



## Marty Mesh, retired organic farmer, farmer advocate.

Marty Mesh is an expert in sustainable agriculture. His work in the natural foods community started in 1973 and, in 1976, he helped start Bellevue Gardens Organic Farm which he was involved with for 26 years. Marty Mesh has served multiple terms on the Boards of the Organic Trade Association (OTA), the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (SSAWG), Accredited Certifier Association, Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI), Alachua County Nutrition Alliance, and the National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture (now merged and called National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC)) among others. In addition to public policy work in the U.S., he has also worked on an international level, helping farmers and farm workers in developing countries to advance organic and sustainable agriculture as well as organic certification. He was named by a national publication as one of the top 20 people, among others such as USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan and Senator Patrick Leahy, who most influenced the development of the organic industry.