

# Double harvest for a sustainable future

Innovative agrivoltaic solutions for agriculture



The production of agricultural products is land-intensive – just like the reliable supply of solar power. Wouldn't it be ideal to simply combine them with each other?

#### Secure supply – clean energy: Photovoltaics in agriculture

Climate Change and its consequences are already being felt all over the world – **especially in the agricultural sector**, **where changes in climate** and extreme weather conditions make it difficult to grow food in many places, while population growth is increasing demand. At the same time, the demand for renewable energy is rising.

This means that **agriculture** and **solar energy** are often **in competition with each other** – because in many regions of Germany and Europe the sites for open-space photovoltaics are exhausted.

Agrivoltaic systems from AgroSolar are an innovative and practical solution to this problem. Because they intelligently **combine agriculture with renewable power generation.** At the same time, agricultural businesses profit from another lucrative source of income with a future!



#### Healthy growth for plants and farms

In AgroSolar agrivoltaic systems, solar modules are erected above and between agricultural land to generate electricity, so that they can continue to be farmed profitably.

The systems thus offer most fruit and vegetable plants the best conditions for healthy growth, as the partial roofing provides additional **protection against excessive heat and solar radiation as well as hail, frost and drought damage.** The soils can also store a larger amount of water, which has a positive effect on crop yields, especially for shade crops and in dry regions, and reduces the need for irrigation.

## Couble harvest with agrivoltaics

The dual use of land for agriculture and energy production in Agri-PV eliminates the competition for land between food and energy harvests. This is a real win-win situation that benefits not only the climate and security of supply, but also farmers. This "double harvest" enables income diversification and thus contributes to the sustainable strengthening of farms and rural areas.

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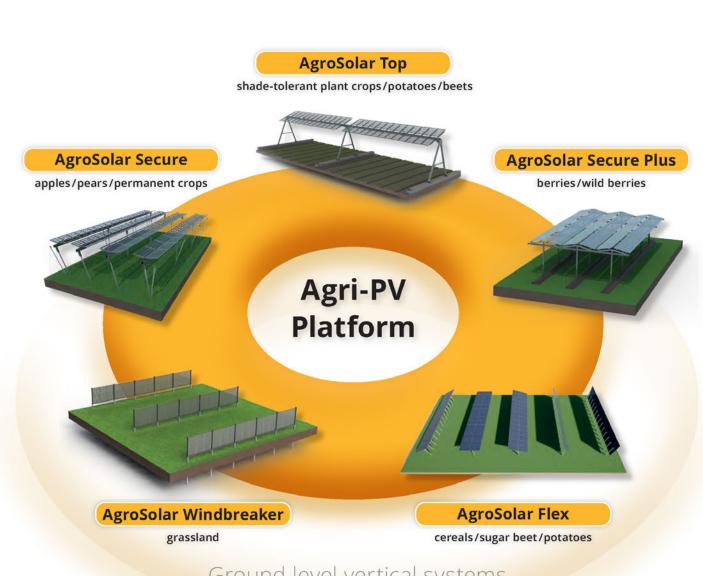
## Individual like nature: Our system types.

The requirements of farms are as varied as the needs of crops in terms of soil and Microclimate. A vineyard or fruit orchard, for example, has different management requirements than a potato field measuring several hectares. That is why AgroSolar has developed different agri-photovoltaic systems that can be optimally adapted to the respective conditions. We advise farmers individually on which type of system is best suited for them. Among other things, the size of the area, the crops grown and the geological conditions are taken intoaccount.



#### We currently offer five types of systems

#### High-level systems





#### **AgroSolar Top**

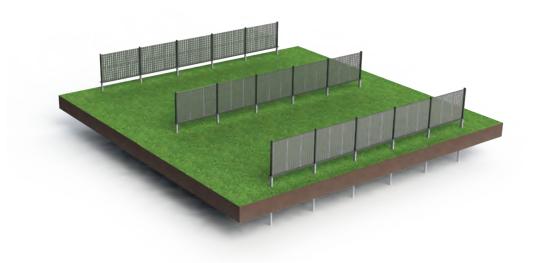
is the largest agrivoltaic system and was developed for intensive, mechanised agriculture. The partial canopy can be up to 6 metres high and 18 metres wide and protects sensitive plants from environmental influences. It is particularly suitable for potatoes, beets and shade-tolerant plants.

