

SNOWFARMING –
YOUR GUARANTEE FOR A SECURED SEASON START



- Snowfarming snow storages
- ❖ Early snow production with immediate active protection (explanation see sheet 8)
- !ce and glacier conservation
- Glacier reparations
- Protection of permafrost
- Rebuilding of permafrost
- Artificial glaciers and ice caves

Call us without obligation:
Mobile +41 (0)79 310 27 36 –
We tell you how and take
responsibility for your project



Snowfarming means in effect to store snow during the summer time, to maintain it and continue to process it in autumn

Winters of less snow are very hard for tourist regions in Alpine valleys and show, how dependent upon the precious "White" also higher located ski resorts are.

As the temperatures during the last years in November and December show, it gets more and more difficult to produce the necessary snow because of the short time windows. That's why snow from last winter is used just in order to make sure a basic offer of snow.

Since a few years SSC SWISS SNOW CONSULT develops and researches most efficient technologies and equipments for Snowfarming, so that snow can be stored during summer time. How it goes on: By the end of winters, mighty piles of technical and natural snow get deposited on the slopes in suitable locations and get covered with one or several insulating and reflecting coverages.

This isolating coverage protects the underlying snow against melting. The herewith conserved snow provides as a basis for the preparation of cross-country ski trails, ski slopes or ski jumps at the beginning of the following winter. Snowfarming makes largely possible an all-weather and an early start into the winter season or is a snow guarantee for a day X for a sports event.

ecological, sustainable and environment friendly snow



Snowfarming – the costs

The costs for storing and covering 1m3 of snow are approximately the same as for the production of 1m3 machine made snow.

If there are falling big quantities of natural snow, then the snow does not have to be produced before storing it, what in fact would be the most efficient way.

If the snow for storage is produced with snow guns at very cold temperatures in January and February, on that basis the costs for the snow production are relatively favourable. It pays off because the temperatures are often marginal in autumn so that the costs for the production of 1m3 snow will be more expensive.

A change of snowmaking strategy is more and more happening

The needed snow for the coming season is more and more produced in the winter (January/February) before and not anymore in fall before of the winter season.



The additional costs for snow storage will be compensated by the following facts:

- 1. The start of the winter season is exactly projectable at a certain date
- 2. An opening event ceremony or sports event with all the side effects brings big returns
- 3. Through early resort opening, guests are motivated to buy season tickets
- 4. A huge PR effect is happening, combined with a cleverer marketing
- 5. High presence in medias (TV, radio, social media)
- 6. Training possibility on real snow for juniors or sale of training time blocks or commercial public skiing
- 7. The estivated snow does not have to be produced in autumn (production costs per m3 snow = from € 1.00 to € 3.00)
- 8. Substantial saving of energy- and water costs

Our responsibility for you: economic reasonable costs



The loss of snow during summer is depending on many factors:

- 1. Altitude about sea level of storage location
- 2. Impact of sun radiation in hours per day
- 3. Geographical exposition of storage location
 - North and East = very good
 - South and West = if possible avoid!
- 4. Shady location with less sun are perfect locations
- 5. A drainage in the ground below the snow storage will be helpful to get melting water out



The loss of snow during summer is depending on many factors (continuation):

6. Choice of protection material:

It is absolutely necessary that the snow can breath through the used protection material.

Water will melt and evaporate and creates an evaporation cooling. If the snow can't breath, there will be an ice layer between the snow pile and the protection material, what will cause a bad snow quality with pieces of ice.

7. How many layers of protection fleece will be used and how strong the sun reflection of that material is

ALL SUNLIGHT THAT IS NOT REFLECTED IS GOING INTO THE COVERED SNOW AS HEAT

Under calculation of all above points and the available budget and the provided labour input, it will be decided how many layers of protection material will be placed.



Early snow production and immediate protection

At the normal machine made snow production in early autumn with normal snow guns or with the snow production of snow factories or plus temperature snow machines already in September, the snow must be covered immediately right after the production in order to protect the snow from melting through warmer periods of time in October, November and December.

The snow will be uncovered from fleece before basic preparation with grooming machines in regard to the slope opening date.

Short time autumn protection for:

Sun, rain, atmospheric heats, warm winds and pollution



In general

In average we calculate a loss of 15-30 % during summer time.

This is depending on material and how many layers are used to cover the snow.

New research projects for snow storage are also used with special insulating materials between two layers of fleece.

The calculation of needed volume of snow in the end of the winter must respect and add these 15-30 % to the covered volume.

