

HORMEL FOODS CORP /DE/
Form 4
August 24, 2006

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 *
RAY GARY J

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)
08/22/2006

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
Executive 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	(D)	Price
Common Stock	08/22/2006		M		5,000	A	\$ 14.6562
Common Stock	08/22/2006		F		1,927	D	\$ 38.02
Common Stock	08/22/2006		F		1,362	D	\$ 38.02
					163,714.5	D	
					161,787.5	D	
					160,425.5 ⁽¹⁾	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)	8. Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 14.6562	08/22/2006		M(2)	5,000	(3) 12/18/2007	Common Stock	5,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
RAY GARY J 1 HORMEL PLACE AUSTIN, MN 55912	Director 10% Owner X Officer Executive Vice President Other

Signatures

Gary J. Ray, by Power of Attorney
08/24/2006

**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 holds indirectly 1,224 shares in the 401(k), and 1,859 shares in the JEPST Trust. Reporting Person also holds 27,222 phantom shares in his deferred stock account.
 - (2) Reporting Person has exercised Stock Withholding Rights in connection with this option exercise, as reflected on Table I.
 - (3) The option vested in four equal installments beginning on December 18, 1998.

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.