

# Agrivoltaics

Brilliant idea or dead end?



8 February 2024 – Coriolis Conference – Ecole Polytechnique



Christian Dupraz

INRAE, UMR Absys, University of Montpellier, France



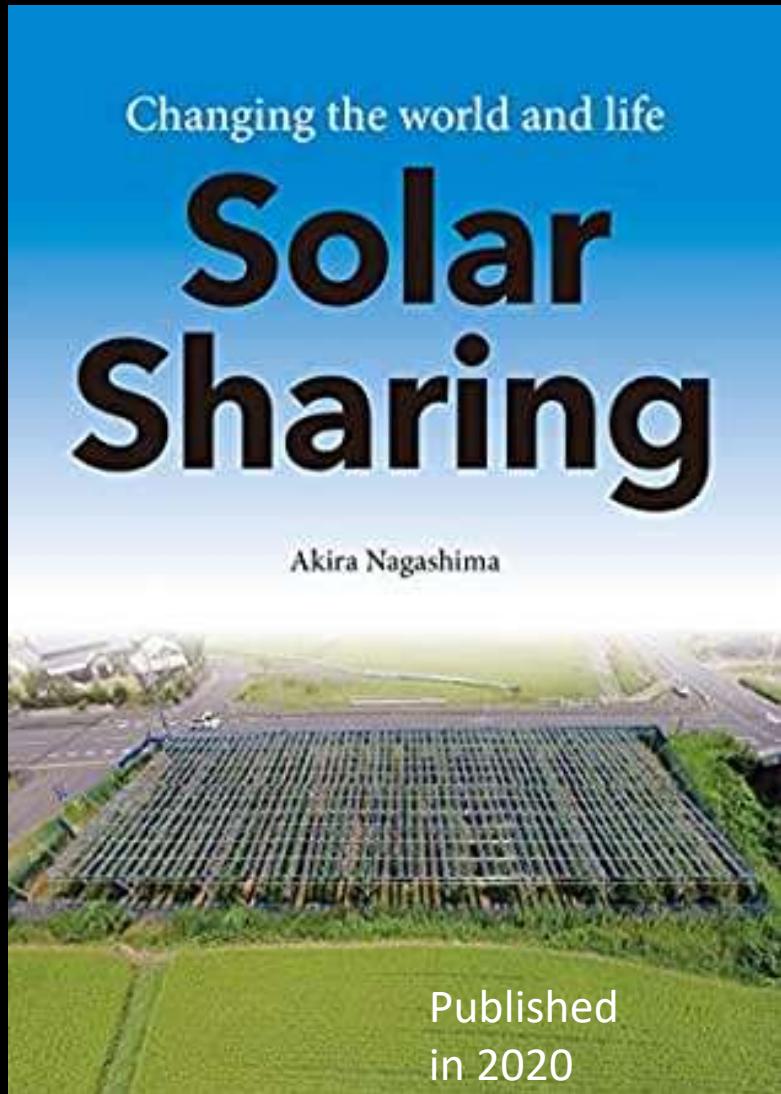








# Japan







# Italy



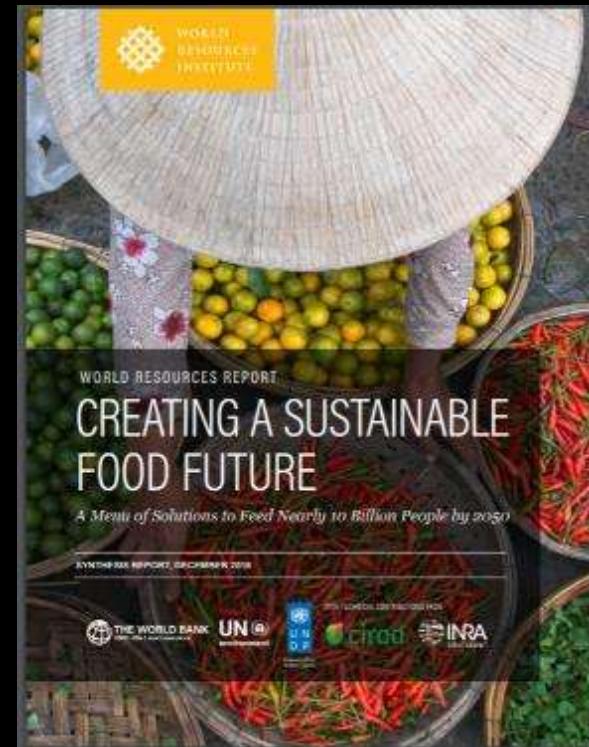
Revolution Energy Maker (RemTec)





# Is it sound to produce energy on agricultural land ?

- 9 billion people to nourish in 2050 : we need to increase food production by 56% until 2050
- -> Need to sanctuarize agricultural land
- -> Bringing back crop residues to the soil is essential for soil fertility: burning or digesting residues is a menace to long term soil fertility
- Is it efficient to produce energy on agricultural land ?
- Until the fossil fuels revolution, half of the agricultural area was producing only energy!



# How to produce energy from crop land? Biofuels or agrivoltaïcs?

- 1 ha of wheat - > éthanol -> heat engine -> 80 000 km
- 1 ha of rapeseed - > diester – > diesel engine - > 100 000 km
- 1 ha of photovoltaic panels - > electricity - > electric engine - > 3 000 000 km
- 1 ha of photovoltaic panels - > electricity - > H2 - > Fuel cell - > electric engine -> 1 000 000 km

## Why?

Photosynthesis Yield 1-2% + Heat engine yield 20 à 40% + Cost of transportation of liquid fuels

Photovoltaic panels yield 15% + electric engine 60 à 90%

Podewils, C., *Organized wastefulness*. PHOTON International 2007 (04): p. 106-113.

Benoit, M. and W. Schäfer. 2007 *Which energy vectors for requirements in mechanical energy? Bio-fuels or photovoltaic energy? Territory and social consequences*. in *Farming Systems Design Conference proceedings*, p37-38. 2007. Catania, Sicily, Italy.

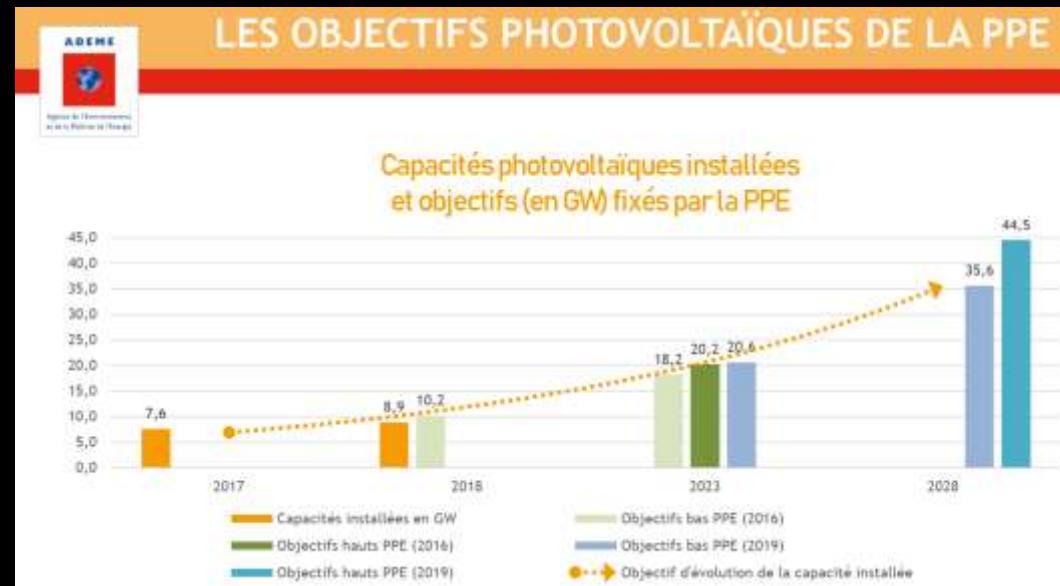
# The challenge : finding space for photovoltaic panels :

Rooves, parking lots, industrial areas, degraded lands **will not be enough**

France's expectations : install 35 GWc until 2028 but only space for 23 GWc available

President Macron set the scene for **100 GW until 2050 (10/02/2022 talk)**

Where can we find the required space ?



## Orders of magnitude:

1 ha of Ground-Mounted PhotoVoltaic (GM-PV) panels = +/- 1 MegaWatt<sub>peak</sub> (MWp)

1 nuclear reactor = +/- 2 500 ha GM-PV (1GWp)

56 nuclear reactors = +/- 150 000 ha GM-PV = +/- 0.5 % of the cropped area in France

# Strong opposition from the civil society and farmers' unions against the use of crop land for photovoltaic systems

HORIZONS 28 - VENDREDI 3 FÉVRIER 2012

**FDSEA**

**FONCIER** La FDSEA rappelle sa position sur le développement de projets d'installations photovoltaïques au sol.

## **Pas de panneaux photovoltaïques au sol sur les terrains cultivables**

**N**otre département comme bien d'autres, n'échappe pas aux projets photovoltaïques quels qu'ils soient : installations de panneaux sur des hangars agricoles ou création d'un parc photovoltaïque au sol (exemple du parc de Crucey-Villages)

la FDSEA a réaffirmé sa position.

### **Les sites d'implantation à privilégier**

Il y a aujourd'hui suffisamment de place sur les toitures pour permettre de répondre aux enjeux du développement durable et faire

celle de nourrir les hommes. Aussi, les projets d'implantation au sol ne devront voir le jour que sur des terrains non cultivables, tels les friches industrielles ou artisanales, les sites pollués, les anciennes carrières... Les espaces sur lesquels l'activité agricole est

# Huge GM-PV projects may replace forests or farm lands

Example : Lot et Garonne, 2 000 hectares, 1 Md€ investment, 1 000 jobs, taxes for local communities

5 investors : Valeco, Green Lighthouse, Neoen, Reden Solar et Amarenco Construction  
5 municipalities : Allons, Boussès, Sauméjan, Pompogne et Houeillès



## Un projet géant de centrale solaire provoque l'émoi dans les Landes

Par **Guillaume Guichard**

Publié le 12/01/2021 à 19:58, mis à jour le 12/01/2021 à 19:58



En l'absence de recours bloquant, Engie et Neoen ne prévoient pas de débuter les travaux avant 2024. Un branchement au réseau ne surviendrait pas avant fin 2025-début 2026. Un champ de panneaux solaires en Bulgarie.

243152433/diyanaadimitrova - stock.adobe.com

**Cette installation aussi puissante qu'un réacteur nucléaire nécessite d'abattre 1000 hectares de bois.**

# What to do?

- Why not produce « simultaneously » ... food and energy on crop land?
  - Why not imitate agroforestry and combine...?



