



# Cattle farm and solar power generation

Can on-farm solar power help cattle graze?

This investment in on-site solar energy has inspired studies of the benefits of on-farm solar beyond power generation, including providing cattle with a cool resting place as they graze, and research evaluating the cost-effectiveness of such systems.

Is Bear Valley Solar a cattle-friendly project?

Bear Valley Solar will deploy 240 kW of the 1.5 MW cattle-sited solar field pasture this year, with construction in its first phase ramping up this summer, McFeeters-Krone said. The project is cattle-friendly using the Rute Foundations SunTracker mounting hardware.

Can farmland be used for solar energy?

There is significant opportunity to produce large amounts of solar energy on farmland. Agricultural land in the U.S. has the technical potential to provide 27 terawatts of solar energy capacity. This is a quarter of the total U.S. solar energy capacity of 115 TW. Only 0.3% of farmland is expected to be used for solar energy by 2035.

Can a solar water heater help a dairy farm?

On a dairy farm where up to 40% of the energy used is for water heating, a solar water heater can reduce heating costs up to 85% annually. Like any major appliance, certified and labeled solar heaters are the most reliable. Consult the Solar Rating and Certification Corporation (SRCC) for certification and rating of solar water heaters.

Can a ground-mounted solar panel be installed on a farm?

Depending on the lease terms, ground-mounted solar may or may not be allowed on the site. If it is allowed and current farming operations are suitable for a ground-mounted solar PV array or if unused land exists, ground-mounted solar PV may be an option. How can I reduce soil compaction when installing ground-mounted solar panels?

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