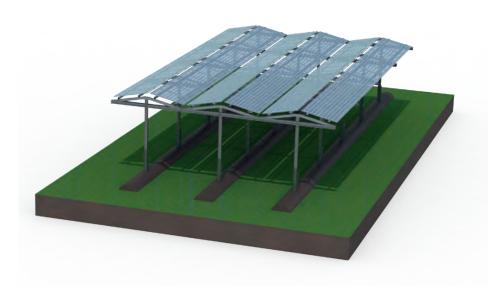
#### **AgroSolar Secure**

is characterised by a small span and height. The system can be combined with foils or nets. It is particularly suitable for special crops from fruit and vegetable growing, and permanent crops.

#### AgroSolar Windbreaker

has a vertical array of the photovoltaic modules and is therefore particularly suitable for agricultural areas where no shading is desired. These can be, for example, wheat or grassland.



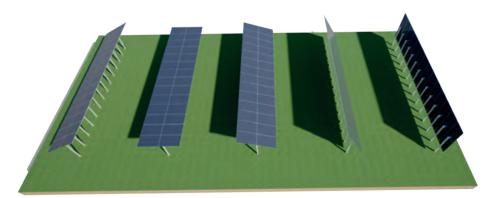


#### **AgroSolar Secure Plus**

has proven itself as a selfpicking system, as there is a pleasant climate and good ventilation. It protects the plants from heavy rain and intense sunlight and is suitable, for example, for permanent crops such as berries or shadetolerant plant cultures.

#### **AgroSolar Flex**

has a different angle of inclination for each season and can also be tilted vertically. The system is suitable for agricultural cultivations that are oriented from west to east. Possible crop rotations can be cereals, sugar beet or potatoes.



#### Advantages of agrivoltaics for agriculture



Each agrivoltaic system can be individually and **flexibly** adapted - among other things, to the size of the area, the types of crops being **cultivated** and the geological conditions.



Agri-PV **protects crops and harvests** from weather extremes such as heat, drought, heavy rain, hail and wind.



**Agricultural machines** in different sizes can be used as usual under the agrivoltaic systems.



Agricultural enterprises receive a **yield guarantee for electricity production** and a functional guarantee on selected components of the agrivoltaic system.



The need for irrigation of agricultural land is reduced by **up to ,20 percent** and the water storage capacity of the soil is increased.



Carbon farming: With agrivoltaics, humus can be built up in a controlled way, which **reduces fertiliser consumption** and enables more  $CO_2$  to be in the soil.



The use of agrivoltaics promotes crop harvests and thus **enables higher** income for the farm.



Flexible and profitable: In addition to investing in its own system, AgroSolar also offers a lease model, so that the agricultural business has no expense whatsoever with the installation and distribution of electricity.

## A secure and forward-looking technology

Optimal fruit and energy harvesting, soil-friendly installation, and efficient management – all AgroSolar system types are characterized by innovative technical features, making them a future-proof investment.

 Our concrete-free, patented spider anchor technology for the substructure of the agrivoltaic system ensures very low soil compaction and is completely deconstructible.



• **Bifacial PV modules** ensure light utilisation via the front and rear sides and thus generate up to 25 percent more electricity than conventional PV modules.

In addition to the already existing trackers for the automatic adjustment of the Agri-PVmodules, integrated systems for the use of storage technologies and irrigation techniques,

as well as the integration of robotics and automation processes, are planned.



#### Full service with AgroSolar

During individual consultation, we offer different agrivoltaic systems which can be adapted perfectly to the farmers' respective needs. However, advice is only one component of our offer - because at AgroSolar you get everything from a single source!