Trees and crops



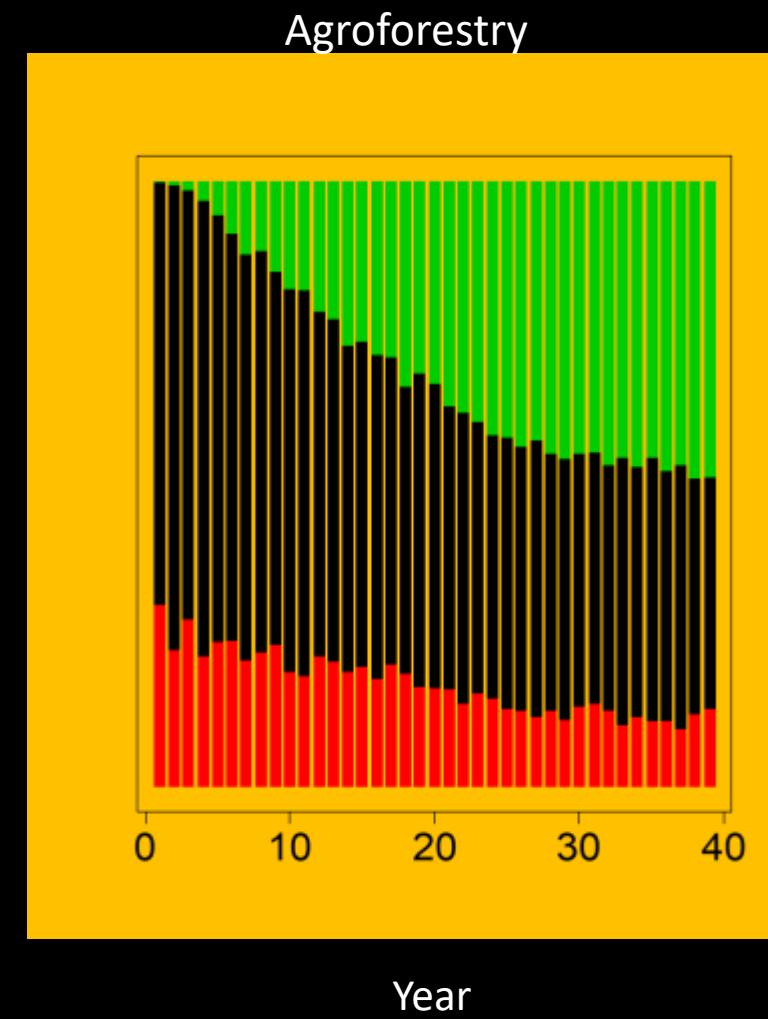
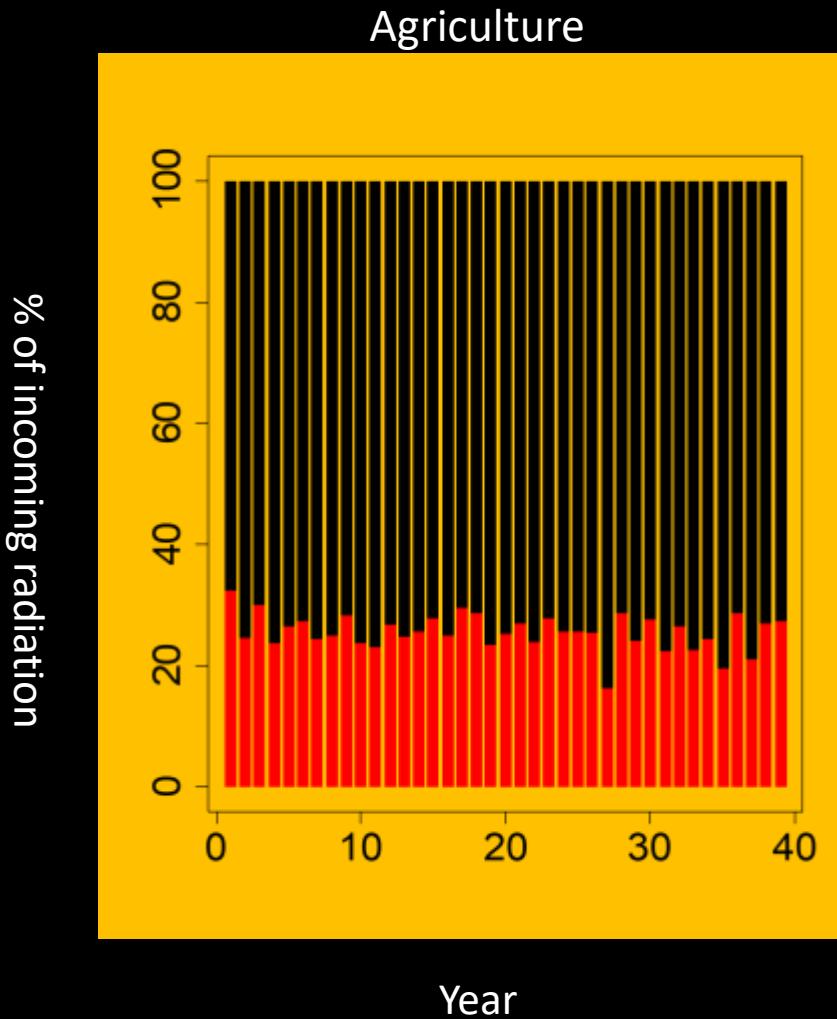
PV panels and crops



Agroforestry

AgriVoltaism

Crops and pastures use less than 30% of the annual irradiation



First world research prototype (Montpellier, since 2010)



2019



2011-2013



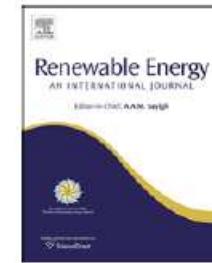




Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Renewable Energy

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/renene](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/renene)

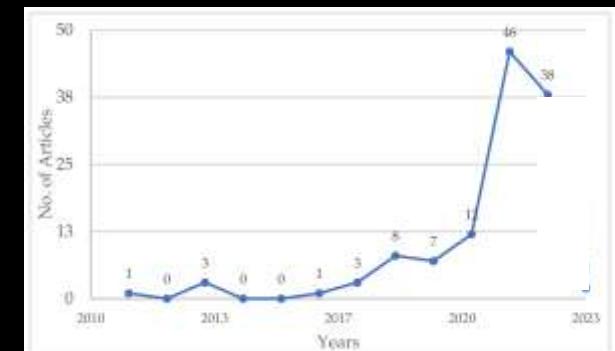


### Combining solar photovoltaic panels and food crops for optimising land use: Towards new **agrivoltaic** schemes

C. Dupraz <sup>a,\*</sup>, H. Marrou <sup>a</sup>, G. Talbot <sup>a</sup>, L. Dufour <sup>a</sup>, A. Nogier <sup>b</sup>, Y. Ferard <sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> INRA, UMR System, 2, Place Viala, 34060 Montpellier Cedex, France

<sup>b</sup> Sun'R SAS, 7 rue de Clichy, 75009 Paris, France



# On the Coexistence of Solar-Energy Conversion and Plant Cultivation

A. GOETZBERGER and A. ZASTROW

*Fraunhofer-Institut für Solare Energiesysteme Oltmannsstrasse 22, D-7800 Freiburg,  
West Germany*

*(Received February 15, 1981)*

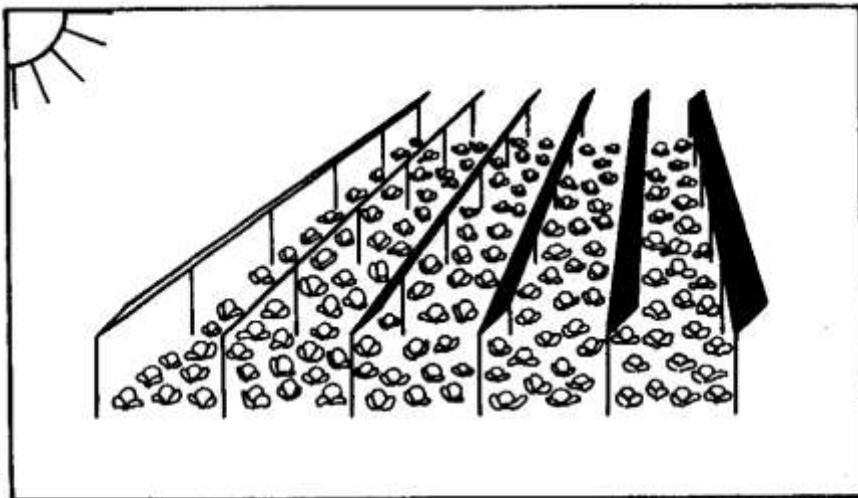


FIGURE 1 Model sketch of elevated collector field.

1981

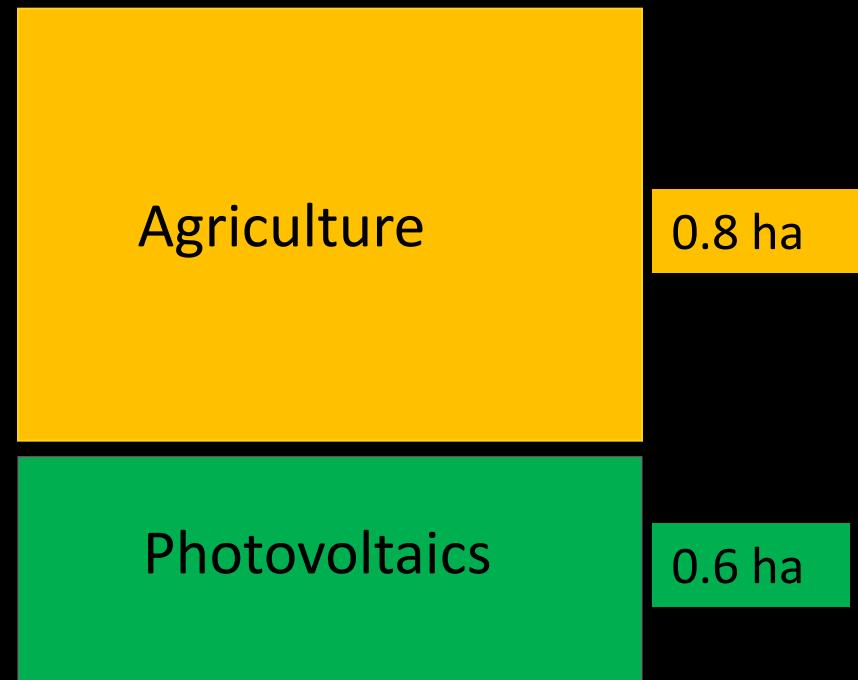


*Int. J. Solar Energy*, 1982, Vol. 1, pp. 55-69  
0142-5919/82/0101-0055\$06.50/0  
© 1982 Harwood Academic Publishers GmbH  
Printed in Great Britain

