

SNYDER WILLIAM F
Form 4
December 14, 2004

FORM 4

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
SNYDER WILLIAM F

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
HORMEL FOODS CORP /DE/ [HRL]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
1 HORMEL PLACE
(Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/10/2004

____ Director
 Officer (give title below)
____ 10% Owner
____ Other (specify below)
Vice President

AUSTIN, MN 55912
(City) (State) (Zip)

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
____ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	12/10/2004		M		8,000	A	\$ 11.9375
Common Stock	12/10/2004		S		3,210	D	\$ 29.88
Common Stock	12/10/2004		F		1,574	D	\$ 29.96
					3,270.136	(2)	D

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	
					Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
					Code	V (A) (D)		
Common Stock	\$ 11.9375	12/10/2004		M ⁽¹⁾	8,000	05/21/1996 11/21/2005	Common Stock	8,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SNYDER WILLIAM F 1 HORMEL PLACE AUSTIN, MN 55912			Vice President	

Signatures

William F. Snyder, by Power of Attorney
12/14/2004

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Reporting Person has exercised Stock Withholding Rights in connection with this option exercise, as reflected on Table I.

(2) Reporting Person also holds indirectly 1,622 shares in the JEPST Trust, and 1,123 shares in Founders Fund.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.