# Marguerite Wells



Farmer
Farm Bureau
Member
Solar Landowner
Solar Grazer
Solar Developer



# Scale of agrivoltaics





Jack's Solar Garden: 1.2 MW, 4 acres of land

Vegetables grown with hand tools

**Topaz Solar Farm**, San Luis Obispo, CO, 550 MW, 3350 acres of panels

Grazed by several thousand sheep since 2014

The cost of labor is a major driver in farmer decision-making

You CAN grow almost any crop between solar panels, the question is whether it is labor efficient to do so, thus cost-efficient

# International Agrivoltaics





Goji Berry Farm under Solar, China 1,000 MW: Apple and Pear Orchard, Australia

Factors:

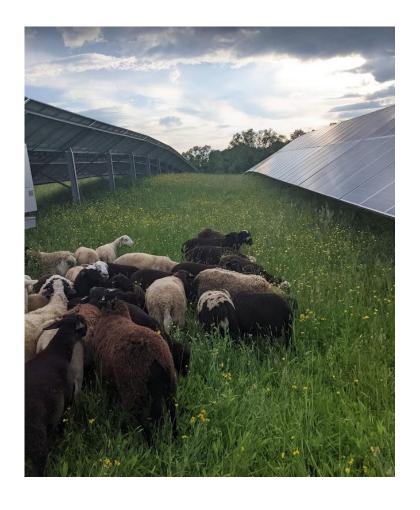
Cost of labor
Cost of energy
Farmland availability

## Spacing Panels- Greater land use





# Solar Grazing





Strong US Lamb market
Supports pollinators
Requires no changes by solar developer
Can be used on large acreages
Low labor requirement- low cost
Sheep grazing is agriculture per USDA
American Solar Grazing Association

#### "Just raise the panels up a little bit"

- For every extra 1 foot up in the air, you need 2 more feet of post belowground- 3' total extra steel post length
  - Workers cannot stand on the ground- OSHA rules, doubles the labor required
    - Maintenance workers need on-site lifts to work





### Costs

Materials
Labor
Maintenance

Adds millions in facility cost
Gets passed on to ratepayers
Unbalanced differential between cost of solar and value of ag crops