

**SMART SUNFLOWER: DEVELOPMENT OF TRAILING TYPE SOLAR
POWERED WATER PUMP INTEGRATED WITH SMARTFLOWER
DESIGN AND SOLAR TRACKING MECHANISM**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
LIST OF TABLES	xii
LIST OF FIGURES	xiii
LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES	xv
LIST OF APPENDIX FIGURES	xvi
LIST OF EQUATIONS	xix
ABSTRACT	xx
INTRODUCTION	1
Background of the Study	1
Statement of the Problem	3
Objectives of the Study	4
Significance of the Study	5
Scope and Limitation of the Study	6
Time and Place of the Study	6
REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE	8
Solar Energy	8
Photovoltaic Panel	10
Retractable Photovoltaic Panel	14
Performance Evaluation of PV Panel System	15
Smartflower Technology	16
Submersible Water Pump	19
Solar-Powered Water Pumping System	22
Sizing of Solar-powered Pump and Controller	24
Solar Tracker	27
Light Dependent Resistor	30
Arduino	33
Coding and Sizing of Wires	36
METHODOLOGY	38
Conceptual Framework of the Study	38

Design of the Solar-Powered Water Pump	39
Design Requirements	39
Operating Principle of the Machine	40
Smart Sunflower Operation	41
Solar Tracking Mechanism	42
Data Logging	43
Pump Operation	43
Maximum Power-Point Tracking (MPPT)	43
Dry-Run Protection	44
Design of the Machine Components	44
Smart Sunflower Mobility	46
Photovoltaic Panel	46
Surface Pump	47
Battery	48
Charge Controller	48
Microcontroller Assembly	49
Fabrication of the Machine	49
Calibration of Sensors	50
Preliminary Testing and Initial Data Gathering	51
Running-in Test of the Machine	51
Modification of the Machine	52
Final Testing of the Machine	52
Preparation of the Materials	53
Instrumentation	53
Data Gathering	54
Determination of Performance Parameters	54
Statistical Analysis	54
Cost Analysis	55
Machine Cost	56
Fixed Cost	56
Variable Cost	57
Operating Cost	57
Payback Period	58

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	59
Description of the Smart Sunflower	59
Machine Components and Specification	60
Smart Sunflower Power Source	60
Solar Pump	62
Smart Sunflower Mobility	63
Solar Tracking	64
Performance Characteristics of Smart Sunflower	69
Cost Analysis	73
SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND RECOMMENDATION	75
Summary	75
Conclusion	77
Recommendation	78
LITERATURE CITED	79
APPENDICES	85
SOLAR PUMP OPERATION GUIDE	118

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE		PAGE
1	Amperage Capacities for Standard and Non-Metallic (NM) Cable	37
2	Observation on Machine Components	52
3	Measuring Instruments and Its Purpose	53
4	Machine Specifications	59
5	Dimensions of Smart Sunflower Trailer	64
6	LDR Specification	66
	Specification of Stepper Motor	67

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE		PAGE
1	Location of the Study	7
2	Electrical Power Generated of the PV System	16
3	Design of Smartflower	18
4	Photoresistor Basic Structure and Showing Interdigital to Maximize Exposed Area	30
5	Conceptual Framework of the Study	38
6	Diagram of the Smart Sunflower Design	41
7	Proposed Design of Smart Sunflower	44
8	Isometric and Top View of Smart Sunflower	45
9	Plain View of the Smart	45
10	Smart Sunflower Trailer Design	46
11	Solar Pump Charge Controller and Enclosure Box Location	48
12	Smart Sunflower Retracted Panels	61
13	Solar Pump and Controller	63
14	Trailer of Smart Sunflower	64
15	Microcontroller Assembly	65
16	Motor Sets for Solar Tracking Movement	66
17	Smart Sunflower Machine	68
18	Graphical Representations of Voltage Sensor Calibration	70
19	Graphical Representations of Current Sensor Calibration	70

20	Graphical Representations of LDR	71
21	Electrical Power Generated	72

LIST OF APPENDIX TABLES

APPENDIX TABLE		PAGE
1	Calibration of Voltage Sensor	86
2	Voltage Readings with Respect to Analog Signal for Calibration	86
3	Current Reading with Respect to the Analog Voltage, Resistor for Calibration	86
4	LDR Reading with Respect to the Analog Signal for Calibration	87
5	PV Panel Manufacturer Specifications	87
6	Solar Pump Specifications	87
7	Data Gathering	88
8	Bill of Materials	89
9	Cost Analysis	90

