Erica Renaud is the business development manager at Vitalis Organic Seeds, North America, the organic division of Enza Zaden. Vitalis produces and breeds organic varieties for the global market with a seed production research center in Myakka, FL.

Tommy Simmons is a third generation farmer on his family’s land west of Gainesville at Bellevue Gardens. It has been a family farm since 1917 and certified organic for more than thirty years. Tommy grows several types of peas, hard squash, okra, and turnips among other crops but his watermelons are his pride and joy. Saving seeds of his crops is an integral aspect of his successful organic farm.

Melanie Hernandez is the Seed Testing Analyst for High Mowing Organic Seeds Based in Wolcott, VT. She is a University of Florida graduate with a B.S. Degree in Agronomy.