

#### CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

450 Columbus Blvd, Suite 701 | Hartford, Connecticut 06103 | 860.713.2500 Office of the Commissioner

An Equal Opportunity Employer



July 16, 2025

Melanie A. Bachman Executive Director Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Verogy – Plainfield Solar One, Plainfield, Proposed 4.0-Megawatt AC Solar Generating Facility

Dear Executive Director Bachman:

Pursuant to 16-50k(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, we have reviewed the above cited project with respect to agricultural impacts, specifically, to determine whether "...such project will not materially affect the status of such land as prime farmland..."

This project will be located on 58.63 acres located on Exley Road in Plainfield, CT owned by Michael and Collen Tules. The proposed project site would occupy approximately 25.76 acres, of which 18.8 acres are included in the Generation Footprint. Of the 18.8 acres in the Generation Footprint, all 15.32 acres of prime farmland soils are included.

In an email to the Department of Agriculture, dated June 13, 2025, the Petitioner (Verogy) has agreed to implementation of agrivoltaics within the Generation Footprint through sheep grazing. The submitted Grazing Plan (Appendix A of the enclosed Agrivoltaics Farm Plan) identified a rotational grazing system of approximately 46 mature ewes to be used for vegetative management. For areas within the proposed Generation Footprint, the Ernst Fuzz and Buzz seed mix shall be applied pre and post construction and any and all disturbed areas including fence lines, and stormwater basins and features.

Based on preliminary information provided to the Agency (enclosed), and the successful implementation of the co-uses described in the attached, the Department of Agriculture concludes this project will not materially affect the status of project land as prime farmland.

This letter is conditioned upon all dual use plans being fully implemented and operational for the duration of the solar installation. If the Petitioner sells the solar project to another entity, dual use programing and decommissioning responsibilities must carry over to the new owner.

Should any project changes raise concerns to the Agency, we reserve the right to modify our position on this project, including opposing it, as detailed plans are provided by the Petitioner. Nothing in this letter relieves the Petitioner of other obligations under applicable federal, state, and local law that may be necessary as part of the proposed project design and implementation.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jaime Smith of my staff. Jaime can be reached at <a href="mailto:jaime.smith@ct.gov">jaime.smith@ct.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Bryan P. Hurlburt Commissioner

Enc. Plainfield Solar One Agrivoltaics Farm Plan 6-13-25

Cc: Katie Dykes, Commissioner, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Bryan Fitzgerald, Director of Development, Verogy



# CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



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Bureau of Agriculture Development & Resource Conservation Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

# **Agrivoltaics Farm Plan**

# for Solar Energy Generating Facilities located in whole or in part on Prime Farmland

Provide an Agrivoltaics Farm Plan that includes the following. Clearly label any necessary attachments. If any elements are not applicable to the project, provide an explanation.

# **Property Information**

- 1. Provide a description of the Parcel, including but not limited to the following:
  - A. Owner(s), farm name and location;
    - i. Michael H. and Colleen A. Tules
    - ii. 0 Exley Road, Plainfield, CT 06374 (Parcel ID: 002-053A-0058)
  - iii. Tules Farm
  - B. Identify past lessee name(s) and land use, if a tenant farmer was present in the last five years; and
    - i. TLC Nursery, Farm tenant for nursery / tree farm, will continue to operate on the property. Will relocate to a new larger area on the parcel as all of the trees are slated to be sold over the next 18 months.
  - C. Total Parcel acreage, identification of prime farmland soils & acreage; Include appropriate maps and surveys to allow evaluation.
    - i. Total parcel acreage 58.63
    - ii. Total Prime Farmland Soils acreage: 15.32
- 2. Provide an overview of the energy project, including but not limited to the following:
  - A. The size of the project in megawatts (MW);
    - i. 4.0 MW AC

- B. The Project Site and Generation Footprint being proposed as it relates to prime farmland on the property;
  - i. Project Area: 25.76 acres
  - ii. Project area on Prime Farmland: 15.32 acres
  - iii. An application for the property on 03/12/1992 to the State of Connecticut Program for the Preservation of Agricultural Land (P.A. 82-34), the application was subsequently denied as property was deemed non-prime agricultural land.
- C. Identify whether the project is participating in a state program (including SCEF, NRES, or any state procurement);
  - i. SCEF
- D. A description of infrastructure needed to support the project; and
  - i. US Made domestic solar modules will be mounted on fixed tilt racking structure electrically connected to DC / AC power invertes via string wiring affixed to the underside of the solar panel racking system. Electricity will be convereted from DC to AC using the power inverters, and steped up to utility grid voltage via transformers and switchgear. Metered electricity will be delivered to Eversource via the terms and conditions of the SCEF Tariff Agreement.
- E. The proposed lifetime of the project, including any extensions.
  - The project will operate for a minimum of 20 years to fulfil the obligations in the SCEF tariff agreement
- 3. Provide a description of past agricultural activities on the Parcel, including but not limited to the following:
  - A. All production agriculture that has taken place both on the Parcel and within the proposed Generation Footprint during the past five years;
    - Approximately 6 acres of nursery stock. Nursery stock within proposed project area will be sold off / transplanted prior to installation of the project.
  - B. The approximate location of crops, livestock, farm buildings, etc. used to

# support the farming operation;

- Include appropriate maps and surveys to allow evaluation; and
  - Please see attached maps for reference there is a garage on the property that is not used for current agricultural activities on site.
  - Map with areas demarcated as "Tree Farm" are areas in nursery stock production that are being moved to the western portion of the parcel.
- C. Describe overall how the project will impact production agriculture currently being conducted on the farm.
  - i. The project will not impact production agriculture on the property, as there is no production agriculture currently on the parcel, with the exception of the nursery which is being relocated to a larger area on the parcel as all of the trees are slated to be sold over the next 18 months.

