



# Solar Photovoltaic Panel Health Sheep Pen

Are solar panels good for sheep?

Sheep living in pasture with solar panels benefit from shade in hot weather and more nutritious grass- and they stop weeds from growing on the panels. Sheep living among rows of solar panels spend more time grazing, benefit from more nutritious food, rest more and appear to experience less heat stress, compared with nearby sheep in empty fields.

Can photovoltaic panels be installed over cattle pens?

Colorado Department of Agriculture has committed \$180K in funding to install photovoltaic panels over cattle pens at CSU's Agricultural Research, Development and Education Center. These panels will complement existing panels over sheep grazing areas already at the center.

Can solar photovoltaics reduce heat stress in dairy cows?

The combined use of solar photovoltaics and agriculture may provide farmers with an alternative source of income and reduce heat stress in dairy cows. The objective of this study was to determine the effects on grazing cattle under shade from a solar photovoltaic system.

Are sheep better than goats on solar farms?

There are a few reasons sheep are the superior choice for grazing on solar farms. For one, they are shorter than cows and horses. They will also eat most kinds of forage, which helps keep plant growth at bay. Goats, on the other hand, will chew pretty much anything, which is a bit of a risk on solar farms.

Could sheep graze with solar panels?

As such, having sheep graze alongside solar panels could be a bit of a growth sector--and not just for meat, as sheep also produce wool and milk. Schmit noted that, although the US doesn't currently consume much sheep's meat, the domestic market is growing. Raising the livestock in the US could also bolster local economies.

Can agrivoltaics improve lamb production and welfare?

A study was conducted to examine the agrivoltaics with animal grazing. The study investigates permitting sheep and other livestock to be around solar panel installations. Results showed that agrivoltaics can improve lamb production and welfare.



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