# MAINTENANCE OF A HORSE ARENA WITH RUBBER GRANULATE

This guide targets everyone contemplating or already in the process of ordering the installation of a horse arena with rubber granulate, as well as those who already have a horse arena with rubber granulate – and wish to prevent granules from spreading to arena surroundings.

## HORSE ARENAS WITH GENAN ULTRA COARSE RUBBER GRANULATE – GENTLE SURFACING FOR HORSE AND RIDER

GENAN ULTRA COARSE rubber granulate is suitable as top layer for both indoor and outdoor horse arenas (dressage and jumping), paddock, roundpen and walkers. The rubber granulate provides a resilient, shock-absorbing surface, offering less strain to joints and tendons – and reducing hoof wear. And should the rider fall off, a softer landing is ensured on the elastic rubber layer.

In comparison to horse arenas with either grass, sand or wood chip surfaces, conditions are far better on both rainy days and on days with temperatures below freezing, which makes rubber granulate perfect for outdoor arenas. GENAN ULTRA COARSE rubber granulate excels as the purest rubber granulate product on the market – being virtually dust-free and free from steel contamination. Furthermore, rubber granules withstand rough weather conditions better than both fibre and wood chip materials.

A horse arena with rubber granulate requires far less watering compared to other surface materials, and the need for maintenance is low. Several top riders use GENAN ULTRA COARSE rubber granulate in their horse arenas due to these many advantages.

Climate-wise, horse arenas with rubber granulate also have great positive impact; yet, as is also the case in many other contexts, e.g. in connection with the handling of batteries and household plastics, there may be environmentally negative effects, if rubber granulate is not handled correctly.

It is thus important to ensure that the arena is constructed to help prevent the spreading of rubber granules in connection with both normal use and regular maintenance. Furthermore, a code of conduct should be made for users, so they know how to avoid spreading rubber granules when leaving the arena.

At Genan, we are striving for a sustainable future, and our factories have the capacity to spare the environment several hundred thousand tonnes of $CO_2$ emission annually, when end-of-life tyres are recycled into rubber granulate – e.g. for horse arenas. And if Genan's recommendations for the construction and maintenance of horse arenas are followed, you can ensure that rubber granules remain inside the arena – and are not spread to nature.

## GENAN

- is a Danish company, which is world leader in the recycling of end-of-life tyres
- is a high-technology manufacturer, working with sustainability, the recycling of valuable resources as well as the responsible use of rubber granulate
- focuses on high quality and the manufacture of products with a high degree of purity

Genan has made three guides with recommendations for the construction and maintenance of as well as responsible conduct around horse arenas with rubber granulate.

## GENAN INSIDE - ENVIRONMENTALLY CORRECT MAINTENANCE OF HORSE ARENAS WITH RUBBER GRANULATE

In relation to nature and the environment, a horse arena with rubber granulate is best maintained as follows:

1. **Maintenance of indoor and outdoor arenas**
   - » Regularly level out the arena with an arena leveller with rollers to remove horse-made holes or tracks in the arena surface.
   - » Make sure to have an evenly distributed layer of rubber granulate in the arena with a depth corresponding to the recommendation from the manufacturer.
   - » Over time, sand from the underlying sand layer may mix with the rubber granulate – primarily on the outer track – and refill of rubber granulate may then be beneficial.
   - » Make sure that refill Big Bags with rubber granulate are delivered without cracks and tears to avoid granulate spillage during transportation.
   - » To avoid spreading of rubber granulate, do not open Big Bags outside the arena.
   - » After refilling, collect all empty Big Bags and check that there are no rubber granules left in them when they are transported away from the arena.
   - » Clean machinery and other equipment used for the installation of the rubber granulate before such machinery / equipment leaves the area.
   - » An arena with rubber granulate requires a minimum of water.
   - » Snow clearing in outdoor arenas is not necessary during winter.

   a. **Paved / tiled area at the entrance / exit and barriers along the perimeter of the arena**
      - » Sweep up granulate from the paved / tiled area of poured concrete, concrete tiles, rubber tiles or the like and put granules back into the arena.
      - » Make sure that granules cannot escape through cracks between the tiles.
      - » Make sure that necessary cleaning equipment for horses leaving the arena is found at the paved / tiled area.
      - » Check perimeter barriers for leakages on a regular basis.

   b. **Granulate traps**
      - » We recommend to avoid open wells for rainwater in connection with the arena installation – and instead let rain water percolate to a rain water system. If there are any open wells near the arena, install filters, i.e. “granulate traps”, to retain granulate.

