OPTIGRÜN®
ROOF GREENING

GREEN ROOFS, LIVING DIVERSITY.

Why green roofs, and natural roofs in particular, promote biodiversity and create valuable habitats.

Extensive sealing of surfaces through building development leaves few areas of natural land unspoiled, which means that the habitat for insects and birds is dwindling. Green roofs are increasingly being used to create new spaces for nature within towns and cities as they are particularly effective compensatory measures.

Scientifically proven: Green roofs promote species diversity and biodiversity.

Numerous scientific studies have shown that green roofs make an important contribution to promoting biodiversity in cities. They create valuable replacement habitats for animals that are finding it hard to f i n d suitable retreats in increasingly sealed urban areas.

At the same time, biodiversity roofs are also of great importance in rural regions characterised by monocultures, as there is sometimes a lack of structurally rich habitats. Studies show that green roofs can harbour over 40 ground beetle species, more than 80 weevil species and over 75 wild bee species. It is particularly noteworthy that an average of 17% of the insect species recorded were found exclusively on green roofs and not in comparable habitats on the ground. These figures illustrate that green roofs are ecologically valuable habitats and play an independent role in nature conservation. Intensively designed roofs with diverse vegetation, longer flowering phases and a structurally rich design, which offer animal inhabitants food, protection and nesting opportunities, are particularly rich in species.

Every square metre of natural roof counts.

A natural roof or biodiversity green roof does not have to be large to be effective. Even small areas offer valuable retreats for insects, birds and plants – , especially in overdeveloped or monotonous landscapes. With targeted measures such as structurally rich planting, sandy areas or deadwood elements, any green roof can become a biodiversity green roof. Every square metre counts and contributes to the preservation of biodiversity.

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Important building blocks for biodiversity on green roofs.

PLANT DIVERSITY

A combination of seeding, perennials and shrubs creates a diverse range of flowers and at the same time brings micro-organisms and insects to the roof - a quick start for a living ecosystem.

NESTING AIDS

Nesting aids such as insect hotels or bird boxes promote biodiversity on green roofs by providing breeding sites for various animal species.

ROCK PILES & DEAD WOOD

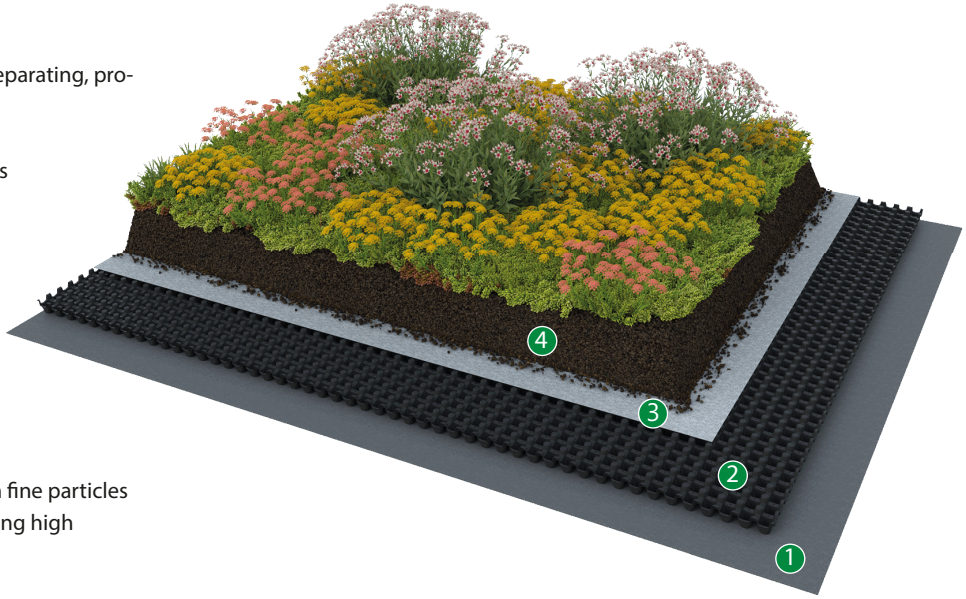
Deadwood provides valuable habitats for numerous insects, fungi and small animals. Stone piles also create sheltered re-treats that are used by various species.

WATER AREAS

Water areas on green roofs offer insects, birds and other small animals an important source of drinking water and life, especially in hot, dry periods.

The structure of a natural roof.

1. The lowest layer of a natural roof is a separating, protective and storage fleece that primarily protects the roof waterproofing from damage and stores water.
2. Above this, a drainage and storage element for water retention, a optimised water distribution and and targeted drainage of excess water.
3. A filter fleece prevents the sludge from fine particles into the drainage layer while maintaining high water permeability.
4. The substrate with good air void volume and high water storage capacity, together with the vegetation, ensures a multi-faceted greening. Biodiversity components are also a wonderful addition and promote biodiversity.



You can find our detailed expertise on the subject of natural roofs and bio-diversity on our website.

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