Interview with Grüne Dächer GmbH

1) What is meant by green roofs?

Vegetation areas without earth connection

2) Can any roof be turned into a green roof?

In principle, yes. As the roof pitch increases, so do the production costs and the costs of maintenance. From an inclination of 30°, conventional roof coverings are generally more economical.

3) Why should we make our homes greener in the future? (advantages)

The living situation in densely populated residential areas has a negative impact on the health of the residents as global warming increases. This is mainly related to cardiovascular damage.

4) Are there also disadvantages?

Not with good planning. The roofs need to be maintained, but the life span of the roof can be very long.

5) To what extent does greening help with cooling?

The filling of the vegetation substrate prevents the direct impact of UV radiation on the building surface. The hygroscopic vegetation substrate condenses air humidity due to the temperature fluctuations of day/night and of course due to precipitation events. The transpiration of the plants leads to evaporative cooling. Surface temperature without greening to over 80°C with green roofs up to approx. 25°C.

6) What does greening do for our environment?

In addition to the above-mentioned topics. Dust binding and air pollution control, sound absorption, habitat for insects and small creatures, partly for birds, bee pasture.

7) Does a green roof also affect us humans?

Reference to point 3. Reference to point 6 about biodiversity. Usually new buildings are extended right up to the roof, and green roofs have direct benefits for the people who live there.

8) What are the different types of greening of buildings?

Extensive green spaces are unused and intensive green spaces are used (terraces or underground car parks)

9) How has green roofs developed in recent years?

Over the last 35 years, green roofs have spread and established themselves steadily and unnoticed. Green roofs have achieved a high application rate for the covering of flat roofs. In connection with the development of sloping insulation, the flat roof with greenery has reached a safe and high quality standard.

10) What do you need for a green roof and how much does it cost?

Water storage and drainage system, vegetation substrate, plants. The reference value for the costs is a gravel fill to protect the roof skin (10 to 20 €/sqm). On the other hand, a green roof is at least twice as expensive (30-60 €/sqm). Price quotations naturally fluctuate extremely depending on the size of the area.