# Annual Report 2023









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## **Foreword**

From the Board Chair and Executive Director



Guiding whakataukī

Ehara tāku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini.

My strength is not as an individual, but as a collective.

It is our pleasure to present the first Annual Report from AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup>. We began operations on 1 February this year and are proud of the achievements of our small team since formation. Our Annual Report is part of our commitment to transparency, showing our progress and future plans.

Almost half of Aotearoa's greenhouse gas emissions come from agriculture, which makes up 75% of our goods exports. Since agriculture is the backbone of our economy, the importance of reducing methane emissions in agriculture cannot be understated. Our global customers are setting ambitious greenhouse gas reduction targets, and if we can't meet these targets, the export revenue that has underpinned our living standards will be under threat.

International customers and consumers are seeking reductions in the emissions profile of New Zealand dairy and meat products. However, those customers, and discerning international consumers, value New Zealand's predominantly grass-fed dairy and meat products and pay a premium for those products.

To continue to ensure that our farmers maintain their competitive edge, AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> was formed as a joint venture (JV) by leading companies in the New Zealand primary sector and the Government to pool resources and deliver a step change in investment.

Together, with our investment and advocacy for ground-breaking agritech, we will help New Zealand achieve its agricultural emissions targets and lead the worldwide advancement of near-zero methane and nitrous oxide emissions pasture-based farming.



#### **Foreword**

Our ambition is to reduce agricultural emissions by 30% by 2030 and to be 'near zero' by 2040.

Our focus is on identifying and investing in technologies that will reduce methane and nitrous oxide emissions from livestock in our grass-fed farming systems, whilst maintaining profitability and productivity.

Our target is to get two to three tools, that are both effective and affordable, into the hands of Kiwi farmers by the end of 2030.

We are scanning the world for companies developing new technologies and we are investing in them to support their success, with a focus on driving development towards a solution that will work for New Zealand. We will also help them with New Zealand's regulatory approvals and support a pathway for uptake on-farm.

The shareholders contemplate a 10-year investment and have committed to invest \$165m through to the first review point at four years.

Thank you to our shareholders for your support – ANZCO Foods, Fonterra, Rabobank, Ravensdown, Silver Fern Farms, Synlait and the Crown through the Ministry for Primary Industries.

We continue to welcome new shareholders and partners to help increase the size of the fund and further support our ambition.

We do not underestimate the size of the challenge ahead of us, but we are excited and optimistic about our ability to work with others in New Zealand and around the world to meet that challenge.

Bran Roche

Sir Brian Roche KNZM
Board Chair

Wayne McNee
Executive Director



Our ambition is to reduce methane and nitrous oxide emissions by 30% by 2030 and to be 'near zero' by 2040.



Board Chair Sir Brian Roche KNZM



**Executive Director Wayne McNee** 



## **About**

AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> is the trading name for the Centre for Climate Action Joint Venture (JV).















AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> is a world-first public-private partnership between the New Zealand Government and major agribusiness companies.

The JV was established in February 2023 to help farmers reduce emissions while maintaining productivity and profitability – supporting them to meet increasing demands from global customers and New Zealand's climate goals.

The founding shareholders are ANZCO Foods, Fonterra, Rabobank, Ravensdown, Silver Fern Farms and Synlait, owning a combined 50%. The other 50% is owned by the Government through the Ministry for Primary Industries. These shareholders represent over 70% of New Zealand's farms.

#### **Ambition**

AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup>'s ambition is to ensure all farmers in Aotearoa have equitable access to affordable, effective solutions to reduce biogenic methane and nitrous oxides emissions, with a goal of supporting a 30% reduction by 2030 and enabling development and adoption of solutions to drive towards 'near zero' by 2040.

Through this it will enhance the value and competitiveness of the agriculture industry in NZ on the global stage, while recognising the importance of intergenerational stewardship, kaitiakitanga, of the land.

