



## **EPC Leadership Class Completes Industry Education at NYPS Foundational Excellence Program**

The fourth Eastern Produce Council (EPC) Leadership Class culminated its 2022 educational program by attending the New York Produce Show (NYPS) and participating in Cornell University's Foundational Excellence Future-Leaders-In-Produce event at the show. The career-building Foundational Excellence program provided an immersion into the structure and operations of the produce industry and included crucial topics for today's industry leaders from renowned Cornell faculty as well as respected produce industry professionals. The members of the EPC Leadership Class were recognized at the Keynote Breakfast prior to the trade show and then walked the exposition.

The selected up-and-coming produce professionals benefited from professional development opportunities both in the field and classroom throughout this past year. The 2022 class activities began with a visit in March to the Philadelphia Produce Wholesale Market (PWPM) in Philadelphia, PA, followed by Holt Cargo Systems at the Port of Gloucester, NJ. In April, the group participated in a Food Safety and Modernization Act (FSMA) seminar discussing significant food safety issues. A combined classroom and field experience took place in November at Hionis Greenhouses in Whitehouse Station, NJ. The classroom experience was led by an adjunct professor from Rutgers University. The program wrapped up with group's NYPS participation.

Nominations for the fifth Leadership Class will open in January of 2023. For more information visit [www.easternproducecouncil.com](http://www.easternproducecouncil.com).