New Roofing Material Keeps Barns Cooler

Innovation benefits the environment as well as barn owners’ comfort and budgets.

Heat is one of the major problems facing a barn owner, especially in Southern regions. Excessive heat is not only uncomfortable for the horse and owner, it can also increase the potential for illness and disease. Now there is a way to have a cooler barn, at no extra cost, with the added bonus of helping the environment.

FCP Barns & Buildings is the first barn manufacturer to use ULTRA-Cool® roofing materials, a new system developed by BASF. This innovative new system reflects solar energy to keep your barn 25 to 45% cooler.

Reflects Energy

The heat problem is a simple principle: A barn’s roof is significantly heated by sunlight, or solar energy, more so than the surrounding ambient air temperature. The roof’s ability to reflect that energy greatly reduces the amount of heat being transferred to the barn’s interior.

In the past, heat reflectivity can only be achieved by using a light-colored roof material instead of a dark-colored material. FCP’s ULTRA-Cool roofing increases heat reflectivity without sacrificing color choice. The revolutionary coating increases the reflectivity of colors, particularly medium to dark colors, thus promoting cooler interior spaces.

ULTRA-Cool not only increases a roof’s ability to reflect the sun’s energy, but also then quickly emits any energy that it does absorb. This greatly reduces the barn’s interior temperature and expands the life of the roof.

Metal roofs already have generally recognized benefits such as fire-resistance, a light weight, seamless integrity, a wide variety of color choices, and longevity. Cool roofs have all the same benefits as metal roofs and are available in the same colors and styles. Insulation can be added for an even cooler effect.

Environmentally Friendly

Because of the increasing concerns about global warming and high energy costs, green building codes and organizations will continue to grow in recognized importance. Legislators in certain energy conscious districts are including cool roof requirements in their energy conservation programs and it is likely that all building codes will soon require cool roofing.

Conscious of this trend, FCP’s barns are environmentally friendly. ULTRA-Cool is no exception—it’s 100% recyclable material.

On many fronts, cool roofing makes good sense. It provides cooler interior spaces, longer roof life and lower environmental temperatures help reduce smog levels.

A cool roof is not only a good idea, it’s a responsible idea. As our world strives to become more ‘green,’ every barn owner can do their part not only for themselves, but also for the earth. ♦

To learn more about Cool Roofing, call an FCP Design Consultant at 1-800-807-2276. More information is also available at: www.FCPBuildings.com or www.CoolMetalRoofing.org

Benefits of Cool Roofing

- Heat is reflected away, creating cooler interior spaces
- Less expansion and contraction increases roof’s life expectancy
- Increases horses’ comfort and safety
- Lower environmental temperatures reduce smog levels
- Recyclable material

The Environmental Problem: “Heat Islands”

- The growth of urban areas leads to “Urban Heat Island” effect, with heat-absorbing roofs being among the chief culprits.
- The temperatures in the air above Urban Heat Islands can be as much as 12°F hotter
- The unfortunate results of hotter-than-normal temperatures are greater energy consumption.
- The excess heat and increased energy production has also led to alarming increases in the levels of smog and ozone.

Source: BASF Corporation

With ULTRA-Cool, you can choose a darker-colored roof without the solar heat concern.