Dual use



Single use



Land Equivalent Ratio (LER) (Mead and Willey, 1980)



Land  
Equivalent  
Ratio

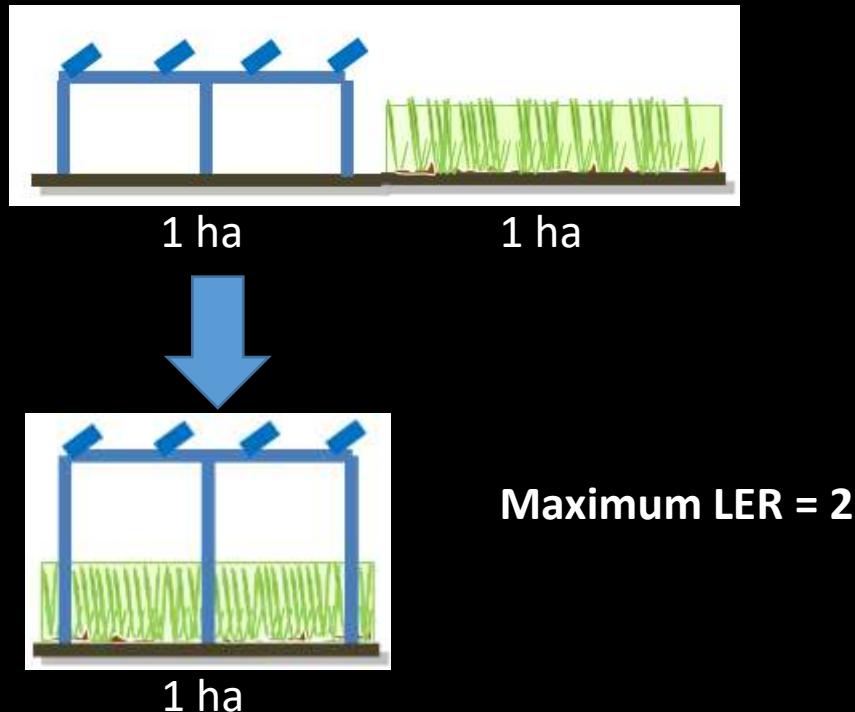
1.2 to 1.6



Poplars-cereals  
14 years

# What LER for Agrivoltaism?

- If crops did not mind shade...



# What LER for Agrivoltaism?

- But crops mind shade!

Density of PV panels	% PV panels	% Crop yield	LER
Standard	100%	73%	<b>1,73</b>
Reduced	52%	83%	<b>1,35</b>

**Marrou (2012)**

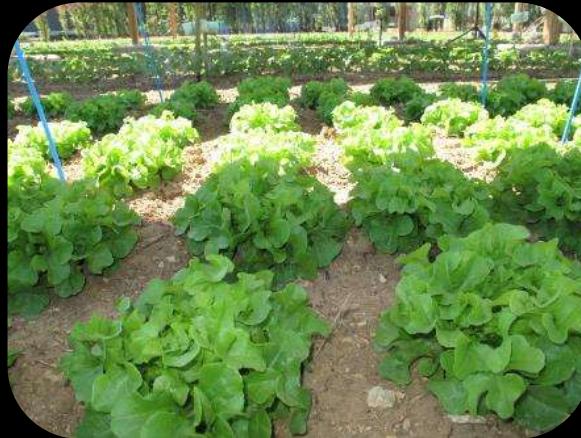


**High LERS can  
be achieved  
with lower crop  
yields**



# Land Equivalent Ratio of agrivoltaism

**1.3 to 1.7**



With a LER of **1.5**,

A 100 ha agrivoltaic farm

Would produce as much food and energy

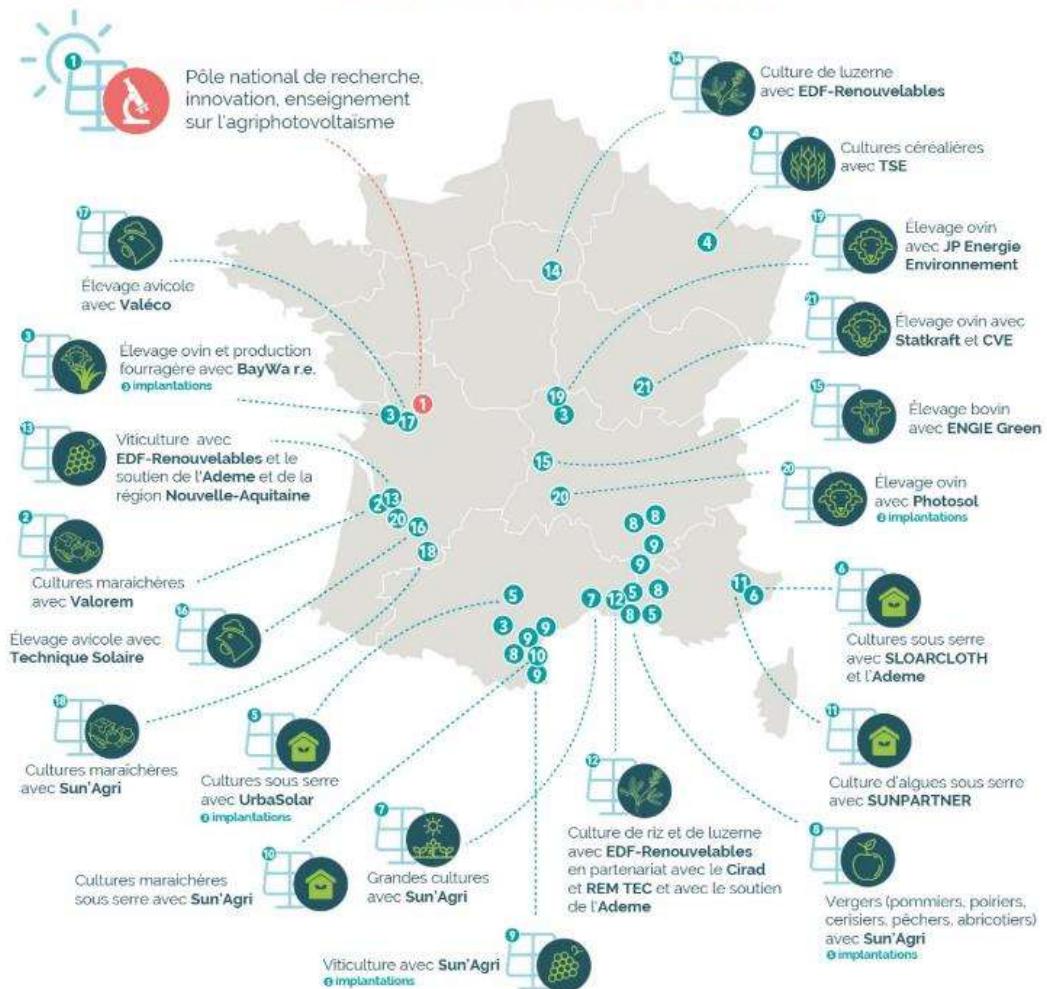
As a **150** ha farm where PV panels and crops would be on different plots



# Research on agrivoltaics in France

- 15 years (since 2009)
- Major Innovation: Dynamic AV (Sun'Agri/INRAE)
- Agronomical studies (9 Ph.D. Theses)
- Many industrial partners: Sun'R, Rem Tec, EDF Renouvelables, Photosol, Engie Green, Urbasolar, Baywa.re, SunPartner, SolarTub, Valorem, Valeco, Photosol, TSE, Next2Sun, etc...

## L'agrivoltaïsme sous toutes ses formes !



# INRAE-EDF Renouvelables

- ✓ Since 2019
- ✓ REMTECH Technology
- ✓ INRAE Lusignan

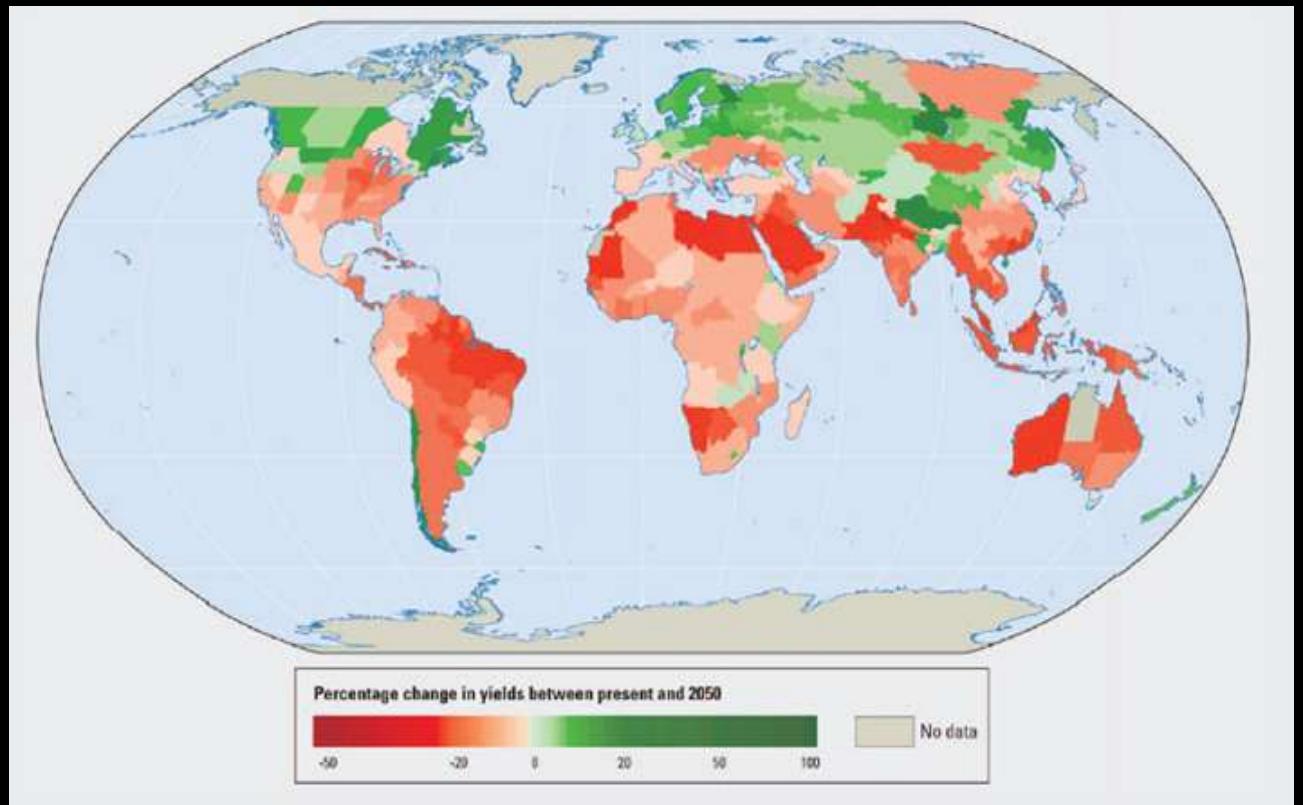


Camelia Project (start 2022):