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the company is to undertake targeted investments and actions to accelerate the development, commercialisation and deployment of effective and affordable solutions that will be used by New Zealand farmers and others to significantly reduce biogenic methane and nitrous oxide emissions.

AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> is committed to delivering its Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations by incorporating mātauranga Māori (knowledge) to support the enduring connection between tāngata (people) and taiao (the environment).

### **Funding**

Shareholders have committed to invest a combined \$165m through to the first review point at four years. Funds from agribusiness shareholders are matched by the Government dollar-for-dollar.

The JV continues to welcome additional shareholders to come onboard to help amplify its reach and grow the fund.

AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> is one of two key components of the Centre for Climate Action on Agricultural Emissions, alongside the New Zealand Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Research Centre.

#### **About**

#### **About this report**

This is the first Annual Report for the Centre for Climate Action Joint Venture, trading as AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup>. It provides an overview of key operating activities from its inception on 1 February 2023 to 30 June 2023. AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> may be referred to as "the joint venture" or "the JV" interchangeably throughout this report. The AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> Board of Directors approved this report. All data is in New Zealand dollars unless otherwise stated. For more information, see agrizero.nz.

This report contains forward-looking metrics which are not, and should not be considered to be, guarantees, predictions or forecasts of future outcomes or performance. The statements are subject to known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors, many of which are beyond control of AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup>.



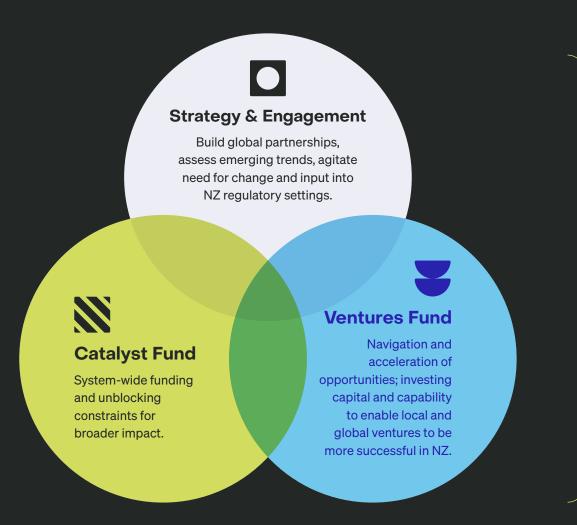


AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> is committed to delivering its Te Tiriti o Waitangi obligations by incorporating mātauranga Māori (knowledge) to support the enduring connection between tāngata (people) and taiao (the environment).

## **Strategy**

Value creator, problem solver

To achieve its ambition of 30% reduction in agricultural emissions by 2030, AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> employs guiding principles of kaitiakitanga, whanaungatanga and hautūtanga.



## **Guiding principles**



### Kaitiakitanga Guardianship

Do the right thing for our land, climate, economy and people.



## Whanaungatanga Relationships

Work collaboratively, with a global lens, to help farmers in New Zealand.



### Hautūtanga Leadership

Strive for significant impact to lead progress in pasture-based emissions reduction internationally.

## **Making Progress**

In the 2023 financial year, the joint venture appointed a Board of Directors and allocated more than \$8 million across three high-impact opportunities to bring emissions-reduction technologies to the market.



Board of Directors: Fraser Whineray, Jessie Chan, Sir Brian Roche KNZM (Chair), Sir Neville Jordan KNZM CNZM and Greg Murison

#### Investments to 30 June 2023

- Ruminant Biotech (\$1.8 million)
   Supporting a New Zealand-based start-up developing a slow-release, biodegradable methane-inhibiting bolus for livestock.
- 2. Methane Vaccine & Inhibitor NZ Research (up to \$2.5 million)

Supporting research developing a methane vaccine and inhibitor for use in livestock.

