

# Equipping farmland with solar panels





## Overview

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Can farmland be used for solar energy?

There is significant opportunity to produce large amounts of solar energy on farmland. Agricultural land in the U.S. has the technical potential to provide 27 terawatts of solar energy capacity. This is a quarter of the total U.S. solar energy capacity of 115 TW. Only 0.3% of farmland is expected to be used for solar energy by 2035.

How can farmers benefit from solar energy?

Farmers can benefit from solar energy in several ways—by leasing farmland for solar; installing a solar system on a house, barn, or other building; or through agrivoltaics. Agrivoltaics is defined as agriculture, such as crop production, livestock grazing, and pollinator habitat, located underneath solar panels and/or between rows of solar panels.

Will agricultural land be used for solar energy?

Agricultural land in the U.S. has the technical potential to provide 27 terawatts of solar energy capacity. This is a quarter of the total U.S. solar energy capacity of 115 TW. Only 0.3% of farmland is expected to be used for solar energy by 2035. Will using land for solar panels drive up the price of food?

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How can agrivoltaics improve farming practices?

With strategic panel placements and adaptive shading techniques, agrivoltaics provides a way to balance land use while contributing to farming practices. For instance, Hermelink et al (2024) show that certain crops, like blueberries, can benefit from the partial shade provided by solar panels.



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Solar Power Installation on Agricultural Land , Live to Plant

Jul 18, 2025 · Solar power installation on agricultural land involves setting up photovoltaic (PV) panels or solar infrastructure either alongside crop production or on underutilized sections of ...

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Lighting the Way for Agrivoltaics: How NREL ...

Nov 21, 2024 · Solar on productive farmland should be agrivoltaic solar--and it should include soil health and regenerative applications as well." ...

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Farmers Adding Solar Panels to Fields: Benefits & Reasons

Jul 8, 2025 · Article-At-A-Glance Solar panels on farmland can reduce energy costs by 70-90% while creating additional revenue streams through grid sales Agrivoltaics--combining solar ...

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Harvesting the Sun-Twice: Agrivoltaics and Rural Land-Use

Jun 11, 2025 · Choices made early on, like the inter-panel and inter-row spacing between solar panels, will impact the kind of farming that can be supported. In conclusion, the long-term ...

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Farmer's Guide to Going Solar

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Agrivoltaics: Farming And Solar Energy ...

Sep 2, 2025 · Agrivoltaics merges farming with solar energy, boosting crop resilience, land efficiency, and clean power production.

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Farming with Solar Panels: How Agrivoltaics Powers Crops ...

Jun 6, 2025 · Explore the benefits of agrivoltaics -- the innovative combination of farming and solar power. Learn how solar panels can improve crop yields, reduce costs, and boost ...

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Lighting the Way for Agrivoltaics: How NREL Empowers ...

Nov 21, 2024 · Solar on productive farmland should be agrivoltaic solar--and it should include soil health and regenerative applications as well." Farmers are looking for ways to keep their farms ...

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Agrivoltaics 101: All You Need to Know about Solar Farming ...

Agrivoltaics is an innovative approach that combines solar energy generation with agricultural



land use. By installing solar panels above crops or alongside farming operations, this system allows ...

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#### Agrivoltaics: How Solar Panels and Farming Work Together

Aug 15, 2025 · Agrivoltaics combines solar energy generation with agriculture, increasing land productivity while providing clean energy. Learn how this innovative approach benefits ...

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#### Agrivoltaics: Farming And Solar Energy Integration

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#### Farming and Solar Power Together Creates a Win-Win for ...

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