**Photovoltaic hedges with cattle grazing**

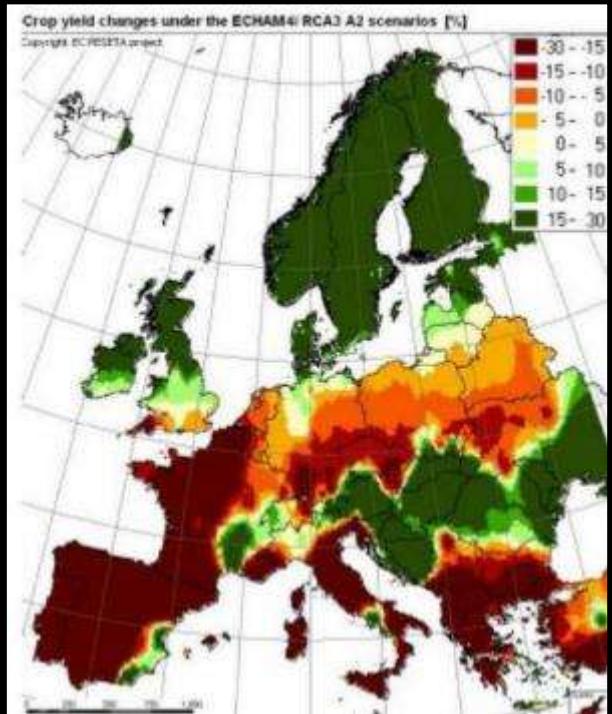


Most crops are endangered by climate change, especially in dry areas

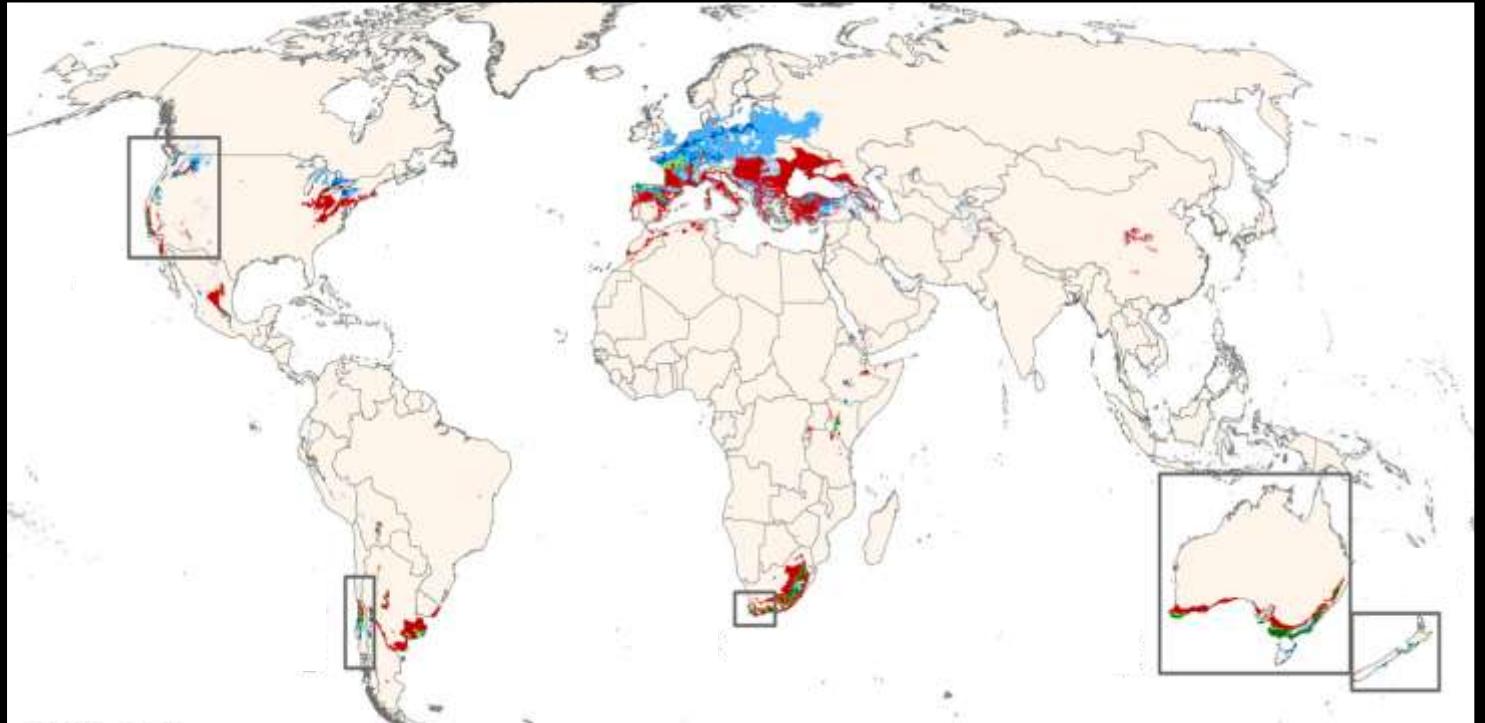
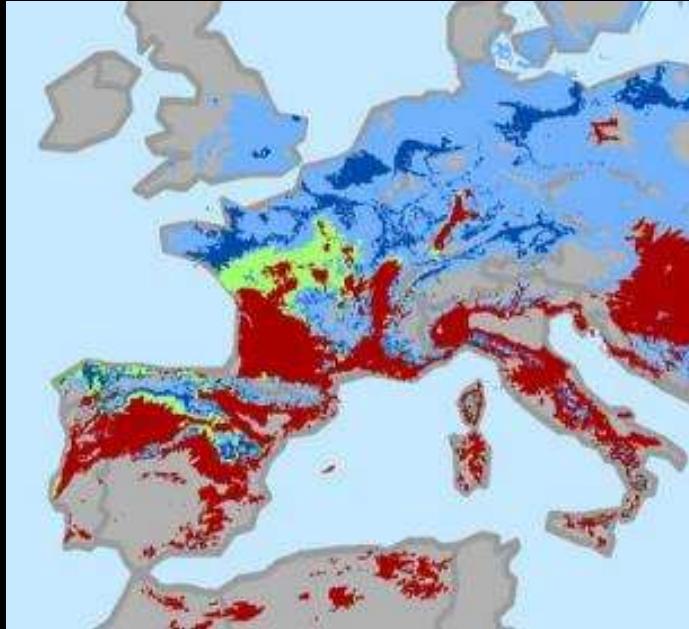


Source : [encyclopedia.environmental.com](http://encyclopedia.environmental.com)

# Cereal crops



# Vineyards



2050 :

- May disappear
- Will stay
- May extend

# 15 years of collaborative R&D – 7 PhDs

The R&D



program

2009-2013

2013-2017

2017-2023

> 2019

Innovation awards



1<sup>st</sup> FIXED SITE

1<sup>st</sup> DYNAMIC SITES

7 EXP. SITES

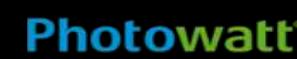
14 COMMERCIAL SITES

FRANCE

INTERNATIONAL

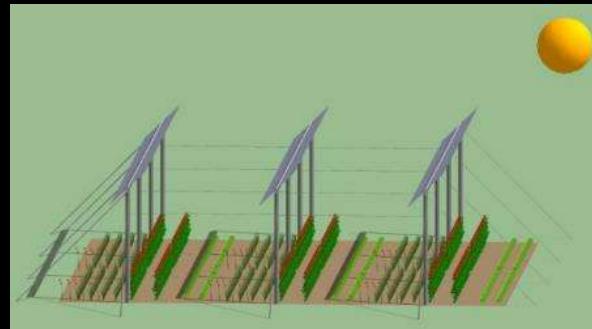


7 research Labs

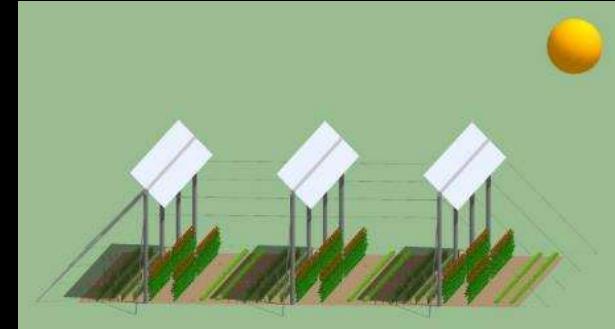


# Dynamic Agrivoltaism

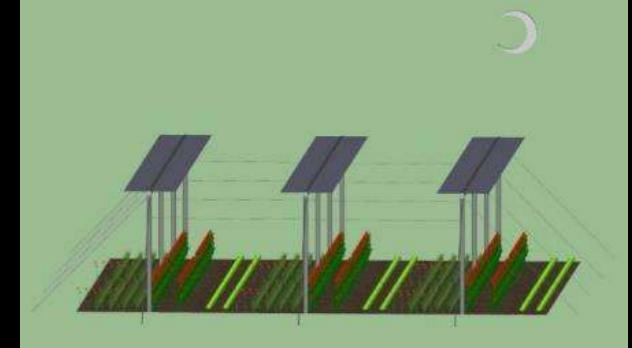
Case 1 : the crop needs high radiation intensity (inverse tracking)



Case 2 : the crop needs protection against excess radiation and heat (or no crop period)



Case 3 : night reduction of heat loss to prevent frost or increase soil temperature

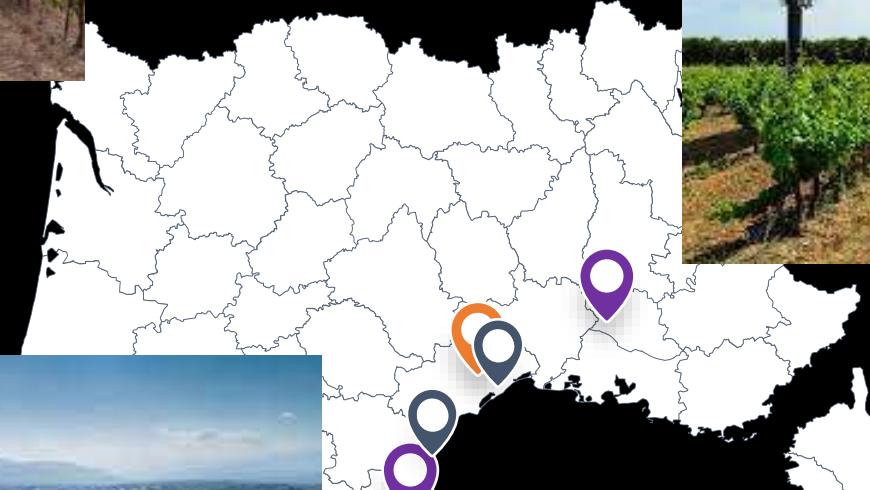
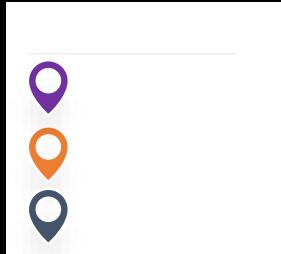


PV panels as a tool to adapt to climate change

Electric yield of 30% during inverse tracking.

