

GIRAF INCLOSURE

CASE STORY FROM COPENHAGEN ZOO

JUNI 2025

Category: Large Enclosure or stable

Animals: 1.3.x giraffes

(Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata)

Indoor Area: 150 m²

Total Layer Depth: Approx. 25–35 cm

Why Switch to Biobed?

Copenhagen Zoo decided in 2023 to phase out peat as bedding material.

The giraffe stable was the first of its kind to try Biobed, after it had been successfully tested in smaller enclosures at Copenhagen Zoo.

Workflow

The bioactive floor clearly works best once it has had time to “settle,” meaning the animals have compacted the bedding layer a bit.

Daily maintenance consists of removing droppings, raking together hay, and watering the bedding layer as needed.

In the summer season, this is done more frequently 3–4 times a week; in the winter season, 1–2 times a week. Material is added using machinery as needed, and this varies significantly depending on the season and number of animals.

Construction of the Biobed Layer

The layer is 25–35 cm thick and performs best once it has “settled,” meaning the animals have compacted it slightly.

Advantages of the Switch

The clear main benefit is the indoor climate, which has become significantly less dusty. Manure removal takes about the same amount of time as before.

Overall, it provides a more pleasant indoor environment for animals, zookeepers and visitors.

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