



# Benefits of photovoltaic energy storage to farmers

What is agrivoltaics and how can it benefit the solar industry?

For the solar industry, agrivoltaics has the potential to facilitate siting of solar installations, improve solar PV panel performance by cooling the panels, and lower operations and maintenance costs by limiting the need for mowing.

Is solar energy a good option for farmers?

Solar energy offers farmers the opportunity to harvest the sun twice--the same reason land is good for farming (flat, open areas), also makes it good for solar installations. The Solar Energy Technologies Office (SETO) is researching the opportunities and trade-offs of agrivoltaics.

Can mobile photovoltaic panels increase the productivity of a land?

Valle, B. et al. Increasing the total productivity of a land by combining mobile photovoltaic panels and food crops. *Appl. Energy* 206, 1495-1507 (2017). Macknick, J., Beatty, B. & Hill, G. Overview of Opportunities for Co-Location of Solar Energy Technologies and Vegetation (National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 2013).

Are solar farms environmentally friendly?

Many states have "best siting practices" for solar installers to follow, as does the U.S. Department of Energy, to minimize the environmental impacts of solar farms. Eight states in the U.S. also have legislation promoting "pollinator-friendly" solar farms to protect local biodiversity.

What are the benefits of agrivoltaic systems?

Owners will benefit not only from using the agrivoltaic system's output, but they may also cut expenses or generate income by using food processing waste in their agrivoltaic system, transforming it into ready-to-market products, or selling it to other agrivoltaic plots.

Can agrivoltaics help reduce fossil fuel imports?

Roughly 4% of the agricultural land would suffice to produce 100 Mton per year, the equivalent of all the natural gas consumption across the EU in 2022. Agrivoltaics could serve as the missing piece for reducing fossil fuel imports and reaching aggressive renewable energy targets.

The benefits of solar energy to the environment fall into five major groups. We compare solar to fossil fuels in terms of their environmental impact. ... and it also provides a secondary source of income for the hardworking farmers who feed ...

2 "Some communities are looking for energy resilience through incorporating solar plus battery storage, some are looking for educational and workforce development opportunities, and many are



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