# **Property Management**

- 1. Describe project plans to displace soil on the property including panel installation methods, interconnections, grading, and soil stockpiling;
  - i. For installation of the support structure for the panels, the posts will be driven piles or helical screws that will not require the displacement of soil. Where excavation is necessary for the installation of utility interconnection poles or trenching is necessary for the installation of electrical infrastructure, soil is temporarily placed adjacent to the work performed and backfilled to its original location, where appropriate. Any excess soil that remains is dispersed in adjacent areas to maintain existing grades to the greatest extent practical. A minimal amount of regrading is required for the construction of the gravel road connecting the two array fields. For this area, topsoil will be stripped & set aside, while subsurface soils will be stockpiled and re-used in the same area where the regrading work is occurring. Topsoil will be restored to its original location and stabilized with seeding. All stockpile areas will be contained with perimeter silt fence during construction and redistributed to their originally excavated areas where practicable, prior to final surface stabilization.
- 2. Identify whether the farmland has been used in production agriculture in the

# past five years;

- I.Approximately 6 acres of "Tree Farm" or nursery stock on the northern portion of the parcel bounded by Black Hill Road.
- ii. Remaining 52.63 acres have been fallow since 1997.
- 4. Provide a detailed explanation of the agrivoltaics co-use proposed, including but not limited to the following:
  - A. Describe farm plan for all agricultural activities on the entire parcel, including planned crops and/or livestock grazing;
    - i. Nursery stock plantings on property leased to TLC Nursery, approximately 8 acres on the western portion of the property, bounded by Exley Road.
    - ii. Sheep grazing within fenced area of the proposed solar array.
  - B. Seed Mix Identification: Identify any planned row crops, cover crops and/or vegetation mix, as appropriate;
    - i. Ernst Fuzz and Buzz seedmix to be applied pre and post construction, for areas within the proposed solar array footprint and any and all disturbed areas including fnece lines, and stormwater basins and features.
  - C. Describe how planting of vegetative cover or crops will be conducted for each of the follow areas including the sequence of planting (which areas will be planted and when), planned month of planting, planting method (drilled, broadcast, bareroot or plugs), and equipment to be used;
    - i. Array Planting;
      - Broadcast spreader, early spring and / or late fall planting windows
    - ii. Border Area Planting;
      - Broadcast spreader, early spring and / or late fall planting windows
  - iii. Stormwater Detention Area Planting:
    - Broadcast spreader, early spring and / or late fall planting windows

- D. If grazing animals are proposed, DOAG's Requirements for Solar Grazing must be followed; A Grazing Plan is required and should include the following information:
  - i. The type and number of animals to be used;
  - The time and duration of grazing, and the decision making process for ensuring that vegetation is not over-grazed;
  - iii. Forage and vegetation mix establishment and maintenance;
- iv. Plans for fencing;
- v. Plans for a water source;
- vi. Plans for soil testing; and
- vii. Contingency plan for unforeseen climate events;
  - Please see attached in Exhibit A

# **Design Specifications**

- 1. Provide a description of the proposed modules, including but not limited to the following:
  - A. Panel height;
    - Leading edge of 3 feet above grade and a maximum height of 9 10 feet above grade.
  - B. Panel dimensions:
    - Each panel is 80 inches tall by 49 inches wide
  - C. Row width:
    - Each row of panels is 12 feet wide at the 20 degree fixed tilt orientation
  - D. Module inter-row spacing; and
    - Module inter-row spacing is 13 feet
  - E. How this configuration will support the Dual Use selected;
    - This design configuration allows grazing sheep to move easily in the inter-row spacing of the rows of panels, and also provides shade and shelter to the animals in sunny or rainy conditions. What we have observed in the field on our actively grazed projects is that sheep utilize the underside of the rows of solar modules for shaded cover.

Revision date: December 2023

- 2. Identify whether panels will be fixed, tracking, bifacial, vertical, and/or semitransparent;
  - i. The project will be of fixed tilt design.
  - b. If dual-use production agriculture is proposed, demonstrate how sunlight reduction from panels is based upon compatibility with the proposed agricultural activities;
    - i. Not applicable, livestock grazing is proposed
  - c. Documentation must be provided to establish the maximum sunlight reduction from panel shading on every square foot of land directly beneath, behind, and in the areas adjacent to and within the array's design. Project proposals shall demonstrate how this sunlight reduction is based upon compatibility with the proposed agricultural products and will sustain continued productivity;
    - i. Not applicable, livestock grazing is proposed
  - d. Growing Season/Time of Day Considerations: The typical growing season should be March/April through October/November, with sunlight reduction to be measured between 10AM and 5PM for March and October, and from 9AM to 6PM from April through September.
    - i. Not applicable, livestock grazing is proposed

# **Additional Requirements & Attachments**

- Provide contact information for the individual that will grant any person authorized by the State of Connecticut access to the Project Site for research and data collection purposes related to Agrivoltaics for the lifetime of the Project, with advance notice of site visits;
  - A. Bryan Fitzgerald

    Plainfield Solar One, LLC

    <u>bfitzgerald@verogy.com</u>

    (203) 257-3375

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- If the land is leased from a farmer or dual-use production agriculture in collaboration with a farmer is proposed, provide an attestation from the farmer confirming their input and involvement in the proposed project;
  - A. Please see attached in Exhibit B. While SEAmarron Farmstead, LLC is not the landowner, they are a current farming partner of the landowner (Michael Tules) where they actively work on land in Franklin, at Franklin Farms, and would expand their agricultural work to the dualuse proposed herein at the Plainfield Solar One SCEF project in Plainfield.
- 3. Provide comprehensive maps, site plans and surveys that include the following information:
  - A. Date prepared;
  - B. Parcel topography;
  - C. Soils classification;
  - D. North arrow:
  - E. Identification of Project Site and Generation Footprint; and
  - F. Identify and label location of agricultural activities, any proposed soil grading, stormwater basins, access roads, interconnections, and existing buildings and/or farm structures;
    - Please see attached in Exhibit C for site plans, topography maps, including all required site plan details.
- 4. Provide photos of the Project Site and Parcel; and
  - Please see attached in Exhibit C for site plans, topography maps, including all required site plan details, site photos, and parcel details
- Attest that, if the Bidder sells the solar project to another entity, Farm Plan Requirements and decommissioning responsibilities will carry over to the new owner.
  - A. Plainfield Solar One, LLC herby attests that if the project is sold to another entity, Farm Plan requirements and decommissioning responsibilities will carry over to the new owner.

