

# PV system integrated in a Solar Greenhouse with NIR selective covering

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## Background

- The greenhouses in the Netherlands are basically a solar collector of 10,000 ha.
- The incident solar energy is much more than needed for the greenhouse energy consumption.
- Thermal radiation (NIR) is not necessary for plant growth but contains almost 50% of the incident solar energy.
- Possible contribution to sustainable energy supply is about: 5-15%

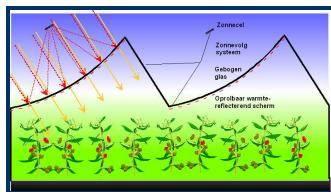


Fig. 1 Principle of the electricity delivering greenhouse. Covering with cylindrical mirror and solar collector (PV cell) in the focal point. (visible light  $\rightarrow$  and NIR radiation  $\rightarrow$ )

## Approach

- Separation of Visible light (PAR 400-750 nm wavelength) and Radiant heat (NIR 750 - 2500nm)
- Concentration of radiant heat with a light transparent mirror.
- Conversion to electrical energy with PV-cells.
- Integration of a greenhouse and the solarenergy system

## Results & experiments

- The AM 1.5 Solar spectrum with the visible and NIR part is given in Figure 2. The wavelength area of 800-1200nm is reflected by the multilayer film.

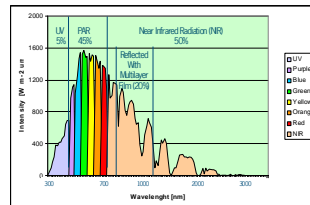


Fig. 2 The AM 1.5 Solar radiation. Radiation between 800 - 1200 nm is reflected by the multilayer film.

- The AM 1.5 Solar spectrum with the visible and NIR part is given in Figure 2. The wavelength area of 800-1200nm is reflected by the multilayer film.

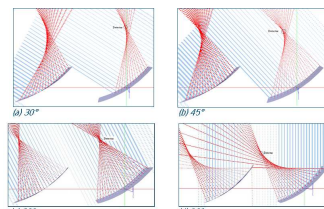


Fig. 3 Positions of the focal points at an angle of incident of the solar radiation of 30, 45, 60 and 90°.

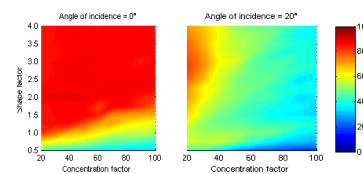


Fig. 4 Yield of a cylindrical trough concentrator as function of the concentration and shape factor for an angle of incidence of 0° and 20°. Definition shape factor: radius of the cylinder divided by the chord distance

- The position of the focal point as a function of the angle of incident is given in Fig. 3. In Fig. 4 the maximal yield is given as a function of the concentration factor and the shape factor. The shape factor is defined as: radius of the cylinder divided by the chord distance.
- Conversion to electrical energy with

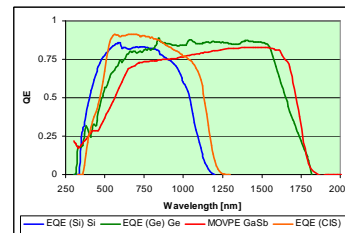


Fig. 5 Quantum efficiencies of four different PV cells: Silicon, Germanium, GaSb and CIS.

Table 1: Output for wavelength > 750 nm.

system	Band Gap [eV]	Voc [V]	ISC [A/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Fill factor	Power Dens. [W/m <sup>2</sup> ]	Eff. [%]
Ge	0.67	0.27	306	0.70	57.8	12.0
GaSb	0.74	0.37	173	0.71	45.8	9.5
CIS	1.05	0.51	172	0.72	63	13.1
Si	1.11	0.65	146	0.80	75.9	15.7
Si+Ge	-	-	-	0.80	99.9	20.7

different types of solar cells is shown in Figure 5. The efficiencies are presented in Table 1.



Fig. 6 Greenhouse at real size of 10x10m

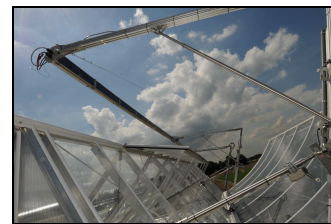


Fig. 7 Side view of the framework with the frame, two linear actuators and the PV cells.

## Conclusions

The experimental greenhouse (Fig. 6) at a size of 100m<sup>2</sup> is built in Wageningen and was ready in June 2008. For the collector

Silicon, Germanium, CIS or GaSb cells can be applied. The maximal efficiency of 15,7% energy conversion from the solar radiation with wavelength larger than 750 nm is achieved with Si cells. The application of a combined Si PV and a Ge-cells TPV will result in a elevated efficiency of 20.7%. The PV cells are mounted

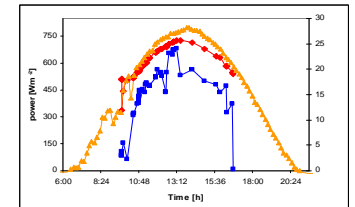


Fig. 8 Output power (scale right  $P_{rad}$ ) and incident radiation at the site (scale left:  $P_{rad}$ ) en Haarweg location Wageningen ( $P_{rad}$ ) measured on Aug. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

in a framework and controlled in position with two linear actuators. (Fig. 7) The system is integrated in a greenhouse with a covering of curved glass. The concept is feasible with existing materials and components and a peak power of approximately 25 W/m<sup>2</sup> electrical and thermal peak power of 150 W/m<sup>2</sup> is expected with an illumination of 900 W/m<sup>2</sup>. The produced energy is determined on 18 kWh/m<sup>2</sup> and the thermal yield on 107 kWh/m<sup>2</sup> and can be used for energy supply and/or extra cooling with a pad and fan system and/or a desalination system.

## Partner

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