



## SOUTHEAST

### TRANSITION TO ORGANIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM



SE TOPP NEWS

## PLANTING SEEDS OF SUPPORT FOR LATINO GROWERS IN FLORIDA

In May, Florida Organic Growers (FOG) expanded its outreach efforts by meeting with organizations dedicated to supporting Latino farmers across Florida. Angie Oliva, a FOG representative, visited the Future Farmers of America (FFA) office in Gainesville to introduce them to the SE TOPP program, and discuss opportunities for future collaboration that would expose FFA youth to sustainable and organic agriculture. Additionally, FOG invited other Florida based organizations to participate in FOG programs, including the Florida Local Food Project and the Southeast Transition to Organic Partnership Program (SE TOPP), which provide free technical assistance and event-based support.



**Photo: Farmworker Association of Florida's Agroecology Community Garden, located in Apopka, FL.**

FOG met with the Farmworker Association of Florida (FWAF) in Apopka, a nonprofit organization that represents approximately 20,000 members, to explore shared interests in agroecology education, organic and sustainable farming methods, and food sovereignty. The meeting included discussions on utilizing FWAF's community gardens—located near their offices—to engage volunteers, provide hands-on agroecology training, and cultivate culturally appropriate foods for the local community. FOG shared information on SE TOPP, food safety programs, technical assistance support, and mentorship opportunities, reinforcing its commitment to fostering stronger partnerships.



**Photo: Nicoya Farm, located in Gainesville, FL.**

Rounding out its networking efforts, FOG connected with local farmers in Gainesville to discuss the development of a Latino Grower Network in Florida. Daniel Robleto and Aviva Asher, farmers and owners of Nicoya Farm, acknowledged the importance of increasing inclusivity for Latino farmers through their agricultural and educational outreach programs.

Through these engagements, FOG continues to seek collaboration with organizations dedicated to supporting organic and sustainable agriculture initiatives for all farmers.

#### Learn More:



[www.foginfo.org](http://www.foginfo.org)

[www.organictransition.org/region/southeast](http://www.organictransition.org/region/southeast)

#### Questions?



[SETOPP@foginfo.org](mailto:SETOPP@foginfo.org)



United States Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Marketing Service  
National Organic Program  
Transition to Organic Partnership Program

