

# Agrivoltaics Webinar

March 24, 2021

Hosted by

Rutgers Cooperative Extension

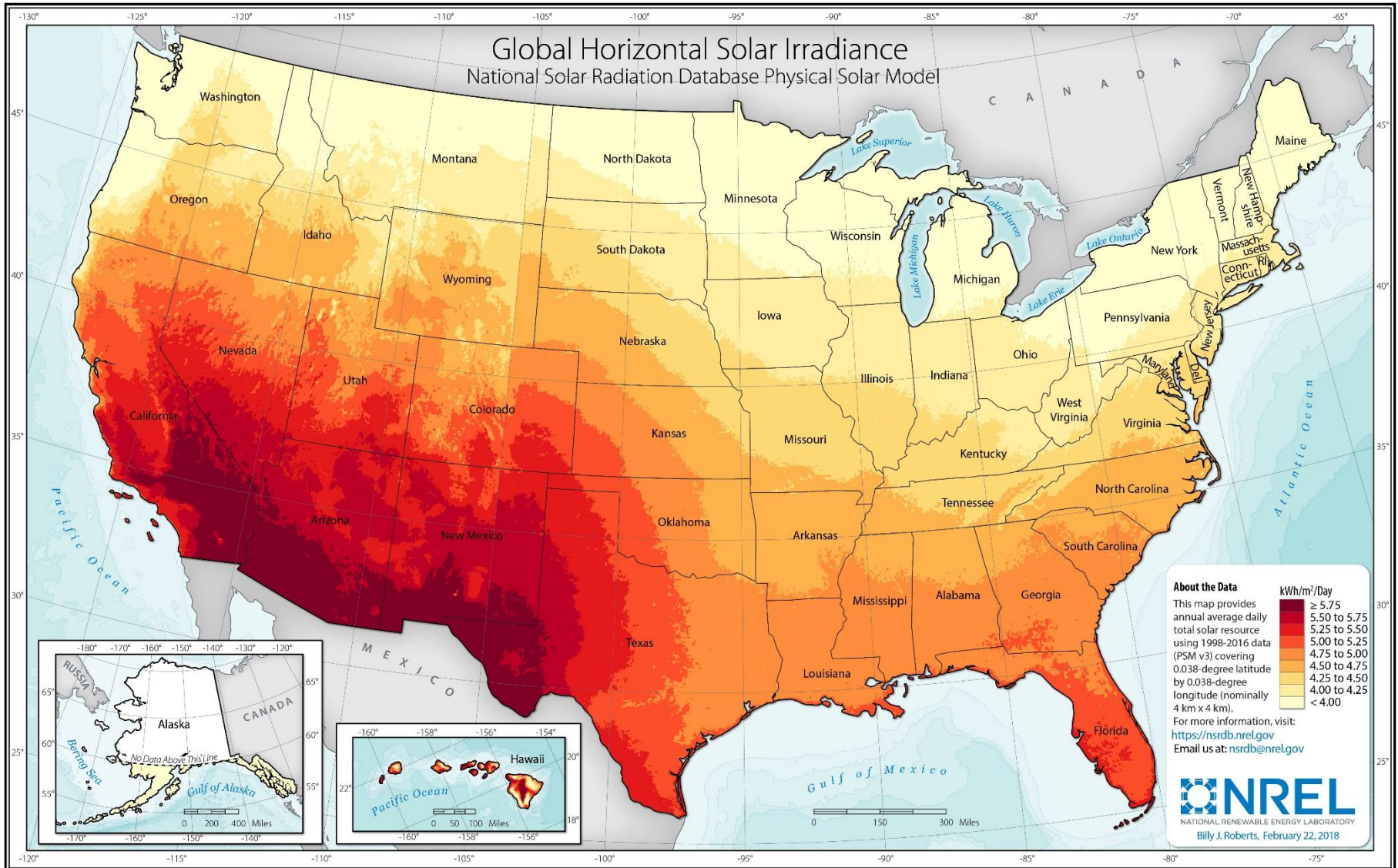
School of Environmental and Biological Sciences

and

School of Engineering

The logo for Rutgers University, featuring the word "RUTGERS" in a red, serif font. The letter "R" is stylized with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the left.

# • Available solar radiation



- What is agrivoltaics?

*Definition:*

Dual-use of farmland for the collection of solar energy and the production of agricultural crops and animals

*Challenge:*

Collecting solar energy (with photovoltaic panels) reduces the amount of light available for crops grown underneath the solar panels

*Our charge:*

Investigating and demonstrating how this can be done so there is a net benefit to the New Jersey farmer and for sustainable energy production

- Agrivoltaics Working Group, Rutgers University

(Committee formed about 6 months ago)

- Dave Specca, lead, NJ EcoComplex
- Dunbar Birnie, faculty, School of Engineering
- A.J. Both, faculty, SEBS
- Serpil Guran, faculty, Director of the NJ EcoComplex
- Michael Kornitas, Director of Sustainability and Energy
- Pete Nitzsche, faculty, Director of Snyder Farm (Pittstown)
- Dan Ward, faculty, Director of RAREC (Upper Deerfield)
- Mike Westendorf, faculty, SEBS

Contact information:

Dave Specca: [specca@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:specca@njaes.rutgers.edu)

- Agrivoltaics Working Group

- What's already out there (see next presentation)?
- How does that apply to New Jersey?
- What's happening across the state with solar farms?
- How can we assist farmers?
- Is additional research needed (focused on NJ conditions)?
- If so, what kind of research and how can we get funding?
- How can agrivoltaics contribute to NJ's energy mandates?
  
- This webinar is an opportunity to share our thinking and present agrivoltaics activities in Massachusetts
- We're very interested in hearing your thoughts/concerns