# Exhibit A



# Plainfield Solar One

# **Sheep Grazing Plan Ground Mount PV Array**

Date:

June 2025

**Prepared By:** 

Plainfield Solar One, LLC in conjunction with SEAmarron Farmstead, LLC



#### Introduction

Ground-mounted solar sites, by nature of their design, have ample fenced areas. The fencing at solar sites is uniquely suited to serve as grazing areas or be subdivided into grazing paddocks in a pasture rotation with sheep. The perimeter fencing also serves as predator deterrent, the solar panels provide shading and shelter for inhabitants, and the solar arrays provide palatable pasture species for ruminant nutrition. In turn, rotationally grazed sheep provide adequate and comparatively cheap vegetation management, optimal ground coverage and thus reduced erosion and run-off, as well as agricultural usage of lands that can add to the viability of farming communities.

Plainfield Solar One, located at Exley Road in Plainfield, CT, is planned for approximately 18.8 acres of fenced in solar array ("Facility"). Sheep grazing will be used to control vegetation within the fenced facility to:

- Prevent panel shading from vegetation,
- Control and remove invasive and unpalatable plant species,
- Avoid the growth of brush and woody species under the solar panels,
- Maintain a diverse forage population to support optimal sheep nutrition,
- Encourage flowering forb and plant species to maximize pollinator habitat,
- Optimize sequestered soil carbon through increasing top-soil amount and root matter,
- Control erosion.

To achieve these goals a rotational grazing system will be implemented. Rotational grazing is a technique where animals are moved as one group, from one pastured area ("paddock") to the next (Hodgson, 1979). Only one paddock is grazed at any given time throughout the rotation, while the other paddocks are given a rest period to achieve pasture regrowth. Compared to continuous or extensive grazing, rotational grazing inhibits weed growth, improves the health of pasture, sustains healthy vegetation, and improves sheep health.

#### Site Requirements

The perimeter fencing can be chain link or "ag type" woven wire and should be installed to the ground. It can be buried slightly below grade or have a maximum gap of 1-2". Gaps caused by uneven ground should be cleaned up with a with a small machine. If chain link fencing is used it should be installed with a bottom tensioning wire.

The perimeter gates should be installed to meet evenly and have an even spacing to the ground. The maximum gap between the gates and the ground should be 1-2". Care should be taken to add some gravel or grade the area to avoid large gaps.

The site should be building on an existing sod or hay-ground or planting an existing tilled field. The solar facility should be seeded with Ernst Conservation Seeds, Inc. Fuzz & Buzz mix or equivalent. The Fuzz & Buzz mix is the best way to blend grazing with solar and introducing pollinator friendly species. This seed mix was developed by Ernst and the Cornell Sheep Program in conjunction with the American Solar Grazing Association. For additional seedings, clover or legume mixes are a good option for vigor and grazing friendliness. For grass species fescue species should be avoided unless they are endophyte-free varieties.

# **Rotation planning**

Plainfield Solar One was assessed for a planned grazing rotation based on the preliminary panel layout, and 18.81 acres fenced area under panels. The grazing plan requires division of the solar array into smaller grazing units, known as paddocks. The site layout can be subdivided into 4 different grazing paddocks with Electronet® fencing (Figure 1). The Electronet® is a portable fence that is a product familiar to farmers in in the grazing community. It is a white, lightweight fence that is energized using a portable battery, battery/solar, or 110V power supply. This fencing is simple to power on/off and will only be located inside the fenced areas. Its use is to facilitate grazing inside the permanently fenced areas only. The Electronet® will be installed by the grazing manager according to the grazing plan.



Figure 1. Plainfield Solar One Layout with distinctly colored sections. Please note that this is an approximation and subject to change.

- Paddock 1 (4.47 acres)
- Paddock 2 (4.47 acres)
- Paddock 3 (4.47 acres)
- Paddock 4 (5.40 acres)

The number of grazing paddocks in each array is dependent on a unique set of factors. The number depends on size and layout of the permanently fenced array, panel orientation, and space used for access roads, inverter pads, and other non-forage producing areas.

Manure management is a subset of the flock management and sheep management planned for the solar site. The primary purpose of the placement of sheep on the solar site is to achieve vegetation management goals. The planned movement of the sheep around the solar site has the underlying benefit of moving and distributing sheep manure at the same time. Sheep manure is typically small and pelletized. For the layperson, sheep manure may resemble the manure of rabbits or deer. Similarly, the manure is typically invisible within a short period of time and begins nutrient cycling in the soils.

The correct sheep stocking rate and density (sheep per acre per unit of time) will be calculated before the grazing season based on site size, and quantity and type of vegetation present. This metric also ensures that no over-grazing occurs, and that the amount of manure deposition does not outpace the rate of manure decomposition throughout the grazing rotation.

The flock will not overwinter within the fenced area of the solar array.

#### Acreage

The sheep flock is sized to cover the four grazing paddocks in a full rotation, i.e. the amount of sheep needed to graze Paddock 1, 2, 3 and 4 with 3.2, 3.2, 4.1 and 4.1 acres, respectively, in a +/- 45-day rotation. The precise number of days per paddock may be adjusted over the season by the flock manager, depending on weather and forage growth conditions. The number of sheep determined by the grazing plan can be found in Table 1 below:

			Plainfield S	olar One -	Grazing Pi	an					
	Items	Padd	ock 1	Padd	ock 2	Padd	ock 3	Padd	ock 4	Site 1	Totals
	Total Paddock Area (ac)								7	18	3.8
De dala ali	Number of Paddocks										4
Paddock	Paddock Rest Period (days)									4	15
Info.	Paddock Use (days)									1	.5
	Paddock Size (ac)	4	.5	4.5		4.5		5.4			
	Vegetation Cover of Paddock (%),(ac)	80%	3.58	80%	3.58	80%	3.58	80%	4.32	80%	15.05
	Biomass (lbs/sy)	1	.5	1	.5	1.	.5	1	.5	1.5	
Feed	Dry Matter (%), (lbs/sy)	20%	0.3	20%	0.3	20%	0.3	20%	0.3	20%	0.3
	Dry Matter per Acre (lbs)	14	1452 1452		1452	1452		1452			
Anlysis	Dry Matter per Paddock (lbs)	51	92	51	92	51	92	62	73	21	850
	Refusals per Paddock (%), (lbs)	30%	1558	30%	1558	30%	1558	30%	1882	30%	6555
	Adjusted Dry Matter per Paddock (lbs)	36	35	36	35	36	35	43	91	15	295
Feed	Average sheep weight (lbs)	7 1 1 1 1								16	0.0
Intake	Dry Matter Intake per Sheep (%),(lbs)									3.5%	5.6
	Total Paddock Area (ac)									18	3.8
Sheep	Total Adjusted Dry Matter (lbs)									15	295
Anlysis	Number of Sheep for Site									4	16
	Sheep Stocking Rate									2	.4

Table 1. Grazing Plan Plainfield Solar One Project

The rest time for a given grazed area is largely guided by management for the sheep flock's health. The rest time can be considered the window during which the sheep are not present in a given area and the space is given a rest. The pasture rest period (time between grazing periods) in the US Northeast should not be less than 40-days to minimize internal parasite pressure for sheep. Internal parasites are a health risk to the sheep but not to humans. Internal parasites of sheep are not zoonotic, but a threat only to the health of sheep. This health risk to sheep is minimized by following the following prescriptive grazing plan.

