

## MEET THE TEAM

# DR. STEPHEN R. KING

## GENERAL MANAGER OF DOS BRISAS FARMS

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Dr. Stephen King, General Manager of Dos Brisas Farms, is a native of Fayetteville, Arkansas, where he obtained his B.S. in crop science and an M.S. in plant breeding at the University of Arkansas. Following that, he received a Ph.D. in plant breeding with minors in plant pathology and plant molecular biology at Cornell University in 1994.

Dr. King worked as a plant breeder in the vegetable industry from 1994-2002 at Seminis, Inc. (formerly Petoseed) in Woodland Hills, CA with a focus on melons and greenhouse cucumbers for the European market. While at Seminis, his specific roles included germplasm development for biotechnology and molecular analysis.

Dr. King left the seed industry in 2002 to join the faculty of Texas A&M University, where he served as an Associate Professor in the Department of Horticultural Sciences until 2012. He taught undergraduate and graduate courses, including Vegetable Crop Production, Advanced Plant Breeding, and Molecular and Biological Techniques in Plant Breeding. He also conducted research on watermelon, tomatoes, and other vegetable crops and was faculty advisor for the Howdy Farm, a sustainable farm created and powered by Texas A&M students.

In 2003, Dr. King opened Veggie Kings Farm in Millican, Texas, where he and his wife, Tiffany, produced high quality heirloom tomatoes and other vegetables for farmers' markets throughout the Houston and Bryan/College Station areas. Dr. King joined Dos Brisas in late 2015, with the goal of expanding our farming operation, whilst employing his considerable expertise in sustainable farming.

In addition to his role at Dos Brisas, Dr. King serves as an adjunct professor at Texas A&M, providing consultation for graduate student committees and guest lectures in the horticultural department. He was chair of the Watermelon Research & Development Group and has been a consulting editor for the Journal of the American Society of Horticultural Sciences since 2007. He was a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Cucurbit Crop Germplasm Committee and Vegetable Breeding Work Committee of the American Society for Horticultural Science. Since 2003, he has served as Editor of the Watermelon Section for the Cucurbit Genetics Cooperative Annual Report, and backup germplasm curator the Cucurbit Genetics Cooperative's gene list.

