

Can photovoltaics be used in greenhouses?

The integration of photovoltaics (PV) into greenhouses is analyzed. Greenhouse energy demands, PV performances and effects on crop growth are reported. The application of organic, dye-sensitized and perovskite solar cells is described. The new PV technologies can promote sustainable, self-powered and smart greenhouses.

How can PV technology improve the sustainability of greenhouses?

The new PV technologies can promote sustainable, self-powered and smart greenhouses. Reducing the energy demand and dependency on fossil fuels is crucial for improving the sustainability of greenhouses, which are the most energy intensive systems in the agricultural sector.

Which solar cells are suitable for greenhouse integration?

New generation technologies in PV, such as organic solar cells (OSCs), dye-sensitized solar cells (DSSCs) and perovskite solar cells (PSCs), are suitable candidates for greenhouse integration due to the possibility of inherent semi-transparency and flexibility.

Can traditional PV systems be used for greenhouse application?

The use of traditional PV systems for greenhouse application has to take into account their integration on existing structures and glazing, as well as the trade-off between PV and plant requirements for the respective electrical and crop production.

Can solar power be used in agricultural greenhouses?

The application of PV technologies to agricultural greenhouses has been investigated, via experimental and modelling studies, with the aim to evaluate the potential energy, environmental and economic benefits from solar electricity, as well as the effects on plants growth.

4.1. Electrical energy consumption for greenhouse climate control

Do PV power plants emit a lot of GHGs?

Comparing life cycle stages and proportions of GHG emissions from each stage for PV and coal shows that, for coal-fired power plants, fuel combustion during operation emits the vast majority of GHGs. For PV power plants, the majority of GHG emissions are upstream of operation in materials and module manufacturing.



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