A common internal parasite specific to ruminates is the stomach nematode *H. contortus* or barber pole worm. It has a life cycle of 40 days; thus, a clean pasture can only be achieved with rest periods of 40+ days to avoid reinfection through ingestion of larvae. However, in effective grazing regimens with parasite-resistant sheep flocks, exceptions

can be made by the flock manager if the vegetation pressure is too high to adhere to a 40-day rest period before regrazing.

# Sampling and analysis

In newly commissioned solar sites, full vegetation coverage cannot be expected in the first 1-2 years. Additionally, access roads, inverter pads and other site infrastructure will reduce the overall vegetation cover. The estimate for NY State solar sites lies between 65 and 85% vegetation coverage for new sites. This number should be estimated and considered separately for each individual paddock. This number will be adjusted over subsequent years and grazing seasons.

As previous management regimes for solar sites might consist of hay fields, crop fields, marginal pastures or brush areas, the vegetation coverage is expected to be heterogeneous. Therefore, vegetation sampling must be performed to determine sheep stocking rate and density, which is a requirement prior to establishing a grazing rotation. Tabular dry matter and nutrient values as they are published for uniform stands of established crops, hay field or other, are not adequate for evaluating solar array site vegetation for grazing. A detailed organic matter (OM) vegetation sampling protocol is published on the American Solar Grazing Association (ASGA) website. The grazing rotation will largely depend on the amount of forage dry matter (DM) growing within the individual areas. Manager may perform vegetation sampling at intervals to analyze the nutritional value of the forage.

Forage analysis laboratories such as Dairy One provide detailed analyses that can be used to calculate the available DM per grazing paddock from submitted OM samples. Dry matter is a percent of total percent plant weight minus water content. These DM values are necessary to establish the amount of available feed for sheep, and eventually the sheep stocking rate and density. Typically, pasture DM values in the Northeastern US for well-maintained pastures are between 18-25%, depending on the season.

Typically, well managed Northeast pastures can achieve yields above 2,500 lbs DM per acre. The yield in the grazing plan draft above is substantially lower; it is expected that the solar array pastures will take time after establishment to reach their potential. It is necessary to plan a grazing rotation prior to the grazing season, which would be used to guide a flock manager's rotation plan. The flock manager would then use his/her own experience and observation to decide daily if the rotation plan is reasonable and responsible, and to make necessary adjustments in rotation days and stocking rates.

Pasture utilization should be between 70 and 85% to ensure optimal regrowth and animal nutrition. Thus, pasture refusals (uneaten vegetation remaining after grazing) should be part of the calculation and should be between 15% and 35%.

Two examples of common adjustments to rotation plans include: First, in late spring after rain events and with the warming weather, stocking rates may have to be increased to be able to clear the vegetation growth. Secondly, in the summer, sheep may have to be moved from paddock to paddock faster than they were in spring or fall due to the slowed growth of dormant cool-season vegetation.

#### Feed Intake

It is recommended to graze uniform animal groups that are either dry (non-lactating) ewes, open (non-pregnant) ewes, ewes in their early stages of pregnancy, yearling ewes or growing lambs of at least 60 lb. (or alternatively, 50% of their mature body weight in case of small breeds). In the case of groups of growing lambs, the lambs should be of the same sex or the males should be castrated.

Breed	Stage of production	Body weight, lbs	Feed intake, DM %BW	Feed intake, Ibs DM	
Katahdin hair sheep	Growing lamb, 50% mature BW	65	2.5	1.6	
	Yearling	110	3.0	3.3	
	Open, dry ewe	130	3.5	4.6	
Polypay composite	Growing lamb, 50% mature BW	80	2.5	2.0	
	Yearling	130	3.0	3.9	
	Open, dry ewe	160	3.5	5.6	
Texel	Growing lamb, 50% mature BW	90	2.5	2.3	
	Yearling	150	3.0	4.5	
	Open, dry ewe	180	3.5	6.3	

Depending on the breed and uniformity of the group of sheep, an average weight for the individual animals in the flock can be determined. Table 2. Body weight and feed intake, gives an overview of BW (body weight) and feed intake across popular Northeastern sheep breeds. According to NRC nutritional requirements for small ruminants (NRC, 2007), daily DM consumption per animal can be estimated as a percentage of bodyweight.

#### Totals

These calculations can be used to determine the optimal number of sheep per paddock according to body weight and stage of production. By using this with the chosen grazing rotation days (or rest period), the stocking rate (the necessary sheep number for the calculated grazing time within each paddock) can be calculated, and the optimal grazing flock size calculated.

On the 18.8 acre Plainfield Solar One project, the grazing plan allows for 46 mature ewes managed in four grazing paddocks, a stocking rate of 2.4 sheep per acre, and 15 grazing days per paddock with a 45-day rest period.

#### Animal welfare recommendations

Regardless of season, ad libitum clean and fresh water access is crucial for animal welfare (NRC, 2007). Site-specific amenities like well water or connection to municipal water lines are ideal, but transported water is typical of solar grazing operations. For sheep of the recommended production stages (non-lactating and > 60 lbs growing lambs), water requirements are very low in spring and fall. Typically, dry, non-gestating ewes will consume between 5 and 10 % of their BW water daily.

Granulated mineral feed must be available ad libitum and contain adequate concentrations. Mineral feed should be offered in troughs that can be moved with the flock according to the rotation and rotation days. Mineral feed is specially blended and commercially available for sheep producers (Cargill, 2019).

