Today is , the . This is Ken Morgan's Northcoast Ag Report, our lead story is about when we return

OSU Study says Solar Panels Can Help Farmers

Audio with Chad Higgins, Associate Professor, Oregon State University College of Agricultural Science

Oregon State University scientists have found a resource that can increase ag production on dry, non-irrigated farmland; solar panels. In a recently published study, OSU's College of Ag reported that grasses favored by sheep and cattle thrive in the shade of a solar array. OSU's Chad Higgins says the biggest benefit is the panels remove the amount of light that makes it to the grasses...tape

Cut 1 :19 OC..."more energy"

Higgins noted the panels are not beneficial in wet climates. He says some technical issues still need to be overcome if growers want to use this model on more profitable commodities, such as row crops. Higgins says one of the biggest challenges is the layout of the solar arrays, which currently prohibits the use of implements and large equipment...tape

Cut 2 :24 OC..."with this"

Again, that's Chad Higgins, Associate Professor in the Oregon State College of Agricultural Sciences.

REDEFINING BEEF SUSTAINABILITY

Audio provided as a service to farm broadcasters by the American Angus Association

Audio with Cameron Bruett, Global Affairs and Sustainability Lead, JBS USA

Cameron Bruett, global affairs and sustainability lead for JBS, told producers at the 2018 Angus Convention, they have to work together to redefine beef sustainability for the consumer...tape

Cut #1 :29 OC..."gonna sink"

Bruett added his own definition of sustainability and how producers can help, starting with addressing the consumers...tape

Cut #2 :43 OC..."consume it"

Bruett acknowledges the growing population and hopes producers will be open to meet the increasing demand for food...tape

Cut #3 :30 OC..."more products"

Again, Cameron Bruett, global affairs and sustainability lead for JBS.