# Grapevine experimentations

Sun'Agri R&D program



# From small sized experimental sites...

**Variety:** Grenache N (2000)  
**Construction year:** 2019  
**Size :** 2x340m<sup>2</sup> DAV + 500m<sup>2</sup> control  
**Power :** 75 kWp  
**GCR :** 75%  
  
**Agronomical monitoring:** Chambre d'agriculture du Vaucluse



... to real size commercial sites

Tresserre (66)

**Varieties:** Grenache B, Chardonnay,

Marselan

**Construction year:** 2018

**Size :** 4.5 ha DAV + 3ha control

**Power :** 2.1 MWp

**GCR :** 37,5%

**Agronomical monitoring:** Chambre d'agriculture des Pyrénées Orientales

**3 treatmentss :**

- Solar Tracking (TS),
- Dynamic agrivoltaics with curtailment (DAV),
- Control (C)





Piolenc (84)



- Protected vineyards stand better heat waves
- Water needs reduced by 12% to 34%
- Better aromatic profile :
  - +13% anthocyanes
  - + 9% à 14% acidity
- Reduced alcohol degree and delayed harvest
- The structure helps to provide various services (irrigation, hail nets, suzuki fly nets, etc..)

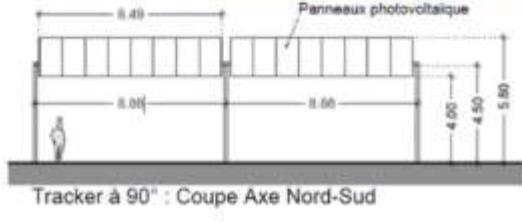
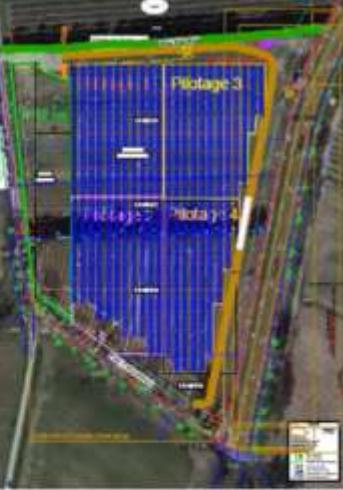
# Fruit production in Dynamic AV (Sun'Agri)

- 8 sites with fruit trees (apple; cherry; plum; peach; pear; apricot;kiwi, vineyards)

**Lot 3 – Etat des démonstrateurs**

**Carpentras, 84**

- Structure agrivoltaïque
  - Surface : 1,25 ha (AVD) + 0,32 ha (témoin)
  - Inter-rang x inter-plant : 4,5x1,5 m
  - Densité AVD : 1480 arbres/ha
  - Taux de couverture : 39%
  - 4 zones de pilotage + témoin
- Culture
  - Cerise – 2 variétés (Nimba et Baltine)
  - Irrigation : micro-asperion
- Suivi agro : CA84

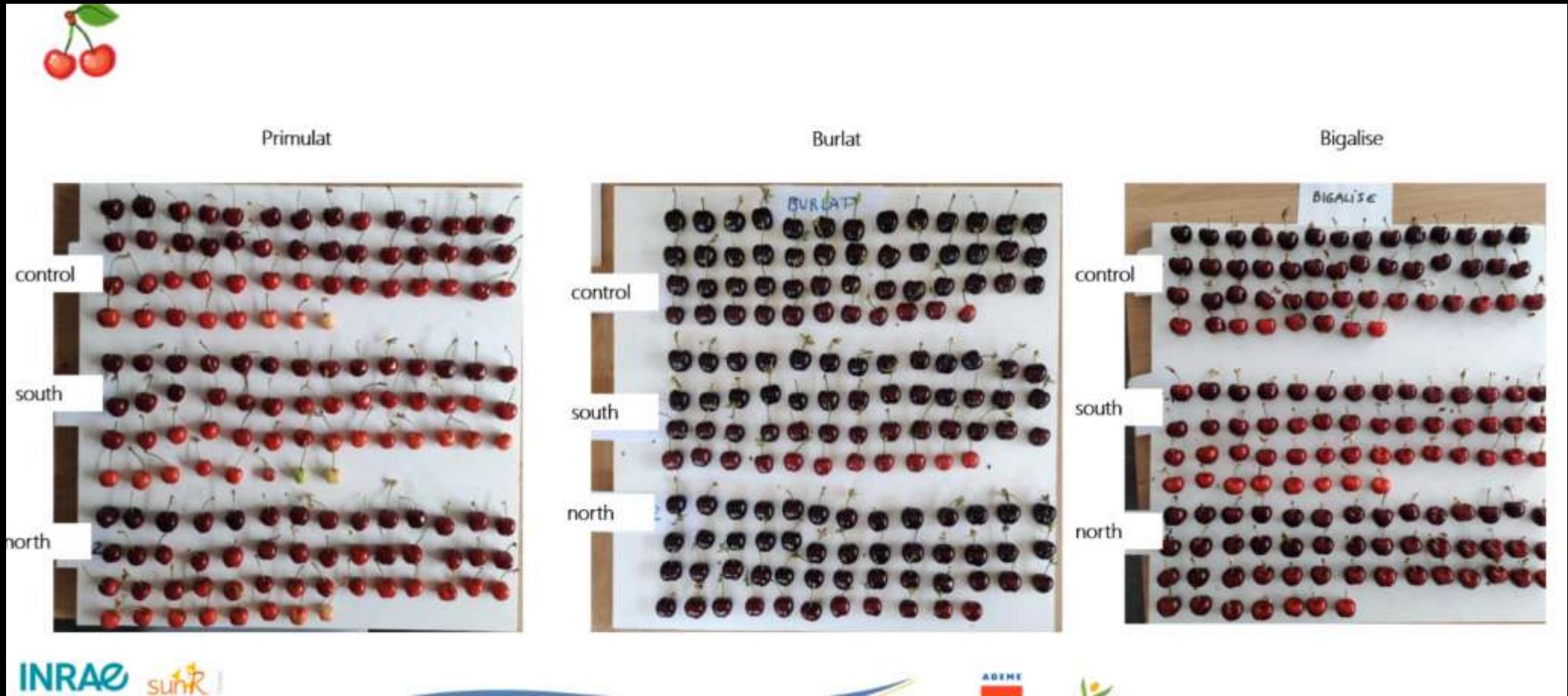


**INRAE sun'Agri Photowatt**



# Impact on quality of the products

- Tenuous impacts, sometimes reduced colour of fruits



# Ecological impact of agrivoltaic systems

- Very few published results
- No big concern so far
- Some bird species adapt fast (swallows)
- Favour some insects (butterflies)
- Not fenced (free ranging of wild mammals)
- Interfere with birds of prey hunting
- Not very friendly for bats

• Suivi écologique en phase exploitation – Tresserre (66)

❖ 1ers résultats qualitatifs sur 3 années – 2020 à 2022 : 

Taxons	Nombre d'espèces	Observation
Rhopalocères	18	- Richesse spécifique faible mais cohérente - Repos sous ombrage
Odonates	2	- Habitat peu favorable - Individus en transit
Orthoptères	4	- Habitat peu favorable - Espèces thermophiles
Chiroptères	16	- Utilisation pour les déplacements (Grand Rhinolophe) - Chasse active sur l'ensemble du site - Activité plus faible sous AVD

 Grand Rhinolophe

 Machaon

 Criquet égyptien

 Gomphé à forceps méridional

 Sun'Agri

Jeremy ROCHE (External)



# Agrivoltaism research : a recent acceleration

- World congresses
  - Agrivoltaics2020 : France, Perpignan, on line;
  - Agrivoltaics2021 : Germany, Freiburg, on line
  - Agrivoltaics2022 : Italy, Piacenza, on site / on line
  - Agrivoltaics2023 : South Korea, Daegu, on site / on line
- Next world congress : Denver, USA June 2024



# A soaring of innovations

- Semi-transparent PV modules
- Folded systems
- Mobile systems on skis
- Bi-facial vertical systems
- Assymetrical glasshouses designs
- Tubular Photovoltaic systems
- Organic Photovoltaic systems
- And many more ...