Sheep will be visually inspected on every rotation day by the flock manager. A closer inspection of each member of the flock is recommended at regular intervals (every 6 weeks on site), including parasite monitoring or treatment with a FAMACHA (FAffa MAlan CHArt) protocol (Wyk and Bath, 2002), and 5-point checks (Bath and van Wyk, 2009). Each spring, before the flocks begin the grazing season, certain protocols are recommended to ensure they are in optimal health before their work at the solar site begins:

- Feet must be checked and trimmed,
- Ear tags replaced or added, in compliance with USDA regulations,
- Wool sheep must be shorn,
- Wool sheep should be tail-banded,
- Body-condition scores should be recorded to monitor nutritional and health status across the grazing season,
- Sheep should be kept in a dry lot on hay 24 hours prior to moving on site in Spring and de-wormed with a commercially available de-wormer to prevent parasite infections on site.

# **Emergency Protocols**

In the event of a site emergency, the following protocol is to be on hand to ensure safe site access for emergency personnel:

- Clear signage will be displayed at the main gate with emergency contact information of the sheep manager.
  The manager should be contacted immediately in the event emergency personnel have to enter the site in
  order to ascertain if there are animals present, and to provide notification to the sheep manager that the
  animals may need to be removed.
- If portable electric fence is installed crossing site roadways, the fence charger will be placed clearly by the side of the roadway. In the event of emergency, the charger will only need to be switched off and the fence pulled up by hand to allow passage.
- If possible, animals should remain inside the site during an emergency, until the sheep manager can safely remove them. They will likely move as a flock away from any commotion and pose little risk of being in the way. If they do escape during the site emergency, they should be monitored and pushed towards fields and away from roads if possible.

#### Literature

- Bath, G. F., and J. A. van Wyk. 2009. The Five Point Check© for targeted selective treatment of internal parasites in small ruminants. Small Ruminant Research 86(1):6-13. doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.smallrumres.2009.099
- Cargill. 2019. Cargill Lamb & Sheep Mineral
  - Premix, http://blogs.cornell.edu/newsheep/management/feeding/agway-sheep-mineral-mix/.
- HODGSON, J. 1979. Nomenclature and definitions in grazing studies. Grass and Forage Science 34(1):11-17. doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2494.1979.tb01442.x
- NRC. 2007. Nutrient Requirements of Small Ruminants: Sheep, Goats, Cervids, and New World Camelids. The National Academies Press, Washington, DC.
- Wyk, J. A. V., and G. F. Bath. 2002. The FAMACHA system for managing haemonchosis in sheep and goats by clinically identifying individual animals for treatment. Vet. Res. 33(5):509-529.

# Exhibit B



#### **Farmer Attestation Letter**

Hector Gerardo SEAmarron Farmstead LLC 2 Deal Drive Danbury, CT 06810 06/03/2025

To Whom It May Concern,

SEAmarron Farmstead is pleased to confirm our participation in providing sheep grazing services as part of the land management and sustainable agriculture efforts. Our approach integrates regenerative practices to enhance soil health and promote biodiversity while supporting productive agricultural systems.

Additionally, we have been collaborating with Tules Farms for the past year and a half on a project in Franklin, Connecticut, focused on revitalizing hemp and grain farming, processing, and manufacturing. This initiative demonstrates our commitment to restoring traditional agricultural practices through innovative, sustainable models.

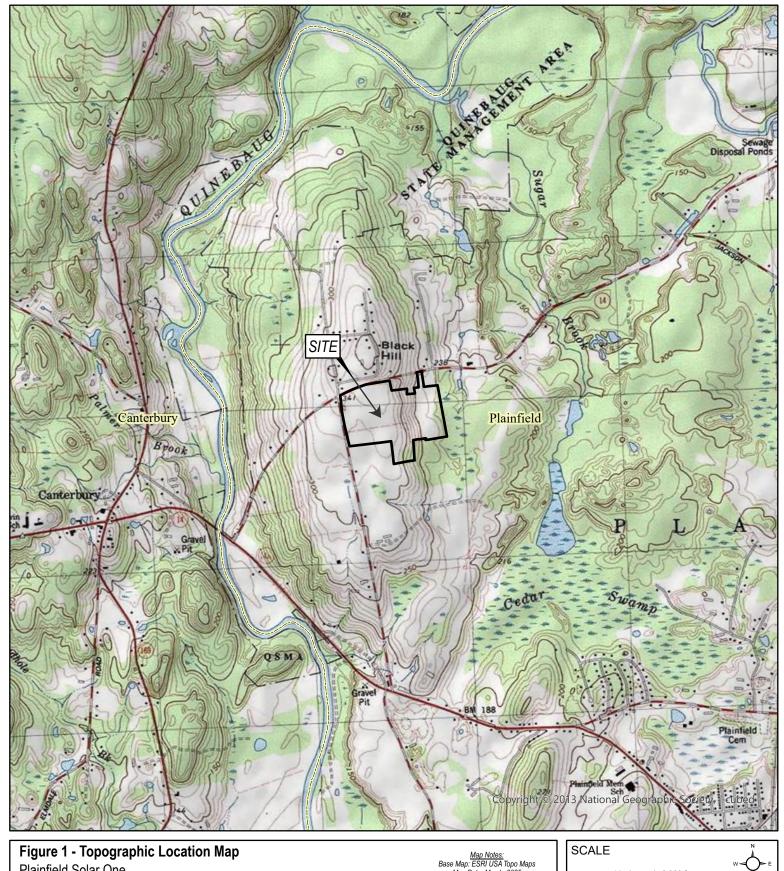
We have reviewed the plans for the sheep grazing project, and we will support and run the sheep grazing project. This project aligns with my farming operations and contributes to sustainable land management practices.

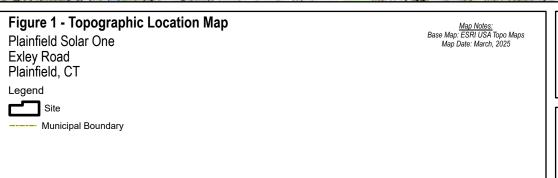
I am committed to providing input and cooperation to ensure the success of this initiative.