LIST OF APPENDIX FIGURES

APPENDIX FIGURE		PAGE
1	100W Monocrystalline PV Module	92
2	207 Flange Bearing	92
3	Bolt and Nut Set for Flange Bearing	93
4	205 Pillow Block for 1 ¼" Shaft	93
5	1 ¼' Solid Shaft	94
6	3" GI Pipe for Smart Sunflower Post	94
7	3" Channel Bar and Angle Bar for Trailer	95
8	45 Teeth and 13 Teeth Motorcycle Sprocket	95
9	SunKing 1Hp Surface Solar Pump	96
10	Voltage and Current Sensors with Enclosure Box	96
11	335x235x150mm Enclosure Box for Microcontroller Assembly	97
12	20Ah 12V Battery for Charge Controller and Solar Tracking	97
13	10A Solar Charge Controller	98
14	2.8A Nema 23HS5628 Motor	98
15	Worm DC Motor Gearbox	99
16	Stepper Motor Drive	99
17	Arduino Mega Terminal Block and LCD	100
18	Arduino Mega 2560 R3	100
19	Toggle Switches, Fuses and Acrylic Board	101

20	5mm Light Dependent Resistors	101
21	Solar Pump Charge Controller	102
22	Three Core Shielded Wire for Pump Connection	102
23	Jumper Wire for Automation and Connection	103
24	Gauge 18 Automotive Motorcycle Wire	103
25	2” Flexible Hose for Pump Inlet / Outlet	104
26	16” Spindle Type Donut Tire	104
27	Fabrication of the Trailer	105
28	Fabrication of the Smart Sunflower Main Post	105
29	Fabrication of the Solar Tracking Assembly	106
30	Installation of the Solar Tracking Mechanism Components	106
31	Solar Tracking Mechanism Assembly	107
32	Fabrication of the Tubular Support for PV Modules	107
33	Tubular Support Clearance Assembly	108
34	Attachment of PV Panels	108
35	Microcontroller, Solar Tracking, Mechanism Programming and Assembly	109
36	Enclosure Box with Microcontroller Assembly	109
37	Installation of Enclosure Box and Solar Charge Controller	110
38	Installation of Pump Controller	110
39	Surface Solar Pump Wire Connection	111
40	Pump Wire Connection to the Solar Pump Charge Controller	111

41	Final Set-up of Enclosure Box & Solar Pump Charge Controller	112
42	Solar Powered Surface Pump Set-up	112
43	Testing of the Light Dependent Resistor	113
44	Initial Testing of the Solar Tracking Mechanism	113
45	Preparation of Machine Transport	114
46	Transport of the Smart Sunflower	114
47	Initial Test of the Installed Surface Pump	115
48	Final Testing of the Installed Surface Pump	115
49	Data for Voltage	116
50	Data for Current	116
51	Data for Power	117

LIST OF EQUATIONS

EQUATION		PAGE
1	Power	43
2	Total Pmax	47
3	Total Machine Cost	55
4	Fixed Cost	56
5	Depreciation	56
6	Insurance	56
7	Interest on Investment	57
8	Variable Cost	57
9	Repair and Maintenance	57
10	Operating Cost	58
11	Payback Period	58
12	Savings	58

ABSTRACT

ABILA, LAILAH G. & LUCAS, CHRISTIAN JAY A., Department of Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering, Central Luzon State University, Science City of Muñoz, Nueva Ecija, Philippines, **JUNE 2023, DEVELOPMENT TRAILING TYPE SOLAR POWERED WATER PUMPING SYSTEM INTEGRATED WITH SMART FLOWER DESIGN AND SOLAR TRACKING MECHANISM.**

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Solar energy is one of the most abundant and cleanest sources of renewable energy. It is freely available and is one of the most promising in which power generation has many advantages, and because of this it has been gaining prominence as an alternative energy source.

The general purpose of this study was to design a machine that can aid in optimum recovery of this energy – solar energy, and utilize it for irrigation. Hence, it employed solar tracking mechanism and smartflower design. The machine was composed of these main components namely; photovoltaic PV modules, light dependent sensors (LDR), solar tracking assembly, solar pump and controller, charge controller, battery, voltage sensor, current sensor, arduino microcontroller sets and the trailer.

In this system, 8 PV modules which were positioned in a resembling a flower-like formation were used with a working voltage of 100W (P_{max}), 17.6V (V_{mp}) and 5.71A (I_{mp}). Four LDR sensors were used for the dual-axis tracking of the machine. Solar pump and the controllers were the load needed to supply the machine. The load, which is the solar pump, requires one horsepower.

Results of the evaluation showed mean voltage and current of 132.65 and 1.98 respectively giving an average power of 258.1. The findings also displays that around 12 noon has the highest power accumulated. Cost of the machine was computed at Php87,251.31 which is material and labor cost. Annual fixed cost and variable cost was calculated at Php15,101.19/yr and Php9.20/hr respectively. Payback period was determined at 1.84 years

Keywords: solar energy, solar water pump, photovoltaic system, smartflower, solar tracking, arduino

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