### Our service includes:

Individual system planning

Agricultural consulting

Mains supply

Planning application + construction

System operation

Marketing of electricity

Maintenance and repairs

#### We are experts in agriculture, solar energy and agrivoltaics

AgroSolar is the European leader in the construction of large-scale agriphotovoltaic systems. The aim is to strengthen farms and give them security of supply by diversifying their income.

Are you interested and would like personal advice? Do you have questions about our products and techniques?

Then contact us!





A new AI-based integrated operational management system to address water scarcity



#### IRRIGOPTIMAL® MAKES AGRICULTURE SMART

#### MISSION

#### ICT SOLUTIONS (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, MACHINE LEARNING)





AIRPORT SOLUTIONS

#### **INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS**

NANOTECHNOLOGY



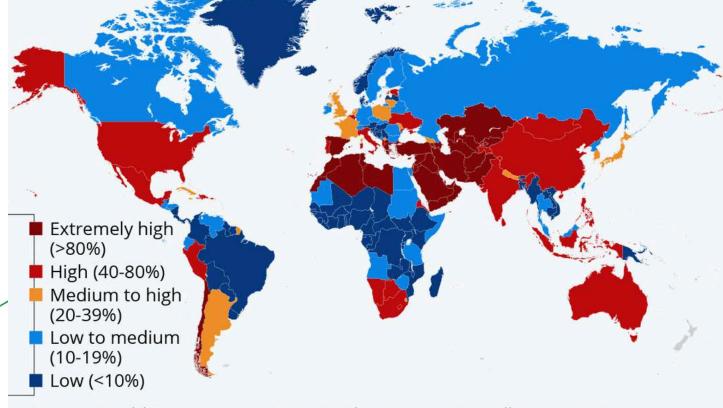
#### INTERNATIONALIZATION OF SERVICES AND LARGE LOGISTICS AND MANAGEMENT PROJECTS

#### WHY WAS IRRIGOPTIMAL® CREATED?

The southern Mediterranean, particularly the MENA region, is at the epicentre of this water scarcity crisis as it is home to 15 out of the 20 of the world's most water-scarce countries. On the other hand, the efficiency of the resource is very low. In fact, water losses and inefficiencies, including those in transport and irrigation, amount to more than 100 km3 per year, representing approximately 45% of the region's total water demand.

### Where Water Stress Will Be Highest by 2040

Projected ratio of water withdrawals to water supply (water stress level) in 2040



Source: World Resources Institute via The Economist Intelligence Unit

#### IRRIGOPTIMAL® is an integrated solution

designed with the support of a qualified team of agronomists, developed and registered by WES TRADE. The solution is composed of grounded sensors, meteorological Services and a centralized software based on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning algorithms capable of:

- Anticipating and detecting possible diseases and pests, reducing the risk of crop losses.

- **Predicting optimal irrigation needs** with significant energy and water savings.

- Supporting farmers with corrective and preventive actions to improve yields.



#### GOALS

**REDUCE COSTS** by reducing the use of PESTICIDES and FERTILIZERS through optimal prevention of pests and diseases.

**REDUCE COSTS** by reducing WATER and ENERGY during IRRIGATION through a preventive estimate of the crop's water needs in the next three days.

