







## **Rutgers Agrivoltaics Program (RAP)**

The Rutgers Agrivoltaics Program (RAP) consists of a multidisciplinary group of faculty and staff committed to conducting applied agrivoltaics research and outreach. RAP is part of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station and Rutgers Cooperative Extension, which provide research, outreach and education resources to residents, communities, and businesses in New Jersey and beyond.

#### **RAP Mission**

Our mission is to investigate the opportunities and challenges associated with agrivoltaics in New Jersey and to conduct research and outreach that focuses on combining agricultural production and solar power generation simultaneously on the same plot of land.

### **GOAL 1: Keeping New Jersey's Farmland in Agricultural Production**

Agrivoltaics can play a key role in keeping New Jersey's farms viable by providing an additional revenue stream for farmers. Agrivoltaic systems can be designed to be compatible with a large variety of agricultural production systems.

### **GOAL 2: Increasing New Jersey's Renewable Energy Capacity**

Agrivoltaics can contribute to New Jersey's renewable energy goals, while minimally impacting the State's approximately 700,000 acres of farmland. New Jersey is home to more than 10,000 farms, with around one third of these farms on preserved land. Agrivoltaics can help keep New Jersey's agricultural industry viable, while adding much needed renewable electricity production capacity.

## Is the simultaneous dual-use of land for agriculture <u>and</u> solar energy production a good fit for New Jersey?



Figure adapted from: Technological advancements and research prospects of innovative concentrating agrivoltaics https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apenergy.2023.120799

# **Rutgers Agrivoltaics Program Sites**



170 kW<sub>DC</sub> Installed

Large Animal Grazing and Forage Production



255 kW<sub>DC</sub> Installed Staple and Specialty Crop Production



**95 kW<sub>DC</sub> Installed** Hay Production



Vertical bifacial panels for beef cattle grazing and forage production



Grass evaluation to better understand how solar panels affect forage growth

Tomato, eggplant & pepper under double wide singleaxis tracker arrays



Soybeans under single wide single-axis tracker arrays



Hay production under single wide single-axis tracker arrays



Processing hay between single-axis tracker arrays

Cook Campus Animal Farm College Farm Rd. New Brunswick, NJ 08901 Rutgers Agricultural Research and Extension Center 121 Northville Rd. Bridgeton, NJ 08302 Clifford E. & Melda C. Snyder Research & Extension Farm, 140 Locust Grove Rd. Pittstown, NJ 08867