



# Is it okay to grow blueberries under photovoltaic panels





## Overview

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Under and around these panels are sprawling fields of the low, dense blueberry bushes. ". 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. Maine's wild blueberries are a unique crop that can't be planted from seed, explains lifelong blueberry farmer Paul Sweetland. They must be gently cultivated where the low-lying bushes grow naturally, and the small, sweet berries are sold in the local area, too delicate to easily transport far. When considering a solar array, decide if it the main goal is to produce food or energy. Wild blueberry is not currently a profitable crop to manage in a dual-use system due to the amount of shading that occurs under a. In Rockport, Maine, a unique experiment is underway to explore the possibility of generating solar power and blueberries simultaneously.



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### **With tech, farms can double up to produce both food and power**

Under and around these panels are sprawling fields of the low, dense blueberry bushes. Lily Calderwood knows more about wild blueberries than almost anyone. "They're a good ground ...

### [Maine farmer pairs solar panels with wild blueberries.](#)

Blueberry plants have rebounded well from mounting solar panels in patches but are producing fewer berries, a University of Maine study is finding.



### **Can a Rockport farm generate solar power and blueberries at once**

Shade from the solar panels is significantly reducing blueberry yield. Bushes planted in shaded portions underneath solar panels produced just 9 percent of the blueberries compared to ...



### [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 ...



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

Shade from the solar panels is significantly reducing blueberry yield. Bushes planted in shaded portions underneath solar panels produced just 9 percent of the blueberries compared to ...

### 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 ...



### Can blueberries be grown under photovoltaic panels

Delivery commitments and high-quality standards on the part of customers mean that more and more berries and other types of fruit are growing under the protection of films

## 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 ...



## Mixing solar power and agriculture: A blueberry farm... , Canary ...

A farmer in Maine has teamed up with a solar developer and university researchers to find out how his berries fare when partially shaded by solar panels.

## [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



## Videos of Is It Okay to Grow Blueberries Under Photovoltaic Panels?

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## Considerations for Solar on Wild Blueberry Land in Maine

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### [Agrivoltaics for berries - pv magazine International](#)

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



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