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The Neversink Farm Flame transforms any backpack flame weeder into a rolling bed flamer. It makes flame-weeding faster, more efficient, and more ergonomic.

Materials Included

- Neversink Farm Flame body
- Two 2 1/16"- 3" stainless steel hose clamps

Additional Materials Needed

- Flathead screwdriver
- Flame weeder torch of your choice; any model with a torch head that is 2" to 2½" in diameter will be compatible with the Neversink Farm Flame. We recommend the Red Dragon Backpack Flame Weeder.
- Propane tank appropriate for your chosen flame weeder torch; see your torch manufacturer's instructions.



DANGER

- **Do not operate before reading instructions. Read and comply with the instructions and warnings in this manual *and* the manual of your flame weeder before using the Neversink Farm Flame. Review instructions and warnings periodically to maintain awareness of safe operating procedures.**
- **This product is designed to be used with a flame weeder model such as the Red Dragon Backpack Flame Weeder. Failure to comply with all warnings and instructions associated with your chosen flame weeder may result in an explosion or fire that may cause property damage, serious personal injury, or death.**
- **This device is intended for outdoor use or in a well-ventilated high tunnel.**

FIRE AND BURN HAZARD

- **Never use near fuel, solvents, flammable liquids, wood, paper, or other combustible materials. Always have a bucket of water or an ABC-type fire extinguisher within reach when using the Neversink Farm Flame.**
- **Failure to follow this warning can result in severe personal injury or death.**

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Gently unpack parts and inspect for damage.
2. Place the two stainless steel clamps onto the two indentations in the neck of the Neversink Farm Flame hood.
3. Slide the torch head down through the neck, into the hood.
4. With a flathead screwdriver, tighten the clamps (see right).
5. Follow all instructions for your flame weeder torch to complete assembly of your torch.



OPTIONAL ACCESSORIES

Optionally, you may wish to install the Squeeze Valve with Adjustable Pilot (sold separately) onto your Red Dragon Backpack torch. The addition of the squeeze valve makes the Red Dragon Backpack Flame Weeder easier and more efficient to use and helps prevent tank freeze-ups. It allows you to release fuel/flame just where it's needed and turn it off where it's not, without having to relight. Refer to installation instructions included with your Red Dragon Backpack Flame Weeder.

NEVERSINK FLAME OPERATION

1. Prepare your seed bed. Flame-weeding is most effective on a smooth, well-prepared bed surface.
2. Work only in well-ventilated areas.
3. Follow manufacturer instructions for lighting your flame torch. To make lighting the torch easy, the Neversink Farm Flame has a hole in the hood, into which you can place your striker to light the pilot (see right).
4. Roll the Neversink Farm Flame down the bed at a steady walking pace. Weeds need only to be exposed to extreme heat for a moment to effectively break down the cell walls.



Creating a Stale Seedbed

Use a stale seedbed technique to reduce annual weed pressure. Prepare and irrigate the bed a few weeks prior to your planned seeding date. Allow the weeds to emerge. When it comes time to plant, flame-weed the bed to destroy the emerging weeds, then seed or transplant. This process kills the weeds in the top 2" (5 cm) of soil, while avoiding soil disturbance that can bring more deeply buried weed seeds to the surface.

During flame-weeding the weeds are not burnt to a crisp, but subjected to a form of heat shock that causes damage at the cellular level. After weeds have been exposed to the flame's heat they will wilt and die; death may occur within a few minutes or in up to a couple days, depending on the weed species.

For flame-weeding to be successful, two conditions must be present. First, the flames of the torch must actually touch the soil; second, and the weeds must be small enough that a single second of flame exposure is sufficient to kill them. The ideal weed size is between cotyledon and first-true-leaf stage. In addition, it is important to note that flame-weeding is more effective for controlling broadleaf weeds than grasses. It is also ideal to flame over a very smooth seedbed, as irregularities in the soil surface can deflect heat from the flame-weeder, giving some protection to weed seedlings.



STORAGE

1. When the torch and the Neversink Farm Flame are cool, disconnect the gas cylinder and store the torch and cylinder separately. Keep out of the reach of children. Observe all warnings on the cylinder label.
2. Do not expose cylinders to temperatures in excess of 120°F/49°C or to prolonged sunlight.
3. Store cylinders under cover and in a well-ventilated area; exposure to moisture can cause the ignition to fail.
4. Store the Neversink Farm Flame under cover.
5. Follow all additional storage instructions associated with your chosen flame weeder.