

# Planting blueberries and laying photovoltaic panels



## Overview

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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 between rows of solar panels, known as dual-use agrivoltaics. Can a farm generate solar power and blueberries at once?

An experiment in Rockport shows mixed results: blueberry production is low, but researchers hope their findings will guide future projects. While this project has shown mixed results. That would be solar panels that have been installed across 11 acres of the land where Sweetland farms blueberries in Rockport, Maine. The solar installation was developed by the Boston-based solar developer BlueWave, and it. Scott Lukas, the lead berry researcher at OSU, has a blueberry test plot at the North Willamette Research and Extension Center has planted two rows of blueberries. One within the array and one outside the array. (Nancy Russell/CBC) A blueberry grower in P.

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### Blueberry grower in P.E.I. harnesses the sun to irrigate and fertilize

A blueberry grower in P.E.I. is using the power of the sun to irrigate and fertilize his crop by way of a custom-designed system of solar panels and pumps.

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### Blueberry Farm Tests Solar-Agriculture Integration

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 ...



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### Maine farmer pairs solar panels with wild blueberries

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## Can a Farm Generate Solar Power

## and Blueberries at Once?

A principal aim of the study was to determine what impact installing the solar panels had on the blueberry plants. To measure this, researchers worked with BlueWave to designate three ...



## Investigating Dual-Use Solar in Wild Blueberry

DISCUSSION on or crop production and to determine if you have three-phase power at the road or not. Finally, make sure you have exc Is and spacing them 28ft apart and 10-15ft high to evaluate shading ...

## Farm: Harness solar power and grow blueberries simultaneously.

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



## Blueberry farming is combined with solar production in Maine dual-use

The panels were installed above a wild blueberry field, allowing farmers to generate additional income. BlueWave

says this positioning helps control temperatures and preserve water.



## Can agrivoltaics integrate with blueberry production?

This variety is being planted widely by blueberry growers thanks to its large berry size, high yields, excellent flavor, and mid- to late-season ripening time. The spacing of the solar array allows for

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## Blueberry Farm Tests Solar-Agriculture Integration

From Sheep to Blueberries Mixed Results So Far Variation by Location Hopes For The Future Construction of the Rockport panels was done in three different sectors as part of the University of Maine study. One was standard construction; another was labeled "mindful," with fewer trips made by machinery staying on certain paths; and the most protective "careful" sector had mats placed over the plants and as few driving trips as possible. "O See more on agritecture College of Agricultural Sciences

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### Considerations for Solar on Wild Blueberry Land in Maine

It is important to consider the spacing between solar panel rows when installing solar over an agricultural crop if dual use is the goal. Growing plants under solar panels may shade them excessively and ...



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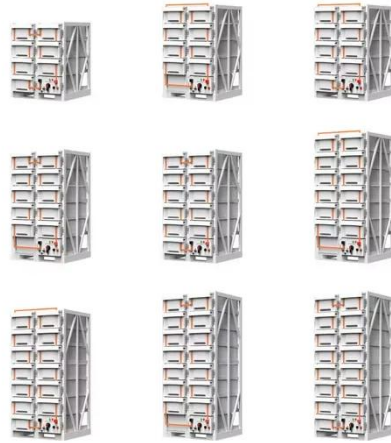
### Maine farm works to generate solar power and blueberries at once

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 ...

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