

**John Penno**

Independent Director

*Honorary Doctorate – Commerce, INSEAD, Ph.D – Animal Science, B. Agr. Sci Hons – Animal Production Science and Farm Management*

John is Co-Founder of Leaft Foods, a startup working to develop Rubisco Protein Concentrate from the leaves of commonly grown forage crops. More than just a product to compete with animal and other plant-based proteins, Leaft aspires to develop whole new food production systems reducing the environmental impact of farming, while providing consumers with great tasting and highly functional protein nutrition.

John co-founded the Synlait Group in 2000 and was a full-time executive for the Synlait Group for over fifteen years. Early on John was directly responsible for leading Synlait's strategy development, business development and financial management. He was the inaugural CEO of Synlait Milk and over a ten-year period led the company from start-up to being a listed company with a NZ\$2b market capitalisation. He continues to contribute to the governance of the company as a Director.

John is also currently Chairman of The Pure Food Company which specialises in manufacturing nutrition products for the elderly, partnering with some of New Zealand and Australia's leading health care providers.

Over recent years John has served the Ministers of the Environment and Primary Industries by chairing the Fresh Water Leaders Group charged with reviewing proposed changes to policy setting with the objective of protecting New Zealand waterways and bringing them back to a swimmable standard.

In 2009, John received an Emerging Leaders award from the Sir Peter Blake Trust, was awarded the inaugural Federated Farmers Agribusiness Person of the Year in 2010 and the Excellence in Leadership Award at the 2015 New Zealand International Business Awards. In 2019, John was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Lincoln University.

John sits on the NZM Audit and Risk, and Kaitiakitanga (Sustainability) Committees.

**Ben Todhunter**

Grower Appointed Director, Deputy Chairman NZM

*BCom(Ag) MBA*

Ben, a director of NZM since 2014, was also a director of Merino Grower Investments Limited prior to the purchase of PGG Wrightson's share of NZM. He led the 2020 capital raise and constitution change and is currently deputy chairman of NZM, chairman of the Kaitiakitanga (Sustainability) Committee and sits on both the Audit and Risk, and Tiaki Tangata (People and Culture) Committees.

He, together with his family, farms Cleardale, a 15000 stock unit foothills property in the Rakaia Gorge, that includes Angus cattle and fine wool genetic businesses.

Ben, a previous Chair of the Lincoln University Foundation, is currently a member of the Molesworth Steering Committee. In a prior life he advocated for high country farmers as Chair of both the High Country Accord and High Country Federated Farmers. A Te Hono alumni and Nuffield scholar, Ben has worked on and studied farming and agribusiness in four continents.

**John Maher**

Additional Director

*B Ag Sci (Hons), EMBA, GAICD, FAIM*

John is an Australasian agribusiness CEO, Chair/ Director with over 30 years of board and business leadership experience across several publicly listed and private companies.

Previously John served as the Managing Director and CEO of Ruralco Holdings Ltd (ASX:RHL) for nine years and prior to that was Senior Group Executive at Wesfarmers Ltd (ASX:WES) for 10 years and AWB Ltd (ASX:AWB) for two years where he led the Landmark (now Nutrien) rural services business. Most recently he was Group CEO of the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation.

John currently serves as Chair/Director of several public and private Australasian agribusinesses including Chair of AWN Food and Fibre Holdings Pty Ltd. He is also a Director of Autism Awareness, Australian Rural Leadership Foundation and Agribusiness Australia.

John sits on the NZM Audit and Risk, and Kaitiakitanga (Sustainability) Committees.