

# SOLAR ENERGY FACTS



American Solar Grazing Association. Solar Grazing in New York State, with the help of the flock of Lewis Fox.

**“Solar is the crop that makes sense now, preserving open land to pass to the next generation,”** *Ed Browka, solar farm landowner in Rome, NY.*

**Solar energy provides a steady source of income to NY farmers while preserving farmland.**

- 1.** Solar panels are a reversible land use and preserve topsoil. When removed the land can be used for agriculture again.
- 2.** Solar can meet 20% of New York State’s electricity demand by using less than 2% of New York’s agricultural area.
- 3.** Native plant growth at solar farms can create pollinator-friendly habitats and increase yields on neighboring farmland with pollinator dependent crops. Insect pollinators have been reported to increase soy yields by up to 18%.
- 4.** Grazing sheep among solar panels is a new way of using farmland, allowing the two land uses to coexist.

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