# Some examples of new impacts on crops and animals to be evaluated

- On crops
  - Reduction of pest spreading with photovoltaic hedges (+)
  - Reduction of vertical panels yield with high crops (-)
  - Reduction of drought and heat stress of crops under PV panels (+)
  - Impact of modified soil temperatures (mineralisation, soil fauna) (+/-)
- With animals
  - Electric risks for animals (electrosensitivity, electric shocks) (-)
  - Reduction of drinking water needs (+)
  - Foraging behaviour modified
  - Difficulty to move fences for rational grazing management

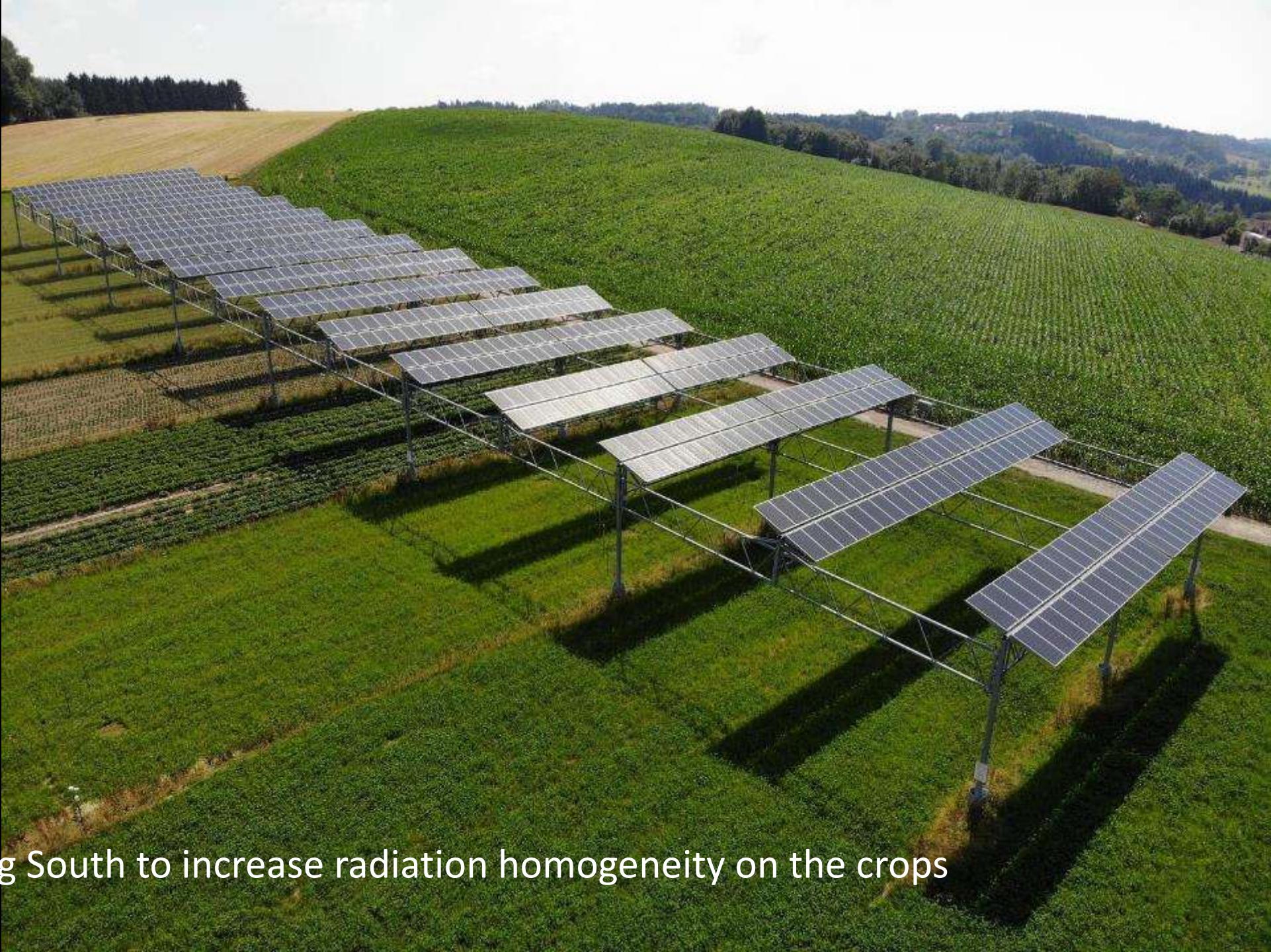


# Some examples of agrivoltaic research sites

# Germany

Fraunhofer

Fixed panels not facing South to increase radiation homogeneity on the crops



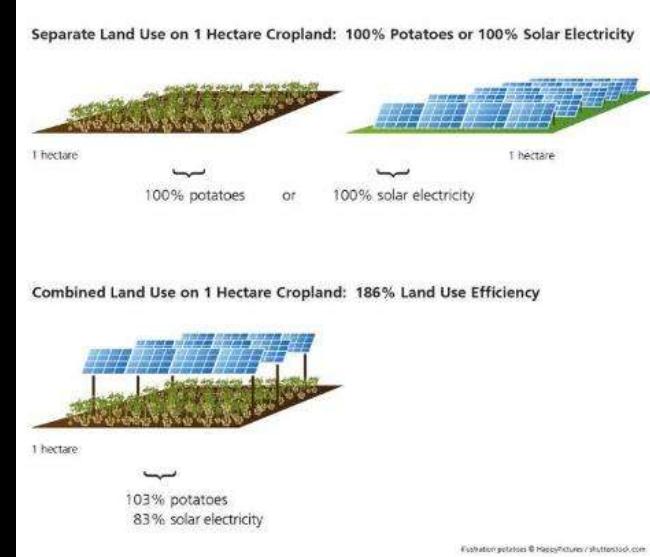
# Press Release #10

## Agrophotovoltaics: High Harvesting Yield in Hot Summer of 2018

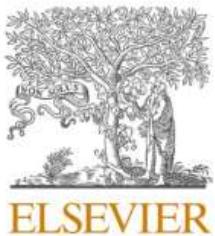
12.4.2019

Fraunhofer  
Germany

Surprising results,  
to be confirmed



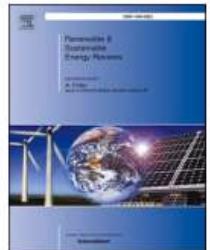
Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews 140 (2021) 110694



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Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews

journal homepage: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/rser>



Combining food and energy production: Design of an agrivoltaic system applied in arable and vegetable farming in Germany

Max Trommsdorff <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Jinsuk Kang <sup>a</sup>, Christian Reise <sup>a</sup>, Stephan Schindele <sup>c</sup>, Georg Bopp <sup>g</sup>,  
Andrea Ehmann <sup>d</sup>, Axel Weselek <sup>e</sup>, Petra Högy <sup>d</sup>, Tabea Obergfell <sup>f</sup>





Fraunhofer  
Germany

**Forschungsprojekt APV-Obstbau**  
**Semitransparente Solarmodule**



# South Korea

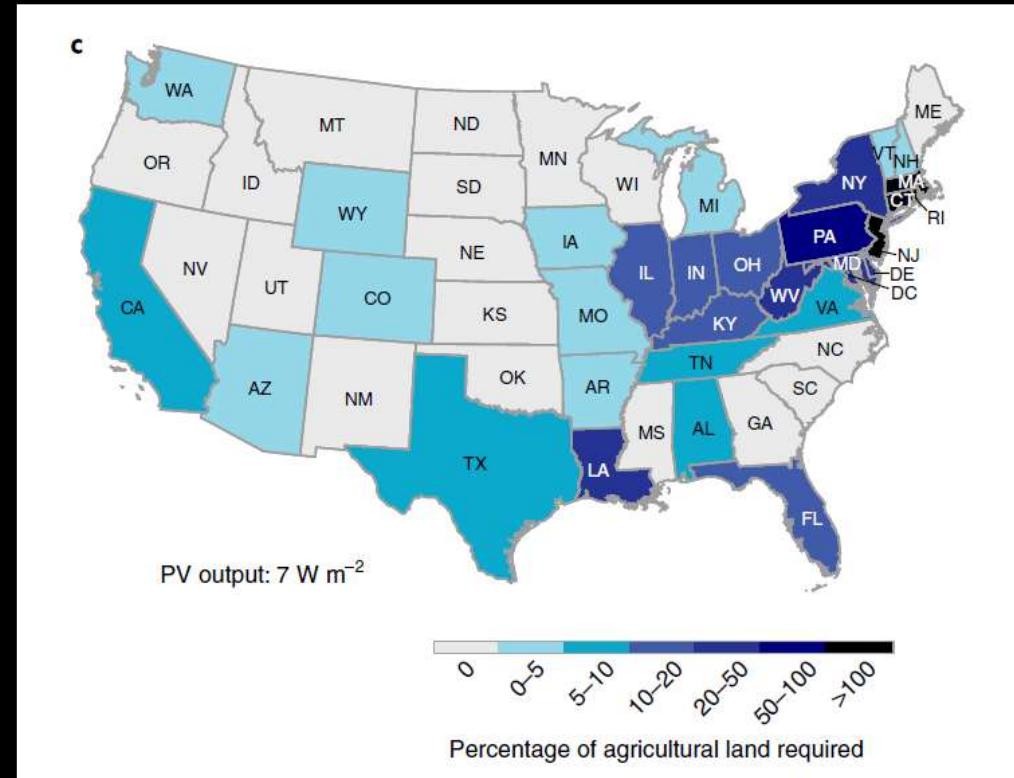
- Several projects since 2016 with rice, cabbage, potatoes, garlic, sesame
- Korea Agrivoltaic Association :
  - Defining standards for Agrivoltaics



Source photo : Korea Agrivoltaic Association (ChungBuk Ochang )

# USA « Aglectric » farming

- Towards a fully solar based economy to address the « full » earth
- A 100% electric economy will require to use crop land
- Agrivoltaic plants at each motorway service area



## Sustainable co-production of food and solar power to relax land-use constraints

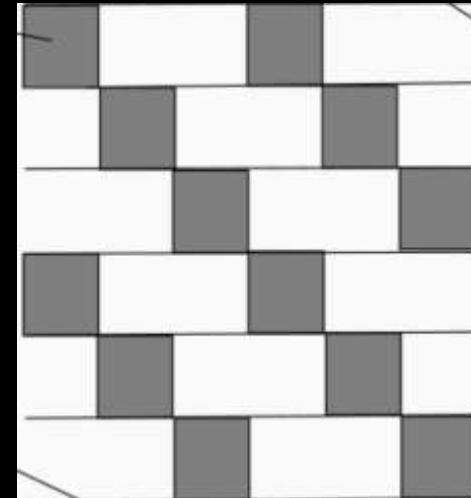
Caleb K. Miskin, Yiru Li, Allison Perna, Ryan G. Ellis, Elizabeth K. Grubbs, Peter Bermel and Rakesh Agrawal  
2019, *Nature sustainability*

# China

- 1 GW project with goji berries cultivation in Ningxia Province (Huawei)
- Smart PV (trackers)



- Water saving (-30%)
- Higher biodiversity (desert area)



# Taiwan

- Leaders of aquavoltaics
- 



a



b

# Agrivoltaics in desert areas



Source: [www.saharaforestproject.com](http://www.saharaforestproject.com)



Source: [www.bellona.org/imagearchive/Testcenter-Jordan.jpg](http://www.bellona.org/imagearchive/Testcenter-Jordan.jpg)