3. New Greenhouse Gas Research Facility (\$4 million)
Supporting construction of a new methane
measurement facility at Massey University
in Palmerston North with co-funding from
Government and AgResearch.

### **New Trading Name**

In June 2023, the JV was proud to introduce its new trading name and AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> brand at the National Fieldays event in Hamilton. The new name reflects its bold ambition to take the pressure off Kiwi farmers, whilst positioning the JV as a partner of choice for potential investees in New Zealand and around the world.





National Fieldays, 2023

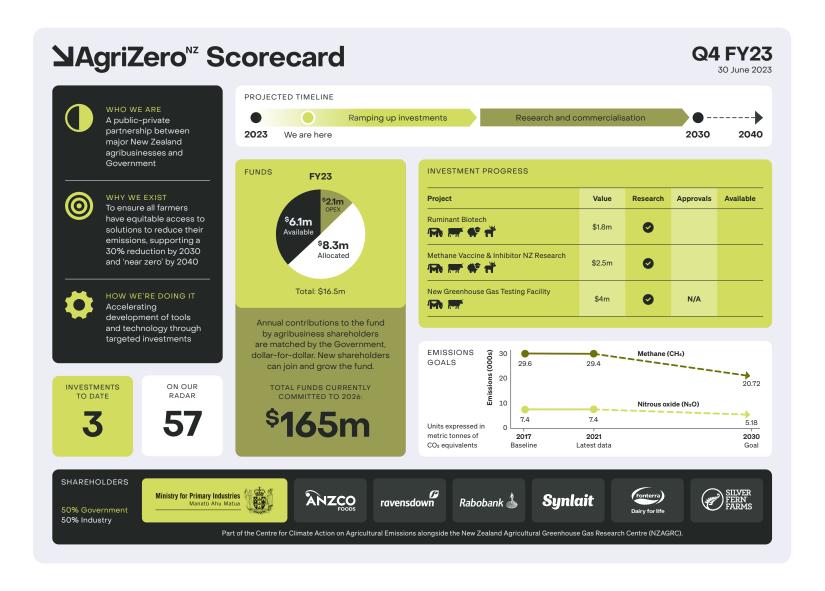


### **Making Progress**

### Reporting framework

A regular reporting framework has been established as part of AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup>'s commitment to transparency and accountability – helping stakeholders and the public to keep track of progress.

The JV introduced its first Scorecard for Q4, FY23, as a simple, visual representation of key metrics, new investments and a roadmap for delivery. The Scorecard is updated at the end of each quarter and circulated widely, in addition to supporting communications around key progress updates and milestones as they are achieved.



## **Look Ahead**

## Getting tools into farmers' hands







AVAILABLE FOR USE

Investing in local and global ventures

Proof of concept

Trials

Regulatory processes

Early adopters

Commercialisation

**Adoption** 

- Global search for solutions that will work on NZ farms
- Large number and range of solutions enter investment portfolio and development pipeline (seed, early stage funding)
- Clarify regulatory requirements, streamline process
- Identify and unblock constraints, increase testing infrastructure
- Identify farms to run largescale commercial trials

- Solutions undergo regulatory approval and/or further trials to validate GHG inventory inclusion
- Approval for use in NZ
- Early adoption of new solutions

- Large scale manufacturing and commercialisation
- Initiatives and policies to drive uptake
- Two to three tools in widespread use by 2030



2023

030 2040



## **Summary of Financials**



Funds from agribusiness shareholders are matched by the Government dollar-for-dollar.

# \$8m

More than \$8 million was allocated across three investments. One of these investments was paid during the reporting period, the others will be paid in the next two financial years.

### Financial Summary: 1 February - 30 June 2023

\$0.21 \$2.08
\$0.21
\$8.30
\$4.00
\$2.50
\$1.80
\$16.50
\$8.25
\$8.25
\$N





## Powering Zero Emissions Agriculture

AgriZero<sup>NZ</sup> contact@agrizero.nz agrizero.nz



