

Can agrovoltaics make agriculture more sustainable?

Agrovoltaics, which seeks maximum synergy between photovoltaic energy and agriculture by installing solar panels on farmland, is positioning itself as one of the benchmarks for making a sector that does not want to be left behind in the fight against climate change more sustainable.

What is agrovoltaics & how does it work?

This exactly what agrovoltaics is all about. Agrovoltaic energy, also known as agrophotovoltaics, consists of using the same area of land to obtain both solar energy and agricultural products. In other words, solar panels coexist with crops on the same surface.

How agrovoltaics can be used in agriculture?

The use of solar energy in agricultural areas also encourages photovoltaic self-consumption, since farms' energy needs can easily be met with the electricity generated. Agrovoltaics also has close links with smart farming, which improves productivity through technology like artificial intelligence, big data and the Internet of Things.

What is agrovoltaic energy?

This initiative is an example of the positive coexistence of renewable generation with the rural world and the primary sector thanks to agrovoltaic energy, which makes it possible to use the same area of land to obtain both solar energy and agricultural products, in such a way that farm efficiency, competitiveness and sustainability are improved.

What are the benefits of agrovoltaics?

When it comes to the environment, the main benefit of agrovoltaics is that it reduces greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector. What's more, the dual use of land for both agriculture and for energy relieves pressure on ecosystems and biodiversity, which are affected when cultivation areas are expanded.

Can Agri-PV improve agriculture in Spain?

The Integrated National Energy and Climate Plan (PNIEC) expects 39 GW by 2030. Because Spain is the EU's fourth-largest agricultural producer, we have a perfect opportunity to integrate farming with PV projects. Agri-PV can increase a farm's economic value by up to 30%. This also brings other advantages.

In Spain, we have 23.8 million hectares available for agriculture and livestock farming. Taking advantage of this land to install solar panels, compatible with the crop, is the goal of agrovoltaic technology. Agrovoltaics is an innovative ...

Agrovoltaic systems (combination of biomass production and electricity production by photovoltaics (PV)) are typically installed in locations with high insolation and/or arid climates in order to ...

Water scarcity will increase in the world in the coming decades due to climate change, especially in areas that currently already have water scarcity, such as the Mediterranean area. In these areas, to guarantee water resources, systems' sustainability is necessary to improve demand management and the development of non-conventional resources, such as ...

Iberdrola has commissioned the first smart agrovoltaic plant in Spain at the González Byass and Grupo Emperador vineyards located in the town of Guadamur, Toledo. This innovative installation allows the layout of the ...

The agrivoltaic system, which involves installing solar panels above farmland, can simultaneously solve climate and food issues. ... A case-study in southwestern Spain. *Agronomy* 2021, 11, 593. ... J. Theoretical potential of agrovoltaic systems in Europe: A preliminary study with winter wheat. In *Proceedings of the 2020 47th IEEE Photovoltaic ...*

The implementation of agrovoltaic systems can improve biodiversity by providing shade and microhabitats for various animal species in general, mostly, insects. ... In Spain, the transport of electrical energy is a monopoly, and the only company that does so is "Red Eléctrica de España", a public-private joint venture that, among other ...

Surprisingly, integrating solar panels with farming has significantly boosted crop yields. Studies reveal that agrovoltaic systems increase yields by 20% to 60%, depending on the crop type. For instance, forage crops grown between solar panel rows have shown a 40% increase in yield, while peppers have demonstrated an impressive 60% boost. The panels ...

This study investigates the performance of agrovoltaic systems by analyzing module efficiency, energy yield, microclimate conditions, and crop productivity. A field experiment was conducted to compare the parameters between agrovoltaic systems and traditional...

This review article focuses on agrivoltaic production systems (AV). The transition towards renewable energy sources, driven by the need to respond to climate change, competition for land use, and the scarcity of fossil fuels, has led to the consideration of new ways to optimise land use while producing clean energy. AV systems not only generate energy but ...

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2050 for both Portugal and Spain, as members of the European Union and therefore affected by the European Climate Law, where the EU commits to neutrality in carbon by 2050. The agrivoltaic concept is taking shape

all over the world and especially in Europe, but also in

PV patterns in envelope integrated PV + protected crops systems (PV greenhouses). (a) Gable roof, dynamic system. (b) Gable roof fixed system, different densities 15%, 25% and 50% (adapted from ...

Large scale agrovoltaic systems acting as local energy generators will probably be fixed (i.e. not movable from one field to another), while small scale agrovoltaic systems (e.g. solar pump systems or drink spots for cattle) may be mobile and could be temporarily used in the function of the farming- practices, and needs (not mentioned in the ...

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Solar energy systems are a suitable option to replace fossil fuels [5, 6].The costs of Photovoltaic (PV) panel systems have continuously decreased, leading to a rapid rise in the globally installed capacity since 2000, reaching 773.2 GW in 2020 [7].At the end of 2021, renewable energy sources had a cumulative installed capacity of 3064 GW, with solar ...

In 2021, there were 89,644 workers linked to the photovoltaic sector in Spain, according to the Annual Report from the Spanish Photovoltaic Union (UNEF).This industry also generated more than 3.5 million euros in exports, 23% more than in 2020, with photovoltaics making a direct contribution of almost 5 million euros to Spain's GDP.. These figures demonstrate that ...

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