

Can you grow crops under photovoltaic panels?

Research indicates that growing crops beneath photovoltaic displays can actually yield a distinct set of agricultural and environmental benefits. Thanks to the shade provided by the panels, for example, the soil can retain more water, meaning it needs less irrigation.

Which crops can be grown under PV panels?

Tomato, lettuce, pepper, cucumbers and strawberries are the most studied crops under PV panels (Fig. 5). The recent literatures for applications of selective shading systems on the aforementioned crops and other plants are reviewed in the following sections.

Can Broccoli grow under photovoltaic panels?

Researchers in South Korea have been growing broccoli underneath photovoltaic panels. The panels are positioned 2-3 metres off the ground and sit at an angle of 30 degrees, providing shade and offering crops protection from the weather.

Should agrivoltaics be limited to the types of crops people eat?

Barron-Gafford also points out that agrivoltaics need not be limited to the kinds of crops people eat. A farmer might let native grasses grow wild under the panels, providing food for livestock, which would also benefit from the shade. Or they might promote the growth of plants for native pollinators like bees.

Should agrivoltaic planners put solar over a farm?

Or farm first, and put solar over it?" If farming is the main priority, she says, then the solar panels may need to be spaced farther apart and possibly be raised higher. Such changes could potentially limit how much electricity those farm fields generate. And agrivoltaic planners may need to treat the soil, Macknick says.

What plants grow under photovoltaic panels?

Kavga A, Trypanagnostopoulos G, Zervoudakis G, Tripanagnostopoulos Y (2018) Growth and physiological characteristics of lettuce (*Lactuca sativa* L.) and rocket (*Eruca sativa* Mill.) plants cultivated under photovoltaic panels.



Growing wild vegetables under photovoltaic panels

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