compensation, though in California, you still have to have an applicator’s license,” he says.

Dentone uses the Eliminator in his own rodent eradication business. He is also selling the equipment, including the probe, regulator and 25-ft. hose, for \$1,700. While some larger property owners may want to buy their own, he suggests it could also be the basis for a good business.



The Eliminator uses CO₂ gas to kill rodents in their tunnels, without creating a noisy underground explosion.

“You can treat 30 gopher tunnels an hour,” says Dentone. “A 20-lb. tank of CO₂ used for gophers at that rate should last about 3 1/2 to 4 hrs. or do up to 160 burrows per tank.”

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