



A Case Study

# Paddock Access Route



**Project Details****A paddock access route in voght****Client Details****Private horse owner****Contractor Details****Ecora GmbH, Germany****1000 m<sup>2</sup> EcoGrid laid in no time to the delight of customer and horses!**

In Autumn 2009 our distributor Ecora, in conjunction with the machinery cooperative, spruced up Mr Vogt's riding arena, laying 1000 m<sup>2</sup> of EcoGrid E40. From fallow deer farming back to horse breeding.

Jochen Vogt's business in Wadern/Saarland has eggs in many baskets with its numerous income streams, as well as rearing chickens for laying, wage work, tillage and grassland on a good 100 ha. The 33-year-old agricultural engineering graduate also has almost as much forestry again, on 10 ha of which he keeps fallow deer. On top of that, he has been keeping livery horses since 2006. Numbers have increased from the original seven to eighteen, and his income from livery is gradually filling the hole left by the unfortunate drop in venison sales. But Jochen Vogt is not worried; his flexibility and the space he has enable him to give new ideas free rein. At the end of the 1970s, fallow deer farming replaced horse breeding, and now he's going back to the horses!

**Horse owners recommend EcoGrid!**

Most horse owners are country folk. They know how to take care of their animals, but do not attach great importance to appearances; after all, they're there to ride and not to be seen. However, one problem was the mud in the enclosure where the animals loved to roll around, one used to be caked so thickly that it was dubbed "the lizard". Something had to be done. First, they considered levelling and draining the area. Then one of the owners mentioned "tiles" he had seen in a paddock.

**Good advice and quick installation!**

With expert advice from the manufacturer on grid type and substructure, they ultimately decided on the EcoGrid E40, as, with it, a top layer is not absolutely necessary. Work got underway in Autumn 2009: the upper layer on the 1000 m<sup>2</sup> area was removed, and then 15 cm of gravel with grain 0-32 mm without any clay laid on top. Next came installation: the polyethylene elements came pre-assembled, which made it possible to lay 1.3 m<sup>2</sup> at a time. Each section weighed less than 7 kg, so with two men on the job the entire surface was laid in a day, and without scratched hands or sore backs. These were then infilled with coarse sand with grain 0-3 mm and compacted.

**Customer and farrier delighted**

"It was the right decision," says the manager today, "... the horses are as happy as can be!" And the farrier reports that the shod animals are less susceptible to hoof disease and the unshod horses wear their feet down on the grid. The elasticity gives the animals a secure footing. No trace of a puddle either, thanks to the permeable system. The owners are very happy, and now the horses can be kept outside in winter too without any problems. The animals' behaviour has not changed at all, except that "the lizard" no longer has any scales.



sales@ecogrid.co.uk | 0151 639 4281 | ecogrid.co.uk

Crystal House, 28-29 Wheatland Business Park, Wheatland Lane,  
Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 7ER