**IMPROVE CROP QUALITY AND YIELD** by optimizing water and nutrient supply.



#### **POSSIBLE APPLICATIONS OF IRRIGOPTIMAL®**

#### 1. In open fields and in greenhouses.



2. For seasonal crops, trees and flowers.



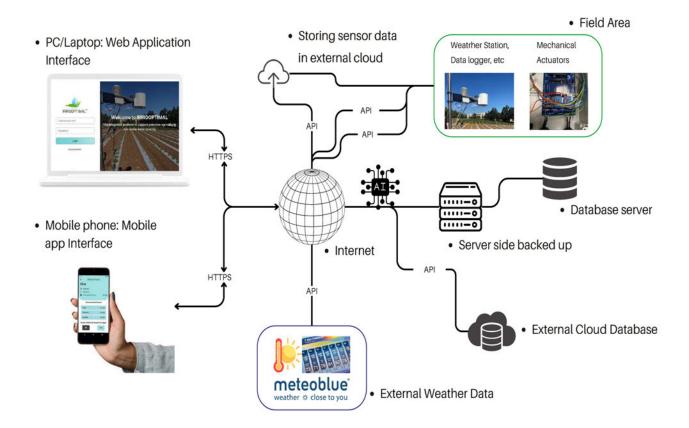


3. For **public** or **private green areas** (gardens,flower beds.

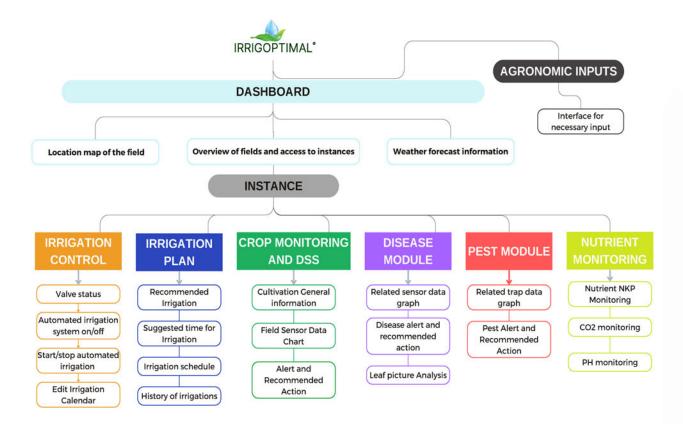




#### **IRRIGOPTIMAL® CONCEPTUAL MAP**

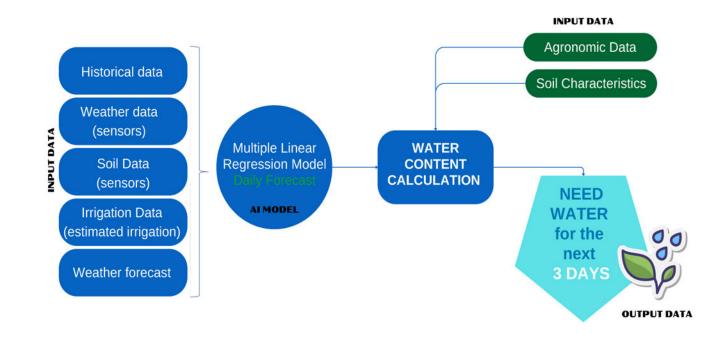


#### **IRRIGOPTIMAL® SOFTWARE MODULES**





#### IRRIGOPTIMAL® IRRIGATION PLAN HIGH LEVEL CONCEPT MAP





#### **IRRIGOPTIMAL® DISEASE MODULE**

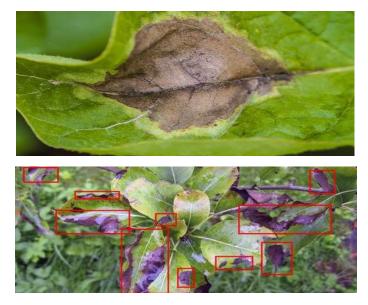
The new DISEASE module of the IRRIGOPTIMAL® system includes a computer vision algorithm divided into two parts: one for leaf image analysis using a mask for green pigments and leaf shapes, and another for plant disease detection. In fact, a script monitors the optimal disease conditions based on the weather, sending alerts when necessary.



#### **Disease detection**

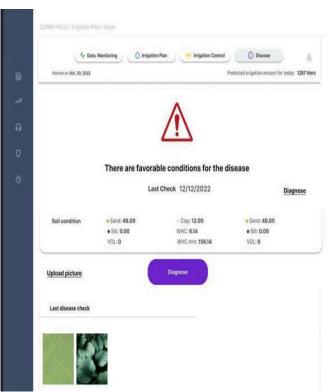
Crop Leaf Recognition Model: The This model will uncover first model focuses on recognizing leaves in images.

Crop Disease Detection Model: The second model, trained with the YOLO model, focuses on detecting crop diseases on leaves recognized by the first model.