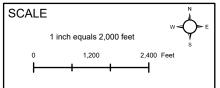
Sincerely,

**Hector "Freedom" Gerardo**SEAmarron Farms
347-265-6379/Seamarronfarms@gmail.com

# Exhibit C







DAVISON ENVIRONMENTAL, LLC
10 MAPLE STREET
CHESTER, CT 06412
860-803-0938

DAVISON
ENVIRONMENTAL



# Figure 2 - Aerial Site Map

Plainfield Solar One Exley Road Plainfield, CT

Legend

Subject Property Site / Limit of Disturbance

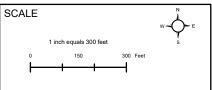
X— Proposed Steel Fence

Proposed Facility Layout Delineated Wetland Boundary Delineated Wetland Area

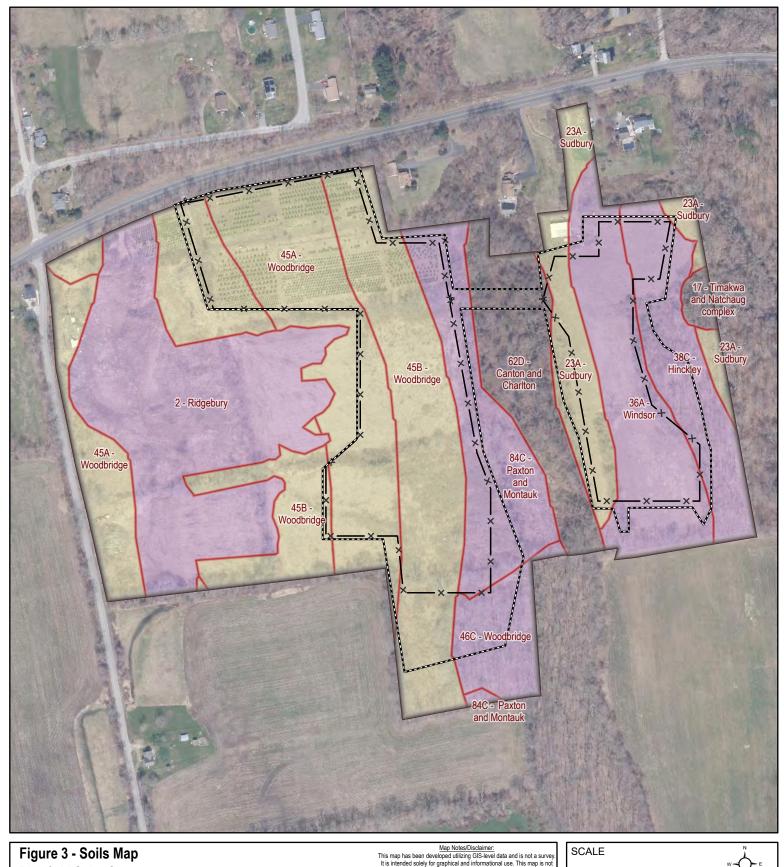
Map Notes/Disclaimer:

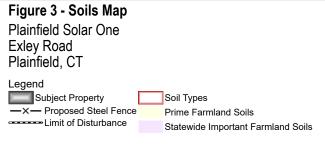
This map has been developed utilizing GIS-level data and is not a survey. It is intended solely for graphical and informational use. This map is not designed for, nor is it appropriate for, legal, engineering, or surveying applications. The data is provided "as-is" without any guarantees or warranties, either expressed or intiplied, regarding the validity or accuracy of the GIS data displayed on this map.

Base Map: ESRI Aerial Imagery Map Date: March, 2025



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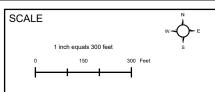




Map Notes/Disclaimer:

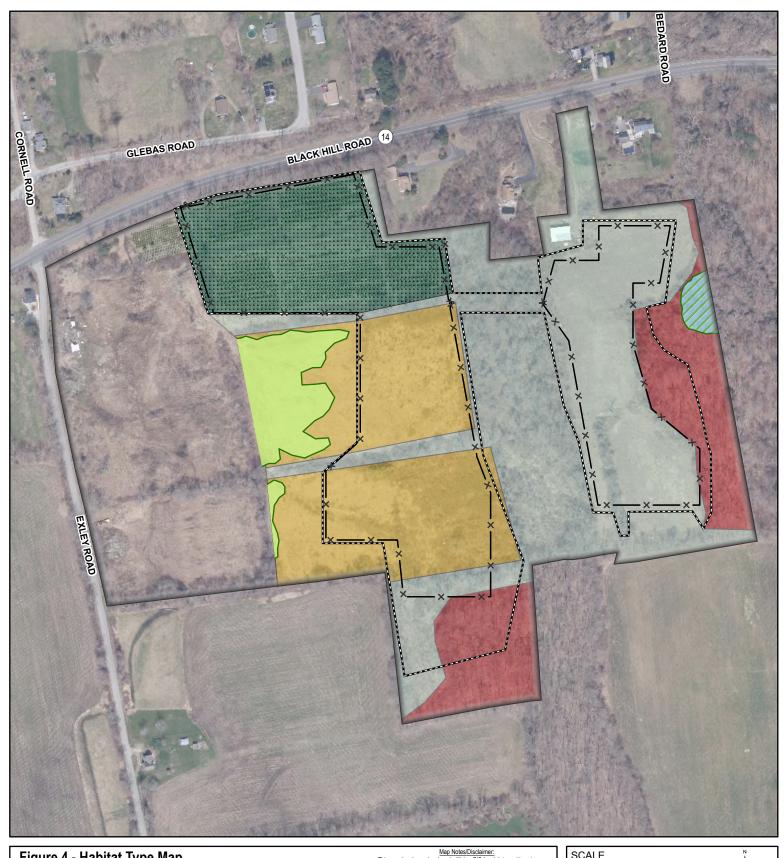
This map has been developed utilizing GIS-level data and is not a survey. It is intended solely for graphical and informational use. This map is not designed for, nor is it appropriate for, legal, engineering, or surveying applications. The data is provided "as-is" without any guarantees or warranties, either expressed or implied, regarding the validity or accuracy of the GIS data displayed on this map.

