



Why use the OTTO Perforated Mat?

1. Separation of substructure and sand layer

The OTTO Perforated Mat makes sure that the different layers will not mix up over the years. They guarantee that stones will not get up from the substructure to the sand footing, and that sand will not get down into the gravel layer. In this way, OTTO Perforated Mats ensure a proper and durable separation of sand footing and substructure as well as a long life to the riding arena.

2. Drainage

The OTTO Perforated Mat is equipped with drainage holes and provides for immediate drainage of excess rain water. Even after persistent rain falls, the arena can be used right away. Since the mats prevent stones from coming up, it is possible to have a layer of loose gravel with grain sizes between 8-16 mm underneath. This material shows a high percentage of pore space through which water can move easily.

Building a riding arena or a race track without mats means that the layer under the sand footing has to be quite compact. Otherwise stones would come up. However, compactness can only be reached by using also fine particles which massively lower the hydraulic conductivity.

3. Water Reservoirs

The OTTO Perforated Mat is equipped with a water retention system which saves up to four litres of water. This helps to provide correct moisture levels reducing the risks emerging from dusty footings and enhancing the stability of the footing.

4. Elasticity

The OTTO Perforated Mat absorbs up to 40 % of the force caused by the striking hoof which protects the horses' musculoskeletal system.

5. Skid Resistance

A specially designed system of traction-knobs of different lengths on the upper side of the OTTO Perforated Mat guarantees a secure surface preventing horses from slipping – a priceless advantage during sharp bends and turns.

6. Hight of the sand layer

When using OTTO Perforated Mats, a sand layer of just 8 to 10 cm is needed instead of 13 to 15 cm. The advantages of this are multiple:

- saving one third of sand footing;
- saving watering costs because less material has to be kept moist;
- saving anti-freezing agent because less material has to be kept frost-free;
- quicker drainage because rain water has to pass a layer of only 8 to 10 cm of sand to arrive at the drainage layer.