

PEES Power Systems

Solar power can raise sheep



Overview

One of the most effective forms of agrivoltaics is solar grazing—using sheep to maintain the vegetation around solar panels. Now utilize over 80,000 sheep for this purpose, according to the American Solar Grazing Association (ASGA). Solar shepherds, who manage sheep grazing under solar panels, are part of a growing movement that combines agriculture and renewable energy — and offers high incomes in the process. My recent study, conducted with Ivey Business School alum Adam Gasch and professional shepherd Rafael Lara from The. Western professor Joshua Pearce collaborated with professional shepherd Rafael Lara on a study that shows the profitability of “solar” sheep, raised specifically to trim grass and weeds under traditional solar panels or agrivoltaic arrays. This innovative approach, known as agrivoltaics, is revolutionizing how we think about land use while yielding. It is unusual to have a utility-scale solar array in Kentucky, and even more unusual that the grounds crew here is a live-in flock of more than a thousand sheep. The. Solar energy and sheep can coexist—and even benefit from each other. If you're driving on I-74 on your way to Biscoe, North Carolina, you'll likely catch a glimpse of a field of solar panels from the highway. Within this field, solar grazing, specifically with sheep, is emerging as a particularly promising approach, offering benefits for landowners, shepherds, and the community.

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Farmers See Huge Potential in Pairing Sheep With Solar Power

Solar grazing is based on a very simple principle: sheep are deployed to manage vegetation under and around solar panels, replacing mechanical mowing and herbicides.

Can Cows and Solar Power Coexist? We're About to Find Out

Solar companies have figured out how to mix sheep grazing and power production. This company is about to make a push to do it with cows, with huge growth potential.



Solar grazing: 'triple-win' for sheep farmers, renewables and society

A recent study showed that sheep grazing in the shade of solar panels may produce higher-quality wool than those on traditional agricultural properties.

Grazing 'solar' sheep offer lucrative solution for farmers, Western

The study, led by engineering and Ivey Business School professor Joshua Pearce, shows utilizing sheep on solar farms was not only lucrative for farmers but offered a promising path forward ...



The Bright Future of Agrivoltaics: Harnessing Solar Power and Sheep

One of the most successful and scalable applications of agrivoltaics is solar grazing with sheep. Instead of relying exclusively on mechanical mowing, herbicides, or bare ground beneath ...

Solar grazing: Sheep manage vegetation at solar ...

Learn how solar grazing with sheep is revolutionizing vegetation management at solar farms while preserving agricultural land.



Solar Sheep: How Grazing Livestock is Revolutionizing Solar Farms

One of the most effective forms of

agrivoltaics is solar grazing--using sheep to maintain the vegetation around solar panels. More than 100,000 acres of solar farms in the U.S. now utilize over 80,000

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1,700 sheep installed between solar panels, a surprising change

In a groundbreaking study that combines renewable energy with traditional farming practices, researchers have observed remarkable changes in 1,700 sheep grazing amidst solar panels.



Sheep and Solar: A Perfect Match

Solar energy and sheep can coexist--and even benefit from each other. Sheep and solar panels work hand in hand to generate enough power for a small town.

'Solar Shepherds' Earn Big by Grazing Sheep on Solar Farms

Solar shepherds, who manage sheep grazing under solar panels, are part of a

growing movement that combines agriculture and renewable energy -- and offers high incomes in the process.



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