

**Postdoctoral Scholar: Agroecology of Co-Located Solar and Crop Production**  
Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE), Cornell University



Anticipated start date: 15 March 2023 (negotiable)

Location: Ithaca, New York

Salary: Starting at \$56.5k + competitive benefits package

Appointment duration: 2 years with potential for extension

Summary: Agrivoltaics, the pairing of agricultural and solar energy production, can limit land-use competition and save prime ag land for crop production, yet its operational feasibility is largely unknown. We seek an interdisciplinary, creative, and energetic applied ecologist/entomologist to join a team of researchers across the Cornell College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and newly formed Cornell Center for Agrivoltaics to study the efficacy of co-located crop and solar energy production in New York State, with a focus on agroecological mechanisms affecting feasibility and implementation. The “agroecology” postdoctoral scholar based in the [Grotsky Lab](#) in [DNRE](#) will closely collaborate with a postdoc focused on agronomy in the School of Integrated Plant Sciences. Broadly, the project aims to test the efficacy of crops in New York State grown among solar panels relative to control plots without solar development. The agroecology postdoc will develop and implement research that includes, but is not limited to, the following themes in relation to solar energy infrastructure and crop performance: 1) plant-insect interactions, including pollinators; 2) applications of Integrated Pest Management; 3) plant (weed and otherwise) biodiversity; and 4) interrelationships between biophysical microhabitats and soils. We will provide support for taxonomic identification of specimens. The postdoc will conduct research in the field across two spring/summer growing seasons. The postdoc will develop their own research ideas in coordination with the PIs, based on previous research strengths and perceived synergies among the team.

Qualifications: Ph.D. in entomology, ecology, agronomy, or related field, with an emphasis on agroecology | Experience with fieldwork in cropping systems | Proven capacity to publish in peer-reviewed outlets in a timely manner | Ability to work within an interdisciplinary, scientific team | Capacity to independently generate concepts leading to novel and timely research products | Well-developed scientific writing and analytical skills

To apply, please send a cover letter and CV to Dr. Steve Grotsky ([grotsky@cornell.edu](mailto:grotsky@cornell.edu)). *We will consider applications on a rolling basis until the position is filled.* The initial deadline for applications is 15 February 2024.