The protection fleeces are used in average for 3-5 years and after this time, they must be changed because of dirt or air pollution.

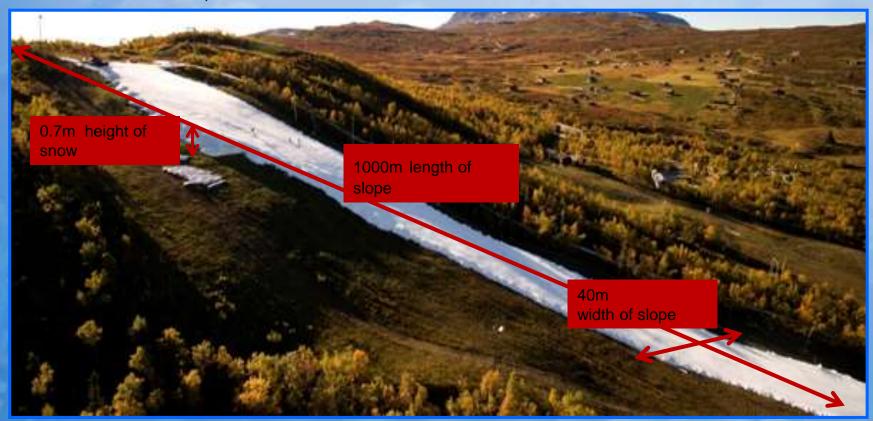
The covering material must be as white as possible to give as much reflection as possible.

With all these points we know today with 100 % security, snow can be stored during summer!



Neutral example for the calculation of the needed snow volume:

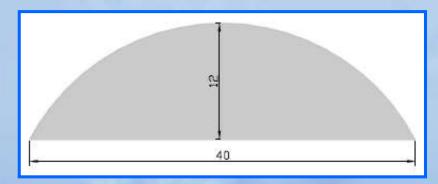
Length of slope 1000m, width 40m, height of snow 0,7m; means $40x1000x0,7 = 28\ 000m3$ snow is needed

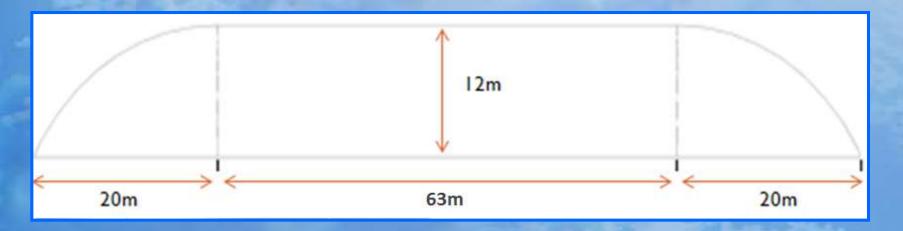




Neutral calculation example Snow storage



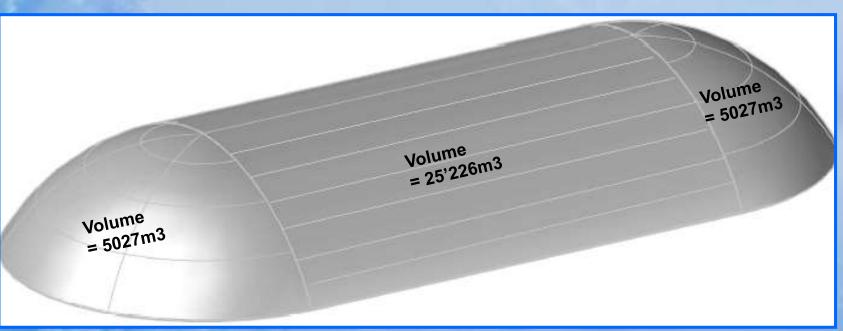






Neutral calculation example

snow storage snow volume

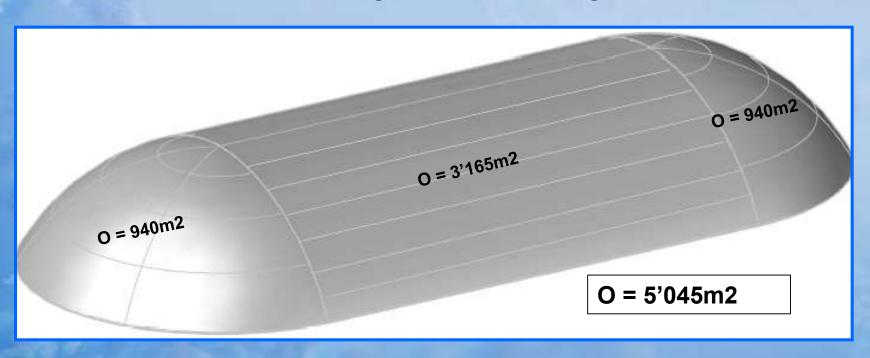


- For slope production needed snow volume: 28'000m3
- + consideration of snow melting during the summer + 26% = 7'280m3
- Total needed snow volume: 35 280 m3 (28'000m3 + 7'280m3)



