

# Is it okay to add photovoltaic panels to the tobacco flue-curing room

Can solar energy be used for tobacco curing in Zimbabwe?

The potential use of solar energy to complement the heat energy requirement for small scale farmer tobacco curing in Zimbabwe is feasible and economically viable. According to design if a curing barn is properly insulated, wood energy required is 28MJ/kg instead of the traditional 32,2 MJ/kg to fully cure a kg of leaf tobacco.

What are the advantages of solar thermal collectors for tobacco curing?

Solar thermals collectors have an efficiency of 30%, compared to 15% for the photovoltaic systems, making them a better option for tobacco curing process. 4.2 Barn Parameters

Can a flat plate air collector be used for tobacco curing?

So by implementing a flat plate air collector of a size 22m<sup>2</sup> to an insulated barn will make a contribution of 30.5% of the energy required for tobacco curing. According to this investigation it was shown that solar could be used to produce heat that could be used in the curing barn.

Does tobacco leaf flue-curing use a lot of energy?

MOHURD. Design standard for energy efficiency of public buildings, Z. Beijing, China. (2015). Tobacco leaf flue-curing process consumes large amounts of energy. Comparing to the traditional heating approach using coal, the heating source like h...

How can a curing barn improve the quality of flue-cured tobacco?

Heat between hot air and tobacco can be fully exchanged and improve the horizontal temperature distribution of the curing barn. The temperature field of the curing barn is more uniform which is beneficial to improve the quality of flue-cured tobacco. 5.

Can a heat pump be used for tobacco leaf flue-curing?

Tobacco leaf flue-curing process consumes large amounts of energy. Comparing to the traditional heating approach using coal, the heating source like heat pump would be more energy efficient and environmental friendly. Using heat pump for tobacco drying is proposed in this study.

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