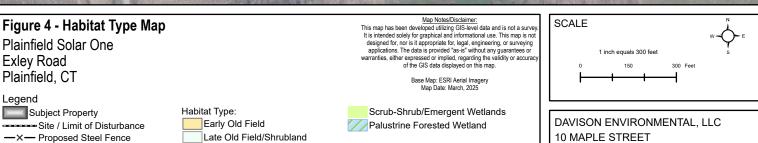
Base Map: ESRI Aerial Imagery Map Date: May, 2025



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10 MAPLE STREET
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860-803-0938

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Mixed Hardwood Forest

Tree Farm

**Delineated Wetland Boundary** 

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Photo 1: Early old field and shrubland in the western side of the Site looking north.



Photo 2: Early old field in the western side of the Site looking east.





Photo 3: Late old field and shrubland in the central portion of the Site.



Photo 4: Shrubland in the central and eastern portions of the Site.





Photo 5: Mixed hardwood forest in the southern portion of the Site.



Photo 6: Mixed hardwood forested wetland in the eastern portion of the Site.





Photo 7:Tree farm in the northwest portion of the Site.



Photo 8: Tree farm and Shrubland in the northwest and central portion of the Site.





Photo 9: Scrub-shrub/emergent wetland in the western portion of the Site.



Photo 10: Late old field and shrubland in the eastern portion of the Site.

# **Soil Profile Descriptions**

(observed December 20, 2024)

# Early Old Field Site #1:

Depth (in)	Horizon	Matrix Color	Redox	Description
0-13	Α	10YR 2/2		Sandy Loam
13-17	Bw1	10YR 4/4		Sandy Loam
17-20	Bw2	10YR 5/4	7.5YR 5/6 Concentrations (few) 10YR 6/2 Depletions (few)	Some small gravel
20-28	С	2.5Y 5/3	7.5YR 5/6 Concentrations (few) 10YR 6/2 Depletions (few)	Some gravel, weathered rock
28+	Cd			Densic Layer, Hardpan

# **Mixed Hardwood Forest Site # 2:**

Depth (in)	Horizon	Matrix Color	Redox	Description
0-14	А	10YR 2/2		Sandy Loam
14-30	Bw1	10YR 4/4	7.5YR 5/6 Concentrations (few) 10YR 6/2 Depletions (few)	Sandy Loam
30-40	Bw2	2.5Y 5/3	7.5YR 5/6 Concentrations (few) 10YR 6/2 Depletions (few)	Sandy Loam, some weathered rock
40+	Cd			Densic Layer, Hardpan

# **Tree Farm Site #3:**

Depth (in)	Horizon	Matrix Color	Redox	Description
0-7	А	10YR 2/2		Sandy Loam
7-19	Bw1	10YR 4/4	7.5YR 5/6 Concentrations (few) 10YR 6/2 Depletions (few)	Sandy Loam
19-28	Bw2	2.5Y 5/3	7.5YR 5/6 Concentrations (few) 10YR 6/2 Depletions (few)	Sandy Loam
28+	Cd			Densic Layer, Hardpan



# **UConn Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory**

6 Sherman Place, Union Cottage, Unit 5102 Storrs, CT 06269-5102 860-486-4274 soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu



EXTENSION & PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

# Soil Test Report

**Prepared For:** 

ERIC DAVISON DAVISON ENVIRONMENTAL LLC 10 MAPLE STREET CHESTER, CT 06412

eric@davisonenvironmental.com 860.803.0938

# **Sample Information:**

Order Number: 23369

Sample Name: Field Lab Number: 174

Area Sampled:

Received: 1/7/2025 Reported: 1/22/2025

# **Results**

Nutrients Extracted From Your Soil (Modified Morgan)

		Below Optimum	Optimum	<b>Above Optimum</b>	Excessive*
Calcium	1749 lbs/acre				
Magnesium	240 lbs/acre				
Phosphorus	14 lbs/acre				
Potassium	179 lbs/acre				

<sup>\*</sup> Excessive only defined for Phosphorus (>40 lbs/acre)

Soil pH (1:1, H2O)		5.9	<u>Element</u>	<u>ppm</u>	Soil Range in CT
Est. Cation Exch. Capacity	(meq/100g	12.1	Boron (B)	0.2	0.1 - 2.0
soil)			Copper (Cu)	0.1	0.3 - 0.8
Buffered pH (Mod. Mehlich)		6.0	Iron (Fe)	3.8	1.0 - 40.0
•			Manganese (Mn)	3.7	3.0 - 20.0
			Zinc (Zn)	1.3	0.1 - 70.0
Base Saturation	<u>%</u>	Suggested	Sulfur (S)	26.0	10 - 100
Potassium	2	2.0 - 7.0	Aluminum (Al)	136.8	10 - 300
Magnesium	8	10 - 30			
Calcium	36	40 - 50	Est. Total Lead (Pb)	low	

# Limestone & Fertilizer Recommendations for Nursery Trees & Shrubs, Broadleaf Evergreen-To Be Planted

Limestone (Target pH	I of 5.5) Nitrogen, N	Phosphorus, P2O5	Potassium, K2O
0 lbs / 1000 sq ft	1 - 1.5 lbs / 1000 sq ft	2 lbs / 1000 sq ft	3 lbs / 1000 sq ft

#### **Comments:**

LIMESTONE:

No limestone is necessary

# **References (Crop Related):**

Soil Test Interpretation and Recommendations

 $\frac{https://soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3514/2022/06/Standard-Nutrient-Analysis.pdf}{}$ 



# **UConn Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory**

6 Sherman Place, Union Cottage, Unit 5102 Storrs, CT 06269-5102 860-486-4274 soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu



EXTENSION & PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

# Soil Test Report

**Prepared For:** 

ERIC DAVISON
DAVISON ENVIRONMENTAL LLC
10 MAPLE STREET
CHESTER, CT 06412

eric@davisonenvironmental.com 860.803.0938

# **Sample Information:**

Order Number: 23369

Sample Name: Forest Lab Number: 175

Area Sampled:

Received: 1/7/2025 Reported: 1/22/2025

# **Results**

Nutrients Extracted From Your Soil (Modified Morgan)

		Below Optimum	Optimum	<b>Above Optimum</b>	Excessive*
Calcium	870 lbs/acre				
Magnesium	115 lbs/acre				
Phosphorus	5 lbs/acre				
Potassium	100 lbs/acre				