**c. Machinery used**

» Machines and other equipment which have been inside the horse arena, must be swept clean of granulate at a designated area with a paved / tiled surface at the entrance/ exit of the arena.

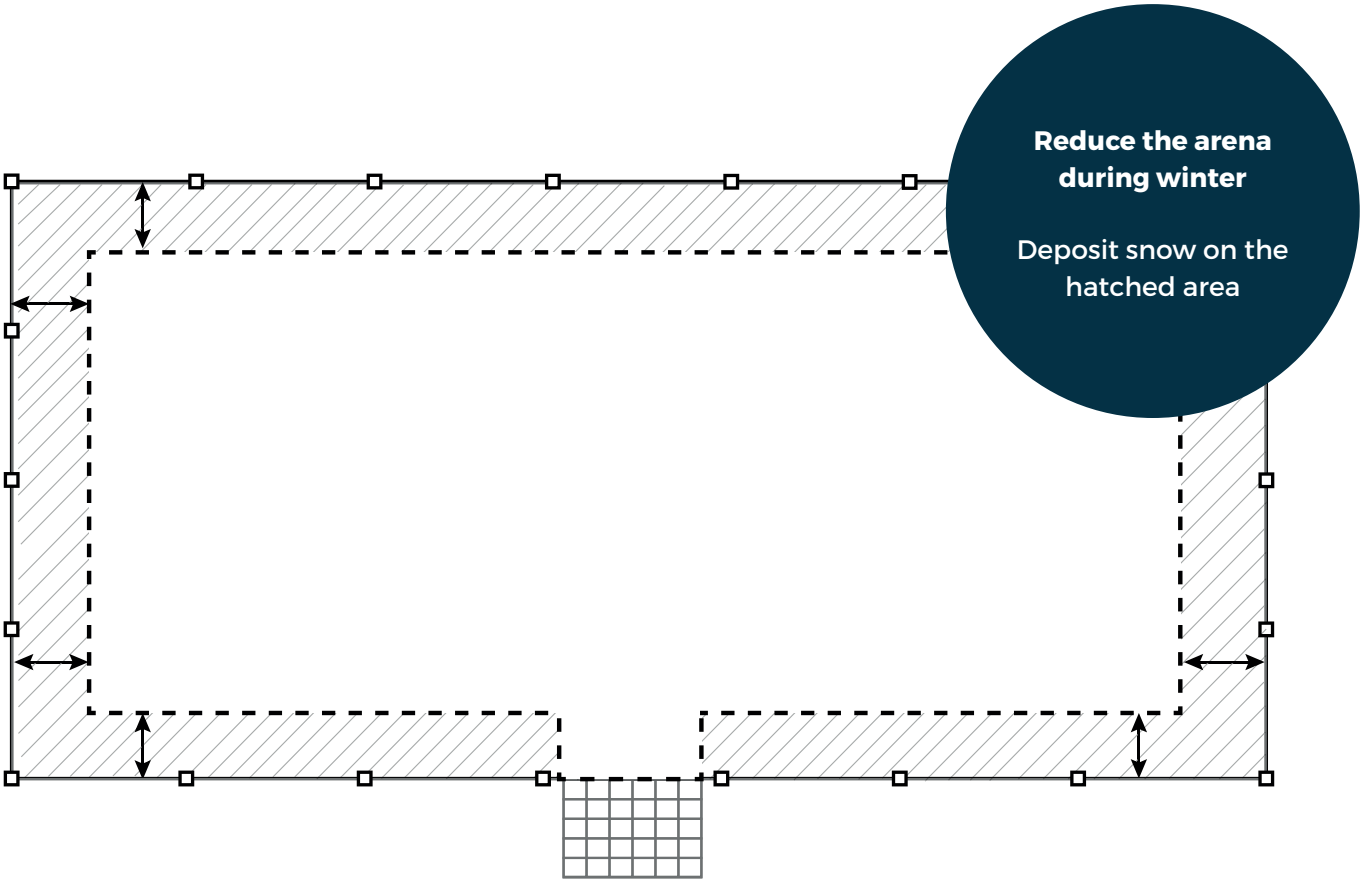


**Figure 1**

## FIND OUT MORE

To facilitate correct and responsible, regular maintenance of horse arenas with rubber granulate, the right measures to ensure that granules stay inside the arena should be thought in as early as in the arena installation planning phase. Additionally, the conduct of users in and around the arena is also an important aspect. Consult the arena installation guide "Construction of Horse Arenas with rubber granulate – Genan Inside", which may be downloaded on www.genan.eu.

GENAN A/S | Jegindøvej 16 | DK-8800 Viborg
info-dk@genan.com | www.genan.com