Neutral calculation example

Surface of snow storage and needed coverage material



- If this snow storage is covered with 1 layer of fleece, in minimum 17 rolls of fleece à 6 x 50m are needed.
- If this snow storage is covered with 2 layers of fleece, in minimum 34 rolls of fleece à 6 x 50m are needed.













SSC high mountain-windbreak system for wind speeds up to 200 kmh











Project Zermatt, Switzerland, 2018

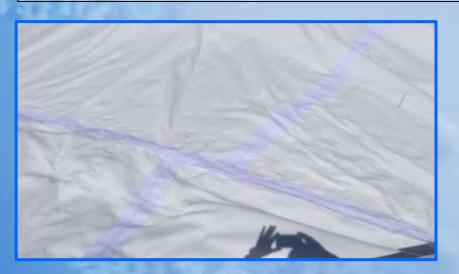
SSC SNOW CRO fleece connections







Project Zermatt, Switzerland, 2018





Laying of SSC SNOW CRO





Project Zermatt, Switzerland, 2018

Ballast rolls for protection fleeces









Snow storage Snowfarming

The last years have shown, that the temperatures for a technical snow production in November and December are often not sufficient for producing the needed snow.

Since the Olympic Games in Sochi, SSC SWISS SNOW CONSULT has intensively confronted the planning, processing and constructing of snow storages and executed and supported Europe-wide different projects.

Many ski resorts are meanwhile working with this technology and store the in spring produced snow during the summer time for the beginning of the next season.

If the over summer time stored snow is correctly covered and maintained, in autumn appears a surprising good and resistant snow quality and the season beginning for slopes and cross-country ski trails in October or November already are no more a rarity.

Here are some reference projects in Europe:



Project Ruka, Finland







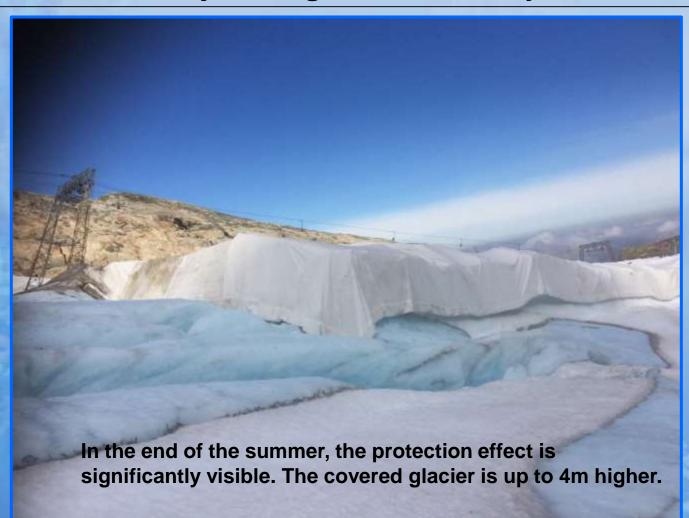
Project Livigno, Italy



















Difference after 1 day: 15-18 cm melted



Difference after 9 days at an average outside temperature of 15-25°C: 70 cm melted



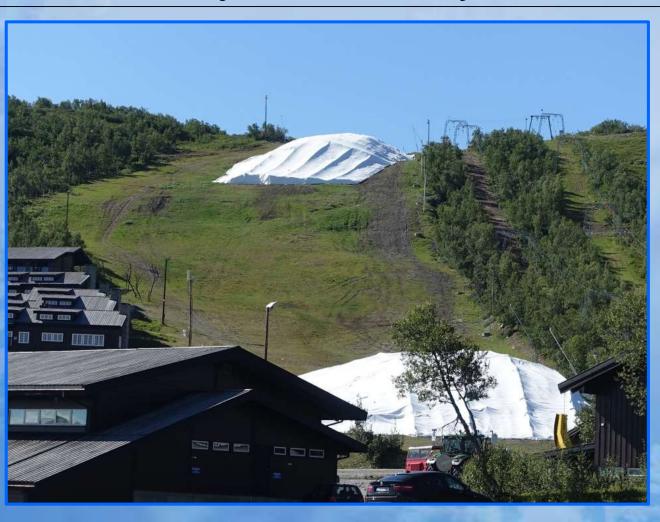
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extensive glacier protection