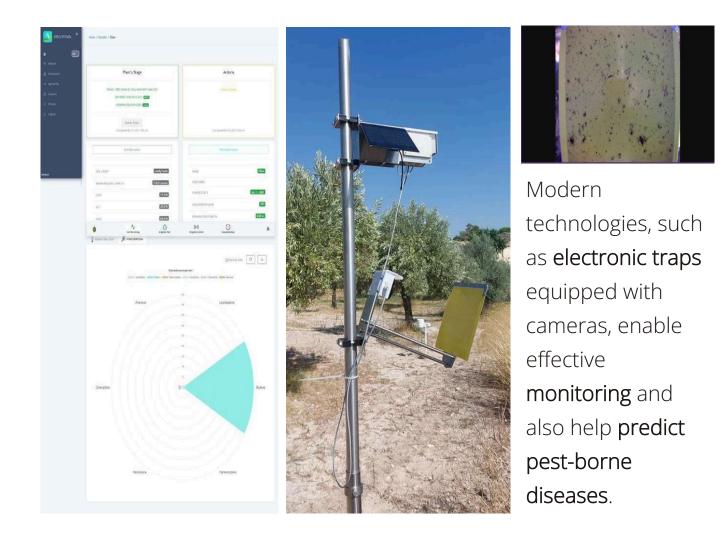
correlations between environmental conditions and disease outbreaks.

**Early Alert** 



#### **IRRIGOPTIMAL® PESTS MODULE**

Timely pest control is essential to prevent crop damage. By monitoring and understanding insect phenology, it is possible to optimize the use of insecticides, benefiting the environment and human health. Monitoring insects, understanding pest history, and regular inspections are essential for a healthy and productive field.



### IRRIGOPTIMAL® NUTRIENT NPK, CO2 & PH MONITORING

OUR MODULE for NUTRIENTS check the PRIMARY NUTRIENTS being:

1.N, P, K: Nitrogen (N): Promotes strong stems and green foliage;

2.**Phosphorus** (P): Crucial for root development and energy conversion;

3.**Potassium** (K): Helps synthesize proteins and distribute sugars throughout the plant. Provides the **PH** and **CO2** (specific for Greenhouse).

4.IRRIGOPTIMAL® checks against PH range and NPK ratio for the specific crop in the specific phenological stage recommending the farmer usage of specific fertilisers at the right time.

•	Field Monitoring	Irrigation Plan	((o)) Irrigation Control	() Disease Module	
Plant's Stage			Nutrient's Manager		
					💠 mo
GROWING SEASON STARTED FROM : MARCH 1, 2024			NITROGEN (N)	600 ppm	moderate
TREE	STAGE : THE REACHES FULL MATURITY AN	ND SUZE	PHOSPORUS (P)	200 ppm	low
GROW	ING SEASON STAGE : THEE PRODUCES F	LOWERS.		10224040500	
GROWING SEASON GDD : 1287			POTASSIUM (K)	1200 ppm	high
GDD BALANCE: 413			рн	7.3	moderate
ESTIMATED HARVEST: OCT. 12, 2024					
Last updated Joly 9, 2024, 9:45 a.m.			1551 uposted unit it cure erec and		
	Soil Information		Plant Information		

#### **CUSTOMERS AND INITIATIVES**

MALTA - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

BARBADOS - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

CRETE

TÜRKIYE

ITALY - SICILY

GRENADE ISLAND - CARIBBEAN

ETHIOPIA

GHANA



#### LIVING LAB

**IRRIGOPTIMAL®** is used as a tool for R&D on different topics irrigation, diseases, nutrients, satellite data etc...



## **UC Berkeley**











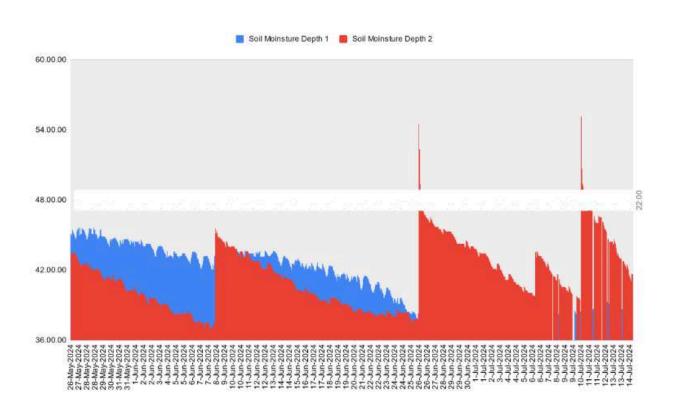




#### **REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF IRRIGATIONS**

It has been verified that with the use of the system, the farmer manages to reduce the number of weekly irrigations compared to irrigation plans determined with traditional methods, or with the mere observation of the surface soil.

