

**PIENAAR ENERGY (PTY) LTD**

# **Why do solar power stations need to raise sheep**



## Overview

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Livestock are a very effective vegetative management tool for community and utility solar energy systems. Croix breed is a good match for solar fields because it is a hair sheep that sheds and doesn't need to be sheared, meshing well with a hands-off approach. Photo: Courtesy of Eric Steeves Eric Steeves says raising sheep on forages grown under thousands of acres of solar panels provided economic stability and perhaps even saved his family's. 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. Lara, who studied animal science at Universidade de São. It's a simple but brilliant idea: instead of using loud mowers or chemicals to manage vegetation under solar panels, why not let sheep do the job naturally?

This is not just cute but practical, eco-friendly and surprisingly effective. The booming solar industry has found an unlikely mascot in sheep as.

## Why do solar power stations need to raise sheep

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### Sheep & Solar: A "Beautiful Symbiotic Relationship"

Sheep and solar are good partners, as the ruminants consume grassy plants so sunlight can reach the panels and the array stays productive.

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### Solar Grazing: How Sheep Are Changing the Face of Renewable ...

Solar grazing is the practice of using sheep to manage vegetation at solar energy sites. Solar farms need regular maintenance to keep grass, weeds and brush from growing too high and ...

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### Solar Farms Are Booming in the US and Putting Thousands of Hungry ...

Because solar fields use sunny, flat land that is often ideal for livestock grazing, the power plants have been used in coordination with farmers rather than against them.

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## Agrivoltaic opportunities: Grazing livestock in solar energy systems

Livestock are a very effective vegetative management tool for community and utility solar energy systems. Cattle are grazed in some solar projects, but typically it is sheep that are used to ...

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## 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.

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## Sheep and solar: A sensible pairing

There will be an unlikely resident flocking to solar fields in ...

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## Solar, sheep provide valuable farm diversification

Raising sheep on forages grown under solar panels provides economic stability



and may have even saved one family's fifth generation farm.

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

"Agrivoltaic sheep are a simple and easy solution for the co-existence of agriculture and solar energy on Canadian farms. The sheep like the shade, plus the solar panels increase grass ...

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## Sheep and solar: A sensible pairing

There will be an unlikely resident flocking to solar fields in northwestern Indiana: sheep. Landowners are collaborating with solar companies to get the most out of these solar projects ...

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## 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.

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**Efficient Higher Revenue**
  - Max. Efficiency 97.5%
  - Max. PV Input Voltage 600V
  - 150% Peak Output Power
  - 2 MPPT Trackers, 150% DC Input Overvoltage
  - Max. PV Input Current 16A, Compatible with High Power Modules
- 
**Intelligent Simple O&M**
  - IP66 Protection Degree: support outdoor installation
  - Smart I-V Curve Diagnosis Function: locate PV string faults accurately and automatically detect faults
  - DC & AC Type II SPDs prevent lightning damage
  - Battery Reverse Connection Protection
- 
**Flexible Abundant Configuration**
  - Plug & Play, EPC Switching Under 10min
  - Compatible with Lead-Acid and Lithium Batteries
  - Max. 6 Units Inverters Parallel
  - AFCI Function (Optional): when an arc fault is detected the inverter immediately stops operation



## Feed-in tariff or sheep farming subsidy? Implications of promoting

Utility-scale solar panels may be shielded by overgrown grass, which may cause problems of low efficiency and fire. In recent years, a possible way to solve the above problems could be ...

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