# \* Excessive only defined for Phosphorus (>40 lbs/acre)

Soil pH (1:1, H2O)		4.9	<u>Element</u>	<u>ppm</u>	Soil Range in CT
Est. Cation Exch. Capacity	(meq/100g	g 14.1	Boron (B)	0.2	0.1 - 2.0
soil)			Copper (Cu)	0.1	0.3 - 0.8
Buffered pH (Mod. Mehlich)		5.6	Iron (Fe)	10.3	1.0 - 40.0
•			Manganese (Mn)	8.7	3.0 - 20.0
			Zinc (Zn)	1.0	0.1 - 70.0
Base Saturation	<u>%</u>	Suggested	Sulfur (S)	40.0	10 - 100
Potassium	1	2.0 - 7.0	Aluminum (Al)	362.9	10 - 300
Magnesium	3	10 - 30			
Calcium	15	40 - 50	Est. Total Lead (Pb)	low	

# Limestone & Fertilizer Recommendations for Nursery Trees & Shrubs, Broadleaf Evergreen-To Be Planted

Limestone (Target pH	of 5.5) Nitrogen, N	Phosphorus, P2O5	Potassium, K2O
100 lbs / 1000 sq ft	1 - 1.5 lbs / 1000 sq ft	3 lbs / 1000 sq ft	3 lbs / 1000 sq ft

# **References (Crop Related):**

Soil Test Interpretation and Recommendations

 $\frac{https://soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3514/2022/06/Standard-Nutrient-Analysis.pdf$ 



# **UConn Soil Nutrient Analysis Laboratory**

6 Sherman Place, Union Cottage, Unit 5102 Storrs, CT 06269-5102 860-486-4274 soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu



EXTENSION & PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

# Soil Test Report

**Prepared For:** 

ERIC DAVISON
DAVISON ENVIRONMENTAL LLC
10 MAPLE STREET
CHESTER, CT 06412

eric@davisonenvironmental.com 860.803.0938

# **Sample Information:**

Order Number: 23369

Sample Name: Tree Farm Lab Number: 176

Area Sampled:

Received: 1/7/2025 Reported: 1/22/2025

# **Results**

Nutrients Extracted From Your Soil (Modified Morgan)

		Below Optimum	Optimum	<b>Above Optimum</b>	Excessive*
Calcium	1143 lbs/acre				
Magnesium	57 lbs/acre				
Phosphorus	4 lbs/acre				
Potassium	68 lbs/acre				

<sup>\*</sup> Excessive only defined for Phosphorus (>40 lbs/acre)

Soil pH (1:1, H2O)		5.5	<u>Element</u>	<u>ppm</u>	Soil Range in CT
Est. Cation Exch. Capacity (meq/100g 12.2		Boron (B)	0.1	0.1 - 2.0	
soil)			Copper (Cu)	0.1	0.3 - 0.8
Buffered pH (Mod. Mehlich)		5.8	Iron (Fe)	14.6	1.0 - 40.0
•			Manganese (Mn)	4.0	3.0 - 20.0
			Zinc (Zn)	0.6	0.1 - 70.0
Base Saturation	<u>%</u>	Suggested	Sulfur (S)	32.2	10 - 100
Potassium	1	2.0 - 7.0	Aluminum (Al)	289.2	10 - 300
Magnesium	2	10 - 30			
Calcium	23	40 - 50	Est. Total Lead (Pb)	low	

# Limestone & Fertilizer Recommendations for Nursery Trees & Shrubs, Broadleaf Evergreen-To Be Planted

Limestone (Target pH	I of 5.5) Nitrogen, N	Phosphorus, P2O5	Potassium, K2O
0 lbs / 1000 sq ft	1 - 1.5 lbs / 1000 sq ft	3 lbs / 1000 sq ft	3 lbs / 1000 sq ft

#### **Comments:**

LIMESTONE:

No limestone is necessary

# **References (Crop Related):**

Soil Test Interpretation and Recommendations

 $\frac{https://soiltesting.cahnr.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3514/2022/06/Standard-Nutrient-Analysis.pdf}{}$ 



# **Ernst Conservation Seeds**

8884 Mercer Pike Meadville, PA 16335 (800) 873-3321 Fax (814) 336-5191 www.ernstseed.com

Date: December 24, 2024

#### Fuzz & Buzz Mix - Standard - ERNMX-146

	<b>Botanical Name</b>	Common Name	Price/Lb
26.80 %	Lolium perenne, 'Tetra Sweet', Tetraploid	Perennial Ryegrass, 'Tetra Sweet', Tetraploid	3.36
21.00 %	Dactylis glomerata, Potomac	Orchardgrass, Potomac	3.90
18.90 %	Poa pratensis, 'Ginger'	Kentucky Bluegrass, 'Ginger' (pasture type)	4.20
12.40 %	Bromus biebersteinii, 'Fleet'	Meadow Brome, 'Fleet'	5.52
5.70 %	Trifolium hybridum	Alsike Clover	4.80
5.00 %	Festuca elatior x Lolium perenne, Duo	Festulolium, 'Duo'	3.60
4.80 %	Trifolium pratense, Medium, Variety Not Stated	Red Clover, Medium, Variety Not Stated	4.80
2.00 %	Lotus corniculatus, 'Norcen'	Bird's Foot Trefoil, 'Norcen'	10.80
1.00 %	Linum perenne	Perennial Blue Flax	48.00
0.90 %	Coreopsis lanceolata	Lanceleaf Coreopsis	28.80
0.60 %	Cichorium intybus	Blue Chicory	19.20
0.50 %	Chrysanthemum leucanthemum	Oxeye Daisy	40.80
0.40 %	Solidago nemoralis, PA Ecotype	Gray Goldenrod, PA Ecotype	288.00

100.00 % Mix Price/Lb Bulk: \$6.31

**Seeding Rate:** Expect to apply about 40 lbs per acre with a cover crop of annual ryegrass 12 lbs/acre

Forage & Pasture Sites; Forage & Pasture Sites - Herbaceous Perennial; Solar Sites

The Fuzz & Buzz Mix-Standard was developed to address the unique nutritional needs of sheep, while providing a low-growing, easily maintained and sustainable vegetation solution for solar installations. The plant species were chosen with guidance from the American Solar Grazing Association (ASGA). The wildflowers in this mix support pollinators. Mix formulations are subject to change without notice depending on the availability of existing and new products. While the formula may change, the guiding philosophy and function of the mix will not.