

## Solar Energy for New Jersey Agriculture

Rising energy costs and continued improvements in technology have renewed interest in finding alternatives to supplement electric use on farms. As new energy technologies develop, incentive programs become available to help make these alternatives more mainstream. Among those emerging for New Jersey farms is solar power.

Solar technology can help you:

- Stabilize or reduce energy costs
- Generate your own supply of clean energy
- Provide backup power during outages
- Play a role in creating a cleaner environment

The following outline helps determine if solar energy is cost-effective for your farm.

### Getting Started

1. Calculate your farm's annual electric usage and costs (refer to utility bills).  
Usage \_\_\_\_\_kw                      Cost \$\_\_\_\_\_
2. Visit the Board of Public Utilities web site [www.njcleanenergy.com](http://www.njcleanenergy.com)
3. Click on **Renewable Energy Program** on the top right-hand side of the page, then click on the following sites:
  - A. **Getting Started**
  - B. Click on **Plug Into The Sun**  
Click on the following topics: **Why Solar?; How Solar Works; Benefits; Size and Features; Costs, Incentives & Savings; Selecting a Contractor; Permits, Agreements & Warranties; Terms to Know; Getting Help**
  - C. Click on **Clean Power Estimator**: Will help you analyze alternatives related to the purchase and installation of a solar electric system.
4. Click back to **Renewable Energy Program** and scroll down. On the left-hand side, click on **Eligibility and Guidelines**.
4. At this point, you should be ready to go to the next step of **Vendor Lookup**, found under the **Renewable Energy Program** (scroll down on the right-hand side).

*Note: The NJCleanenergy.com web site also offers information on wind and biomass technologies*