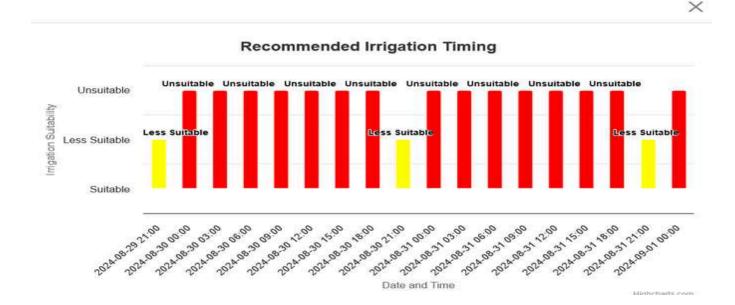
This is even more evident in fruit trees, where the monitoring of IRRIGOPTIMAL® of the substrate and the surface layer has given evidence of cases where often, the observation of dryness of the surface soil does not correspond to a need for water near the roots.



#### DYNAMIC IDENTIFICATION OF OPTIMAL DAILY IRRIGATION TIME WINDOWS AND REDUCTION OF IRRIGATION TIMES

By identifying optimal time windows, you can also reduce daily irrigation time. Identifying these windows allows the farmerentrepreneur to maintain the soil humidity value stable for several days (as demonstrated by the data) with less irrigation (in terms of number of irrigations performed), thus optimizing both the quantities of water consumed for irrigation (in terms of liters), and reducing the number of irrigations performed, maximizing the efficiency of those performed, in terms of duration and quantity.

The time windows identified for each field and crop are not fixed, but are constantly updated thanks to the use of data taken from the field in real time, and the artificial intelligence algorithms used by IRRIGOPTIMAL®. Different irrigation windows have been identified for each plot.



#### **REDUCTION OF FUNGAL DISEASE RISKS**

Good irrigation management promotes better and higher yields, but above all it reduces the risk of fungal diseases in the field.

This is achieved through preventive monitoring, as environmental parameters that could create conditions favorable to disease development and spread have been reduced.

The optimized parameters in the surveyed fields have determined situations with a very low percentage of risk.

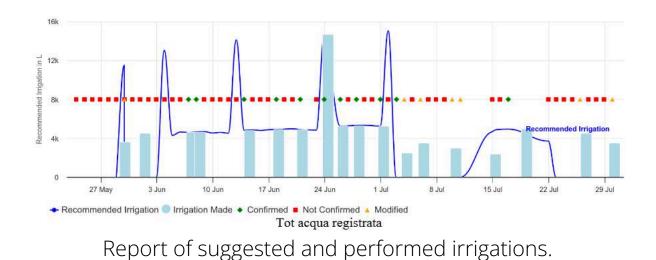


Grafico 3. Arance Mineo - Dew Point, Delta T, ETO e VPD

#### COLLABORATIVE FARMER MODEL - IRRIGOPTIMAL®

During the initial phase, farmers used their traditional, customized irrigation methods. After becoming familiar with IRRIGOPTIMAL® and seeing its results, farmers began voluntarily following the system's recommendations. They started combining their experience with real-time data from IRRIGOPTIMAL®. This created a true collaborative model. The farmer remains the key decision-maker in the cultivation process, while IRRIGOPTIMAL® serves as an advanced support tool. The system monitors, correlates, and analyzes large amounts of data. This helps farmers:

- Improve irrigation plans
- Save water and energy
- Prevent potential diseases
- Adapt to sudden climate changes





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