

Latest news on planting blueberries with photovoltaic panels

Will solar panels affect blueberry production?

The University of Maine is studying how mounting solar panels in wild blueberry patches will affect income and production. The plants rebounded well from construction but so far show signs of producing fewer berries.

Could solar agrivoltaics help blueberries grow?

Sweetland, like Calderwood, has observed that since the solar construction, the blueberries are not growing as tall or producing as many stems as they normally would have. Nonetheless, he is hopeful that dual-use agrivoltaics could work.

Does a solar array make blueberry farming difficult?

To Lily Calderwood, a wild blueberry specialist at the University of Maine, a preliminary takeaway from the study in Rockport is that the way the solar array is configured makes farming difficult and constricts blueberry production. In addition to wearing hard hats, farm workers must use smaller, specialized equipment to access the bushes.

Can agrivoltaics produce blueberries without removing farmland?

An experiment in Rockport shows mixed results: blueberry production is low, but researchers hope their findings will guide future projects. With dual-use agrivoltaics, crops are grown under or between the rows of solar panels, as shown here in Rockport, with the aim of generating renewable energy without removing farmland from production.

A row of Northern highbush cultivar Calypso planted next to the solar array. This is a popular mid-late season variety. This mechanical blueberry harvester can fit between the solar panels. Calypso blueberry ...

The University of Maine is studying how mounting solar panels in wild blueberry patches will affect income and production. The plants rebounded well from construction but so far show signs of producing ...

Austria's first Agri-PV project with blueberries represents a significant step forward in sustainable agriculture and renewable energy integration. By combining solar power generation with enhanced crop ...

Paul Sweetland brings a bucket-like object with him to work on a ...

In Rockport, Maine, a unique experiment is underway to explore the possibility of generating solar power and blueberries simultaneously. This innovative approach involves growing crops under or ...

How a Dutch blueberry pilot proves that agri-PV can protect crops, save water and generate clean energy A New Challenge for European Farming Across Europe, farmers are confronting record heat, hail, and ...

The big question is whether the blueberry bushes can produce enough to turn a profit. After analyzing the 2022 growing season, Calderwood said it doesn't look promising; when it comes to the berries, ...

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Print The Calderwood Lab has released a new fact sheet, Considerations for Solar on Wild Blueberry Land in Maine, detailing research on the feasibility of dual-use solar installations (or agrivoltaics) ...

The project includes 4,764 special bifacial solar panels with transparent stripes that let some of the light through. The installation features Zimmermann's new south-facing mounting system, with the panels ...

Paul Sweetland brings a bucket-like object with him to work on a blueberry farm in Rockport -- not to collect Maine's hallmark fruit, but to protect his head. That's because this farm is a little unusual: ...

Scientists in the Netherlands conducted meta-analysis on the growth of strawberries, blueberries, blackberries and blackcurrants under different levels of shade generated by elevated agrivoltaic ...

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