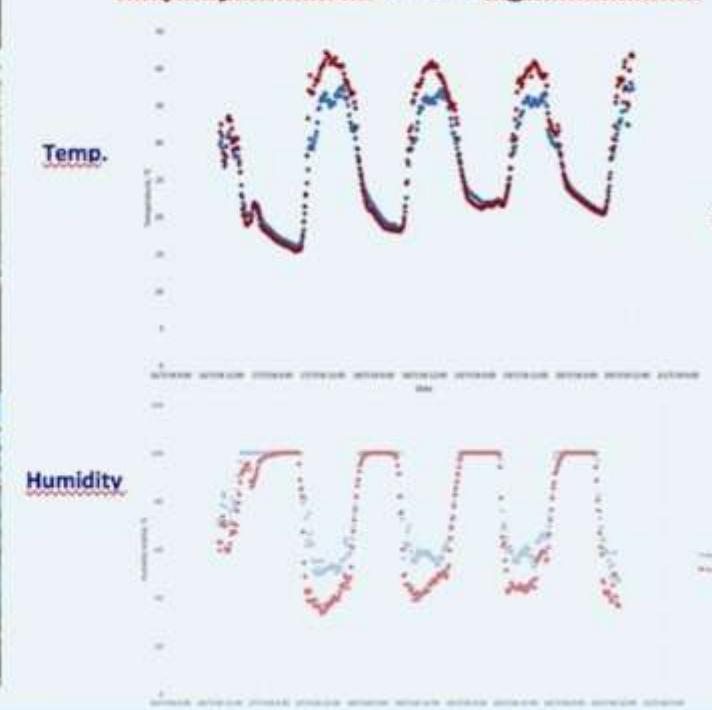
- Sahara Forest Project (SFP) in Qatar (funded a.o. by Norway, Bellona, and QAFCO)
- Solar Breeder Project in Algeria (funded a.o. by Japan)

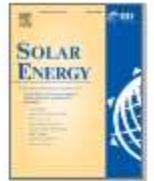


## Brevet - Écran d'Ombrage PV



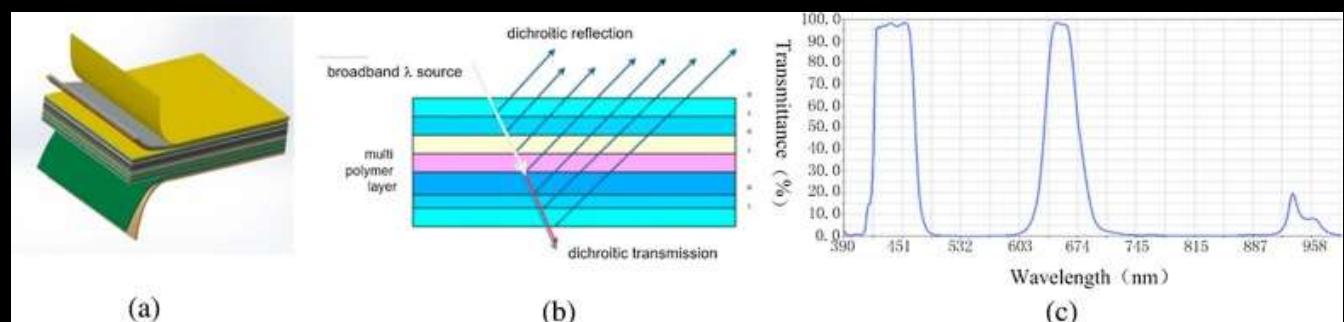
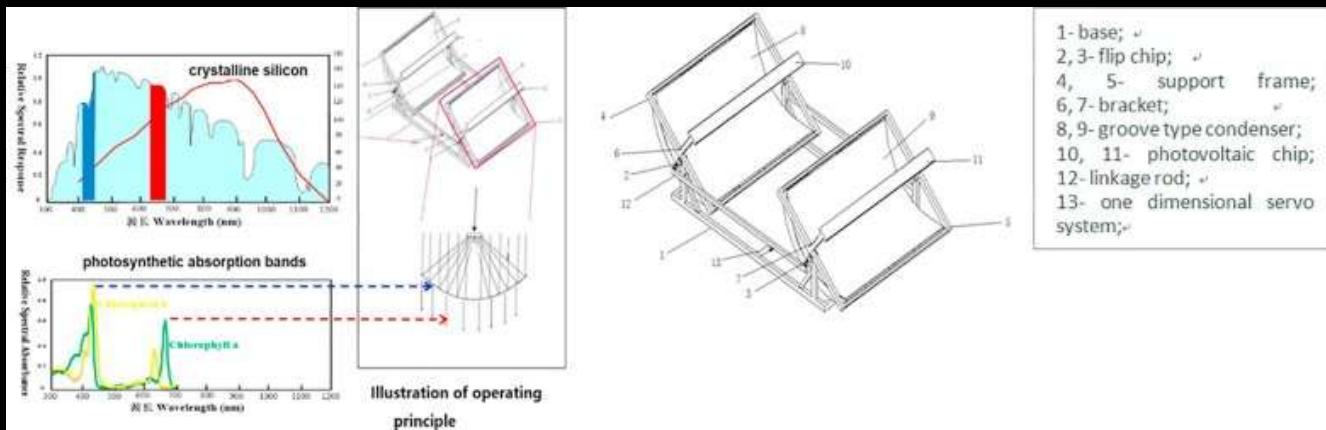
### Deployment at INRA-Agrobiotech





# A novel agricultural photovoltaic system based on solar spectrum separation

Wen Liu <sup>a, b</sup>, Luqing Liu <sup>a, b</sup>  , Chenggang Guan <sup>c</sup>, Fangxin Zhang <sup>a, b</sup>, Ming Li <sup>b</sup>, Hui Lv <sup>d</sup>, Peijun Yao <sup>a</sup>, Jan Ingenhoff <sup>b</sup>





# So what?

Brilliant idea or dead end?



# Agrivoltaics is no longer a niche : big players want to run agrivoltaics



La France Agricole @FranceAgricole · 3 Apr 2020

@InstitutElevage et @EleveursOvins développent avec Neoen u de recherche pour répondre à une demande forte de données agronomiques et zootechniques sur le pâturage d'ovins sous des p photovoltaïques.

## **Sun'Agri, Engie, Total... L'agrivoltaïsme progresse en France, y compris chez les géants de l'énergie**

Le gouvernement a désigné le 1er avril une salve de 288 projets dans les énergies renouvelables. C'est également l'un des premiers appels d'offres pour l'agrivoltaïsme, une filière qui intéresse de plus en plus de gros acteurs de l'énergie comme Total..

Source : Ministère de l'Énergie, Département de l'Énergie et de la Transition écologique

L'agrivoltaïsme est une approche innovante qui associe une production d'électricité photovoltaïque et une production agricole sur une même surface. Elle aide à valoriser des terres peu productives, très caillouteuses, sur des plateaux venteux ou encore trop exposées au soleil, rendant possible la diversification vers de nouveaux types de cultures, tout en produisant de l'énergie photovoltaïque. La démarche peut également faciliter la création d'emplois grâce à une augmentation de la productivité des exploitations.

Total Quadran et InVivo mutualisent leurs expertises via trois engagements :

- La mise en place d'une cellule recherche et développement sur l'évolution de l'agrivoltaïsme.

Home > Business

**Sun'Agri et Engie Green s'associent pour le déploiement de l'agrivoltaïsme**

À la une > ÉNERGIE

### **L'agrivoltaïsme : « escroquerie verte » ou vrais « énergieculteurs » ?**

ÉNERGIE



signent une  
me



EDF et Rem Tec ont installé dans le département de la Seine-et-Marne, des panneaux photovoltaïques au-dessus d'un champ de luzerne. © Michael Ayach/Rem Tec

## « Positive agrivoltaism » Label validated by AFNOR (Class A on crops)

- To certify projects and avoid «poor projects»
- 
- «Positive» means that the crop production will not decrease at all





**Created 9 June 2022**

**Promotes regulation and a crop priority in projects**

**Second association:**

**Promotes less regulation and free enterprise**

**« Priority to agility »**



# Do we need Agrivoltaics?

# PV on Agriculture lands is not an option: we need it

(in most European countries).

## 50% of PV electricity will be produced on agriculture land

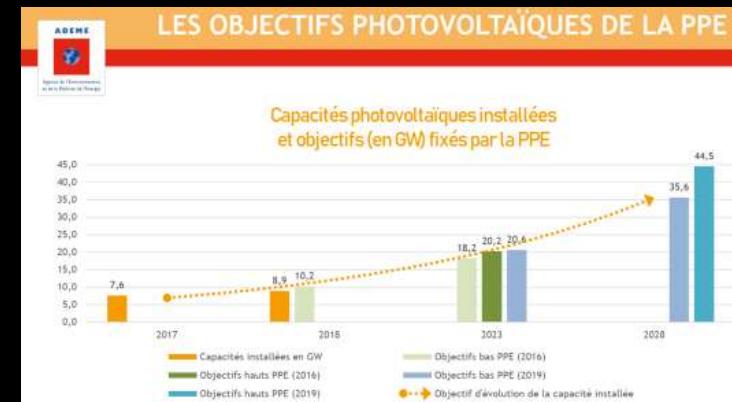
After oats and barley and grass / hay for horses, after agrofuels (ethanol or diesters for thermal engines)... electricity

Some few countries have desert areas (Spain?) and could manage without using Agriculture land

But deserts are usually far away from the electricity consumers

Chatzipanagi, A., N. Taylor, and A. Jaeger-Waldau, 2023. *Overview of the potential and challenges for agri-photovoltaics in the European Union*, ed. C.J.R.C. European. Vol. EUR 31482 EN. 57p

Nijssse, F.J.M.M., et al., The momentum of the solar energy transition. *Nature Communications*, 2023. 14(1): p. 6542. 10.1038/s41467-023-41971-7.



But... practical difficulties are huge.... and lead to surrender



Antoine Peillon,  
Sec. Gén. à la planification écologique France nation verte

Assemblée  
nationale,  
Commission du  
Développement  
durable,  
4 février 2024



Jean-Luc Fugit,  
Président Conseil Supérieur de l'Energie

# The legal Ground Coverage Ratio (GCR) dilemma

- $\text{GCR} = \text{area of panels} / \text{area of land}$
- Lower GCR for a viable agriculture production
- Lower GCR result in higher LCOE that may endanger the electricity business model
- The search for low cost structures to support low GCR AV facilities is crucial for agrivoltaics



# The pathetic history of photovoltaic glasshouses



- 50% GCR glasshouses = too dark for most crops



- New systems with lower GCRs, semi-transparent panels, mobile reflecting curtains

# Who loves shade? The raspberry / spinach quarrel

- Raspberries love shade as well as tea, goji, meadows, and many more
- Spinach is less happy, like soybean, rice, maize...
- Some don't know : apple, olives, tomatoes...
- Indian and European tomatoes disagree...

