

PRESS RELEASE

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Peter Berk
(805) 969-3744
peter@christieand.co



Electric Weed Control for Modern Farms: LASCO's Lightning Weeder Applies Electrical Energy to Destroy Weeds at the Root and Support More Sustainable Farming

OTTERTAIL, MN (March 2026) – American farmers face a costly reality every time machinery rolls across their fields: fuel. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), U.S. farms spent \$15.4 billion on fuel and oil in 2024, most of it diesel used to power tractors and field equipment. ¹ For many growers, weed control alone can require repeated trips across fields with heavy machinery, multiplying both fuel costs and emissions.

That growing pressure to manage costs while maintaining productive fields is pushing agriculture to explore new technologies for weed control. [LASCO](#), the agricultural technology company behind the [Lightning Weeder](#), offers a different approach.

Using the company's patented Electric Discharge System, the Lightning Weeder sends controlled electrical energy through unwanted plants, destroying weeds down to their roots without chemical residue. The system operates with a 50–250 horsepower tractor and uses an electric-based weed control method integrated with standard tractor equipment, allowing growers to eliminate weeds directly in the field.

The idea is simple but powerful. When the machine touches a weed, a pulse of electrical energy travels through the plant's internal water channels and into the root structure. The current disrupts the plant's cells, preventing regrowth and effectively killing the weed from the inside out.

For farmers, the benefit goes beyond environmental appeal. Electric weed control offers an alternative approach that can reduce reliance on chemical herbicides while fitting into existing field operations. Because the system integrates with tractors already used on farms, growers can introduce electric weed control without replacing their current equipment infrastructure.

¹ <https://esmis.nal.usda.gov/sites/default/release-files/qz20ss48r/w6636271r/9p292904f/fpex0725.pdf>

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FROM DREAM TO MAINSTREAM

“Farmers are not looking for trends. They are looking for tools that work in the real world,” said Kevin Olson, head of LASCO. “If you can control weeds effectively while simplifying weed management and reducing chemical dependence, that’s a meaningful improvement for any farm.”

Lightning Weeder is designed for commercial farming operations rather than backyard gardening. Built to integrate with modern agricultural equipment, the system allows growers to treat weeds across large crop areas while introducing an electric-based approach to weed control.

Olson believes the shift toward electrification in agriculture is beginning to mirror changes already happening in other industries, from transportation to construction equipment.

“Farmers care about the health of their land because it supports their livelihood,” Olson said. “When a technology helps them protect that land while running a more efficient operation, it makes sense both economically and environmentally.”

LASCO’s Lightning Weeder demonstrates how innovation in agriculture does not always mean adding more complexity. Sometimes it simply means introducing a new source of energy into familiar equipment to solve a long-standing challenge.

Available now through authorized dealers and direct order at www.lightningweeder.com, LASCO’s Lightning Weeder offers farmers a practical way to control weeds effectively while reducing reliance on chemical herbicides and supporting efficient field operations. For growers looking to maintain productivity while exploring new approaches to weed management, the Lightning Weeder shows how electrification is beginning to reshape the future of agriculture.

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About LASCO:

LASCO develops a chemical-free weed control system that gives farmers reliable tools to reduce complexity, restore soil vitality, and diminish chemical dependence. The LASCO Lightning Weeder uses an electric discharge system (EDS) to facilitate weed control while also ensuring zero damage to crops.

For more information about LASCO Lightning Weeder, visit: www.lightningweeder.com.