Project Geilo, Norway





Project Geilo, Norway



Season opening September 23, at +15°C



Project Geilo, Norway



500m training slope and Snowpark, approx. 30'000m3 snow



Project Sjusjøen, Norway



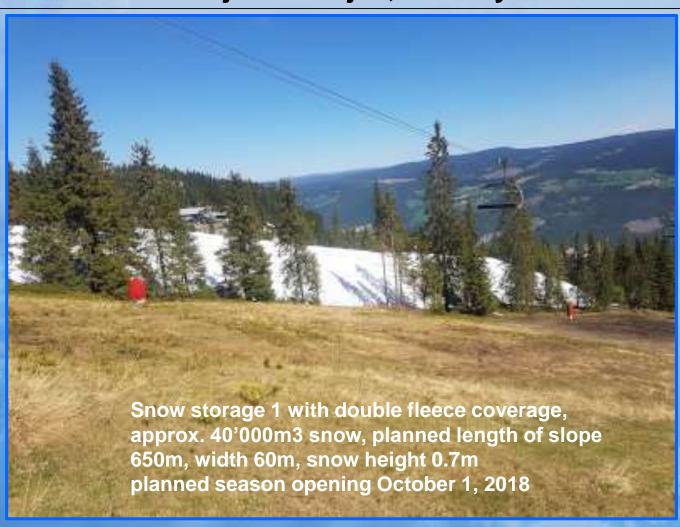


Project Sjusjøen, Norway



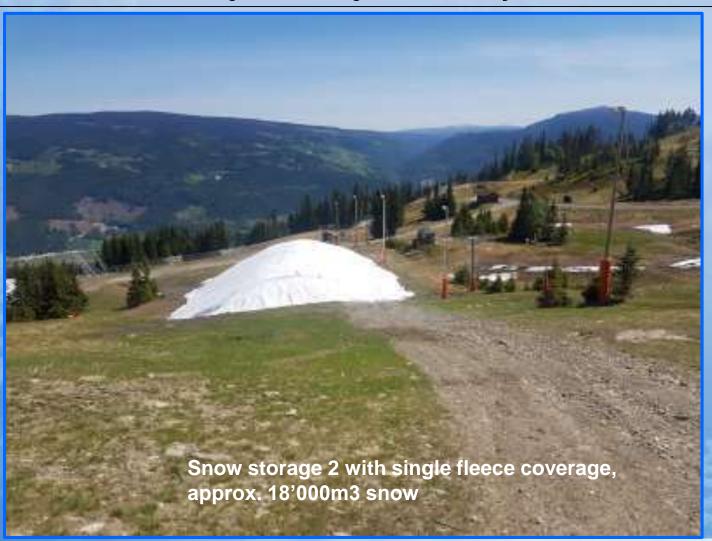


Project Kvitfjell, Norway



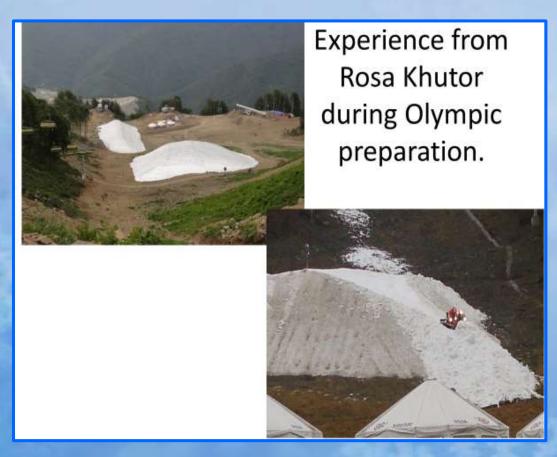


Project Kvitfjell, Norway





Project Rosa Khutor, Russia



8 snow storages with total 436'000m3 snow



Project Rosa Khutor, Russia

Experience from Rosa Khutor during Olympic in Sochi.





8 snow storages with total 436'000m3 snow



Project Idrefjell, Sweden



Several snow storages with total approx. 100'000m3 snow



Your competence partner for:

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- Early snow production with immediate active protection
- Glacier protection and glacier repair
- Permafrost-protection projects
- Artificial glaciers and ice caves

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