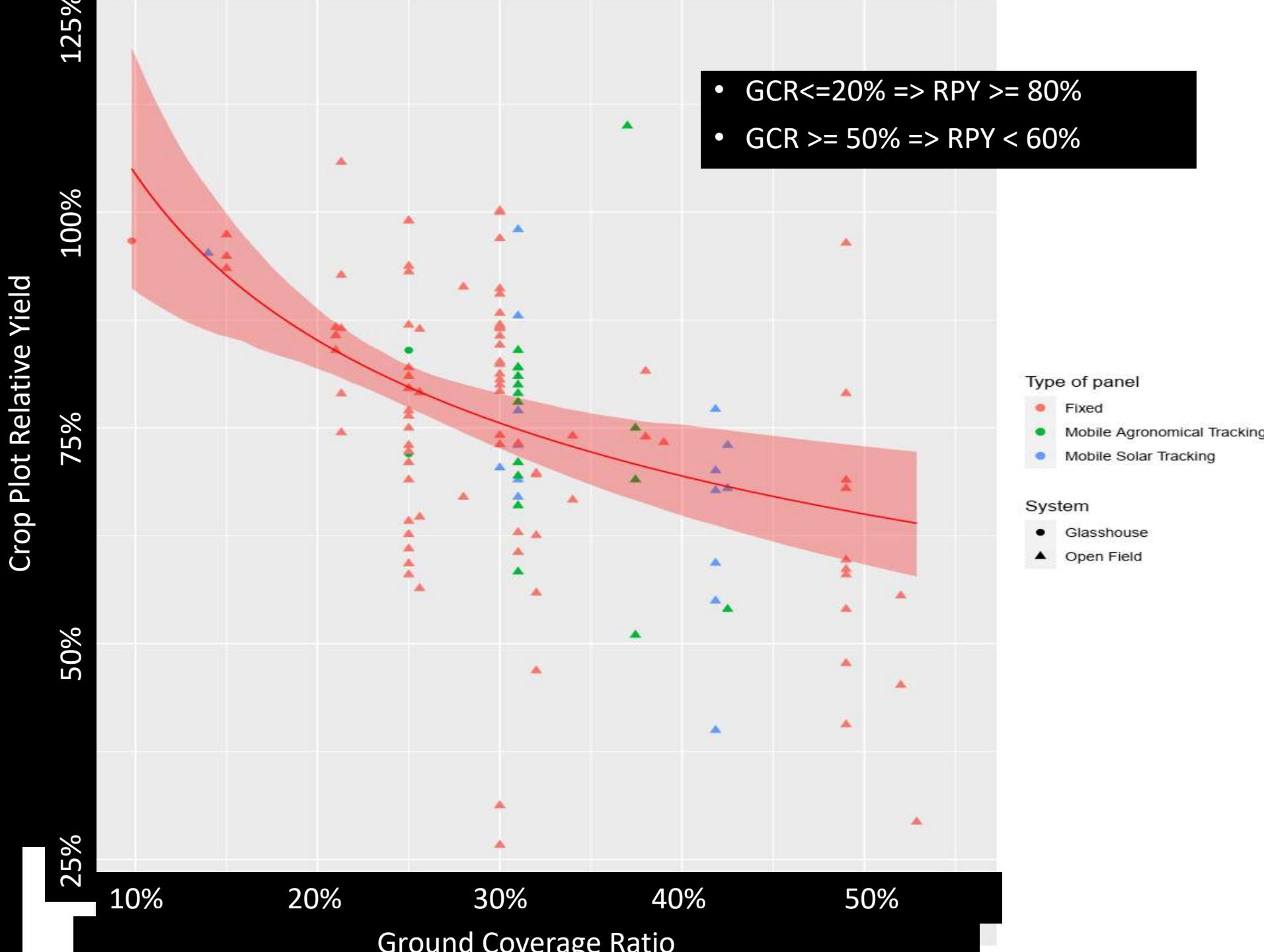


# Magical numbers : 23.... 30... 50... 84...

- What % of shade is acceptable to crops ?

- Crops and animals will have different requirements
- Forage crops are alike crops... until a given threshold, the more light, the better
- In dynamic system, this ratio can be adjusted in real time





Dupraz, C.,  
*Agroforestry Systems*, 2023.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10457-023-00906-3>.

# About the challenge to maintain crop yield in Agrivoltaics



Lizuka, Sosa, Chiba, Japan

Blé

Distance entre les rangées de poteaux : 4 m

Surface cultivée : 75 %

GCR : 33%



Sasaya, Nihonmatsu, Fukushima, Japan

Blé

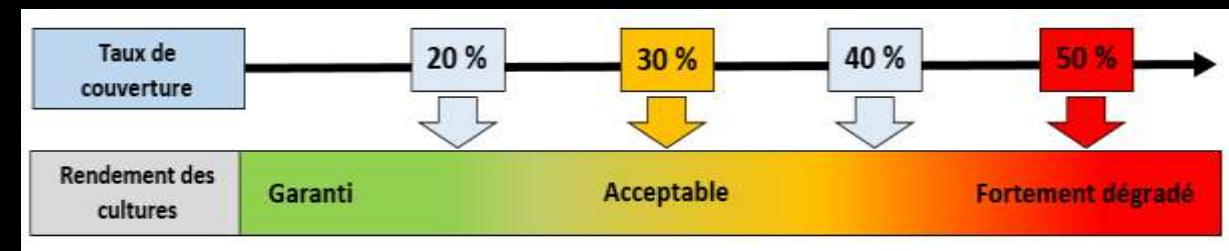
Distance entre les rangées de poteaux : 2 m

Surface cultivée : 50 %

GCR : 25%

Two examples of Japanese sites where it is impossible to obtain the required 80% crop relative yield

- Usual Ground Mounted PV GCRs are not compatible with AV
- A model with 100% of agriculture relative yield allow an « infinite » area to be available
- Half GCR x twice area = same electricity production with agriculture production maintained but higher LCOE
- Some perennial crops (fruit trees, vineyards, berries, pastures) may tolerate more shade (more data needed)



# To be or not to be Agrivoltaics ?

Required : Solar sharing for 2 productions



No solar sharing = shelters, buildings...

Electricity production on agriculture buildings is not AV

This biophysical definition does not assume any ratio of the relative weight of the two productions, nor the relative productivity of the two productions as compared to the reference monosystems

# Is this Agrivoltaics ?

Yes, definitely

Is this wanted  
Agrivoltaics?

Well... it depends!

The answer may be  
different from places to  
places, from countries  
to countries.



# The replacement hypothesis

Electricity income/ha > 10 to 100 times the Agriculture income /ha

Developers need land

Some farmers are attracted to become annuitants



The required area is not huge (less than 1% of the used agriculture area in France)



Simple and straightforward : allow to replace

Let it be ? Go for it?

# The coexistence hypothesis

Let's compromise, Share the sun, Produce both on the same land

Incentives : LERs are  $> 1$ , crops/animals may benefit from the PV panels protection

In terms of income, Agriculture will never be dominant

Will never happen « naturally ». Only driven if regulations prohibit the replacement option.

# The Strong coexistence option

Balanced compromise between electricity and agriculture

Low GCRs (10 to 30%) to allow enough light to the crops

Feed in Tariffs conditional on the agriculture productivity

80% in Japan  
66% in Germany  
90% In France

Only option compatible with CAP payments



# The Weak coexistence option

Priority to the rewarding component (electricity)

Agriculture production is anecdotal (sheep, hives, biodiversity services)

GCRs are close to standards of Ground Mounted PV (40 to 60%)

High risk of agriculture abandonment.

Renting incomes will never justify to loose money while cropping,  
especially if the farmer is not the land owner

# Solar grazing (with sheep) as a « kill agriculture » option

Electricity income per ha > 300 times the Sheep income



If you replace a productive agriculture with this system, it is close to agriculture abandonment

The land owner / farmer will be a happy annuitant

The society may disagree (loss of agriculture production)

The neighbour farmers may strongly disagree.

Why keep working when your neighbour is rich doing nothing? May induce havock in rural communities.



# Sharing the AV pie

- Agrivoltaism target areas should be coherent with the energetic transition objectives. In France:
  - Neither too low :  $> 10\ 000$  ha
  - Nor too high :  $< 1$  Mha
  - $100\ 000 - 200\ 000$  ha is a sensible target
- The pie is limited!
- Currently more than 1 Million hectares are pre-contracted in France!
- A lot of cries ahead

# What business models to improve the acceptability?

- Limit the size of projects to allow a large number of farmers to benefit from it (1ha? 5 Ha? 10 ha? 100 ha?)
- 100 000 ha of AV can be 100 projects of 1000 ha or... 100 000 projects of 1 ha (Japan model)
- Avoid Farm Land speculation by limiting rents for land for PV projects
- 1% of the French agricultural area could produce as much as the 56 French nuclear reactors without loosing the crop production (-20% on 2% = 4/ooo of the production)

# Dual AgriVoltaic systems?

- Large facilities

- Few systems, limited number of beneficiaries
- Close to the national grid connection points
- Low LCOE, economies of scale
- Significant contribution to the electricity mix

- Small facilities

- Many beneficiaries, May be dispatched all over the territory
- Can be installed also in remote areas far away from the national grid connection points
- Higher LCOE
- Release of tension on the distribution grid by providing electrons at the remote end of the delivery network
- Self-consumption model; Farm decarbonation targets (electric tractors, local production of N fertilizers)

# How to stimulate inventivity by AV designers?

## The « no constraints » philosophy

Will favour big companies

Could result in simply elevated GM-PV facilities with no innovation

Rejected by many players

## The regulation philosophy

Limitations (to GCR, to panel elevation, to rent levels) and forbiding of GM-PV on agricultural land will stimulate inventivity

Implemented in most countries

# The APER law (Accélération des énergies renouvelables, 10 mars 2023)

- Forbids GM-PV on agricultural land (some options or long term fallows)
- Defines Agrivoltaics as a tool for adapting agriculture to climate change
- Gives a huge power to the CDPENAF (Avis conforme) and put pressure on mayors
- Open the scene for corruption...

# A decree against the law ?

APER Law: AV as a tool to improve agriculture

Agrivoltaic decree: could allow systems that may create havoc in agriculture and rural communities

requires 90% agriculture yield but allows 40% GCRs (and more)

The Conseil d'Etat will tell...

# To sum up

- AV is a serious option for our energy future: the resource is huge
- The design of AV systems that maintain crop yield is tricky but worth trying (graal)
- The decarbonation of farms could be also a target of AVs, with self consumption on site of the electricity
- Social and political issues are hot: how to calm down the current far west experience?
- Shared or captured AVs? How many beneficiaries?
- A standard PV plant (eg panels density) is NOT COMPATIBLE with a « normal » crop production
- Farm Land speculation should absolutely be avoided : limit rents for land for PV projects

Thank you  
for listening

Translation :



• Such a fertile crop land! What are you doing????

An electrical field!