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OIL DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA
Form 8-K
May 27, 2005

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(D) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) MAY 26, 2005

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE

0-8675

36-2048898

(State or other
jurisdiction of
incorporation)

(Commission File
Number)

(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

410 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
SUITE 400
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

60611-4213

(Address of principal executive
offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (312) 321-1515

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

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- [] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- [] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

ITEM 2.02 RESULTS OF OPERATIONS AND FINANCIAL CONDITION.

On May 26, 2005, Oil-Dri Corporation of America (the "Registrant") issued a press release announcing its results of operations for the third quarter and first nine months of its fiscal year 2005. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 and the information contained therein is incorporated herein by reference. The information contained in this Form 8-K, including the exhibit, shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and it shall not be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

ITEM 9.01 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS.

- (a) None.
- (b) None.
- (c) Exhibits

Exhibit NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF EXHIBITS
99.1	Press Release of Registrant dated May 26, 2005.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA

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By: /S/ CHARLES P. BRISSMAN

Charles P. Brissman
Vice President and General Counsel

Date: May 27, 2005

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF EXHIBITS
99.1	Press Release of Registrant dated May 26, 2005.

Exhibit 99.1

RELEASE: Immediate

CONTACT: Ronda J. Williams
312-706-3232

OIL-DRI ANNOUNCES THIRD QUARTER RESULTS AND REVISED FULL YEAR
GUIDANCE

CHICAGO - May 26, 2005 - Oil-Dri Corporation of America (NYSE: ODC) today announced sales of \$48,249,000 for the third quarter ended April 30, 2005, a 4% increase compared to sales of \$46,616,000 in the third quarter one year ago. The company reported net income of \$1,972,000, or \$0.33 per diluted share, compared to income of \$1,824,000, or \$0.30 per diluted share, reported in the same quarter one year ago, which represents a 10% increase in earnings per diluted share.

Sales for the nine months ended April 30, 2005, were \$141,851,000 compared to sales of \$140,708,000 in the same period one year ago. Net income for the nine months was \$5,398,000, or \$0.91 per diluted share, compared to income of \$5,270,000, or \$0.89 per diluted share, in the same period one year ago.

THIRD QUARTER REVIEW

Dan Jaffee, President and CEO said, "While we are pleased with our 4% sales growth, we are frustrated by the intense energy and commodity price pressure we faced this quarter. We are diligently working to mitigate these rising costs through improved manufacturing processes and price increases, but the increased

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expenditures for natural gas, transportation and packaging in the quarter resulted in lower margins for the company.

"Despite these challenges, we feel positive about the direction of our business. Our Specialty Products Group remained significantly ahead of last year in terms of both sales and operating income, and we are particularly pleased with the growth in the group's Latin American business. This quarter, the Crop Production and Horticultural Products Group enjoyed an increase in sales over the third quarter a year ago, even with the continued weakness in the agricultural carriers business.

"Income for the quarter was positively impacted by an 18% decrease in operating expenses compared to the same period one year ago. This reduction was the result of reduced incentive compensation expense and lower discretionary spending in advertising.

"In March, the Securities and Exchange Commission granted non-accelerated filers like Oil-Dri an additional year to comply with Sarbanes-Oxley Act Section 404. Oil-Dri will now be expected to comply for its fiscal year ending July 2006.

"Beginning this quarter, we are including a cash flow statement to further detail our quarterly performance. We hope this additional information will be useful for investors' assessment of our business. The management team and I are very focused on generating free cash flow."

BUSINESS REVIEW

CONSUMER PRODUCTS GROUP - Net sales were up in the quarter 3% and up 1% for the nine-months. Operating income for the quarter was down 8% and down 4% for the nine-months. Sales of Cat's Pride and Jonny Cat branded cat litters were strong in the quarter in the U.S. and Canada. The company's co-pack business also showed sales increases. Private label accounts experienced a slight drop year over year. Overall, the increase in manufacturing costs, including fuel, packaging and transportation, had a negative impact on operating income. Strong competitor marketing also continues to pressure sales growth.

CROP PRODUCTION AND HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTS GROUP - Net sales were up 3% in the quarter and down 18% for the nine-month period. Operating income in the quarter was down 27% and down 55% year-to-date. While agricultural carrier sales continue to be sluggish, sports turf product sales were up. The same factors which contributed to slow agricultural sales early in the fiscal year, mainly the increasing acceptance of genetically-modified and treated seeds and an irregular buying season, continued to affect the third quarter.

-- more --

INDUSTRIAL AND AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS GROUP - Net sales were flat in the quarter and up 5% in the nine-month period. Despite increased manufacturing and packaging costs, profitability has increased year-to-date due to price increases. Oil-Dri branded floor absorbent volume was down in the quarter, while synthetic absorbent products showed a slight sales increase.

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SPECIALTY PRODUCTS GROUP - Net sales were up 10% for the quarter and up 13% for the nine-month period. Operating income in the quarter was up 19% and up 14% year to date. Continued focus on product mix and increased volume in the United States and Latin America drove sales and profitability.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

On March 15, 2005, Oil-Dri's Board of Directors declared a regular quarterly cash dividend of \$0.11 per share of Common Stock. The dividend will be payable on June 10, 2005 to stockholders of record at the close of business on May 8, 2005. At the April 30, 2005 closing price of \$17.50 per share and assuming cash dividends continue at the same rate, the annual yield on Common Stock is 2.5%.

During the quarter, the company repurchased 167,900 shares of Common Stock at a cost of approximately \$3,135,000. For the nine-month period, Common Stock repurchases totaled \$7,082,000.

Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments at April 30, 2005, totaled \$16,930,000. Operating cash flow for the nine-month period was \$7,577,000. Capital expenditures for the nine months totaled \$5,230,000, which is \$405,000 less than the depreciation and amortization of \$5,635,000.

LOOKING FORWARD

"While we are confident in the steady growth of our business, we are faced with several manufacturing cost-related challenges, including energy, transportation and packaging," added Jaffee. "Our business is heavily dependent on these commodities which, under current conditions, negatively impacted our business. Through pre-emptive measures, including corporate price increases, manufacturing process improvements and business evaluations, we believe we can lessen the impact of these expenses and continue to grow our business.

"It is apparent, however, these costs will continue into the fourth quarter and impact our previous earnings guidance for the fiscal year. We are therefore revising our projected earnings estimate range for fiscal year 2005 to \$1.00 to \$1.10 per diluted share."

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THE COMPANY WILL OFFER A LIVE WEB CAST OF THE THIRD QUARTER EARNINGS TELECONFERENCE ON FRIDAY MAY 27, 2005 AT 10:00AM CDT. TO LISTEN TO THE CALL VIA THE WEB, PLEASE VISIT WWW.STREETEVENTS.COM OR WWW.OILDRI.COM. AN ARCHIVED RECORDING OF THE CALL WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 DAYS FOLLOWING THE CALL AND WRITTEN TRANSCRIPTS OF ALL TELECONFERENCES ARE POSTED ON THE OIL-DRI WEBSITE.

OIL-DRI CORPORATION OF AMERICA IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF CAT LITTER AND A LEADING SUPPLIER OF SPECIALTY SORBENT PRODUCTS FOR INDUSTRIAL, AUTOMOTIVE, AGRICULTURAL, HORTICULTURAL AND SPECIALTY MARKETS.

JONNY CAT, CAT'S PRIDE, AGSORB, PRO'S CHOICE, CONDITIONADE, ULTRA-CLEAR AND PURE-FLO ARE REGISTERED TRADEMARKS OF OIL-DRI

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CORPORATION OF AMERICA.

THIS RELEASE CONTAINS CERTAIN FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS REGARDING THE COMPANY'S EXPECTED PERFORMANCE FOR FUTURE PERIODS, AND ACTUAL RESULTS FOR SUCH PERIODS MIGHT MATERIALLY DIFFER. SUCH FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO UNCERTAINTIES WHICH INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, INTENSE COMPETITION FROM MUCH LARGER ORGANIZATIONS IN THE CONSUMER MARKET; THE LEVEL OF SUCCESS IN IMPLEMENTATION OF PRICE INCREASES AND SURCHARGES; INCREASING ACCEPTANCE OF GENETICALLY MODIFIED AND TREATED SEED AND OTHER CHANGES IN OVERALL AGRICULTURAL DEMAND; INCREASING REGULATION OF THE FOOD CHAIN; CHANGES IN THE MARKET CONDITIONS, THE OVERALL ECONOMY, ENERGY PRICES, AND OTHER FACTORS DETAILED FROM TIME TO TIME IN THE COMPANY'S ANNUAL REPORT AND OTHER REPORTS FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.

O I L - D R I C O R P O R A T I O N O F A M E R I C A

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME
(in thousands, except for per share amounts)
(unaudited)

	THIRD QUARTER ENDED APRIL 30,			
	2005	% OF SALES	2004	% OF SALES
NET SALES	\$ 48,249	100.0%	\$ 46,616	100.0%
COST OF SALES	38,490	79.8%	35,548	76.3%
GROSS PROFIT	9,759	20.2%	11,068	23.7%
OPERATING EXPENSES	(6,805)	-14.1%	(8,304)	-17.8%
OPERATING INCOME	2,954	6.1%	2,764	5.9%
INTEREST EXPENSE	(437)	-0.9%	(525)	-1.1%
OTHER INCOME	197	0.4%	(8)	0.0%
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	2,714	5.6%	2,231	4.8%
INCOME TAXES	742	1.5%	407	0.9%
NET INCOME	\$ 1,972	4.1%	\$ 1,824	3.9%
NET INCOME PER SHARE:				
BASIC COMMON	\$ 0.38		\$ 0.36	
BASIC CLASS B COMMON	\$ 0.29		\$ 0.27	
DILUTED	\$ 0.33		\$ 0.30	
AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING:				
BASIC COMMON	4,036		4,050	
BASIC CLASS B COMMON	1,458		1,450	
DILUTED	5,950		6,072	

NINE MONTHS ENDED APRIL 30,

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	2005	% OF SALES	2004	% OF SALES
NET SALES	\$141,851	100.0%	\$140,708	100.0%
COST OF SALES	110,845	78.1%	107,469	76.4%
GROSS PROFIT	31,006	21.9%	33,239	23.6%
LOSS ON IMPAIRED LONG-LIVED ASSETS	--	--	(464)	-0.3%
OPERATING EXPENSES	(22,920)	-16.2%	(24,452)	-17.4%
OPERATING INCOME	8,086	5.7%	8,323	5.9%
INTEREST EXPENSE	(1,332)	-0.9%	(1,589)	-1.1%
OTHER INCOME	590	0.4%	350	0.2%
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	7,344	5.2%	7,084	5.0%
INCOME TAXES	1,946	1.4%	1,814	1.3%
NET INCOME	\$ 5,398	3.8%	\$ 5,270	3.7%
NET INCOME PER SHARE:				
BASIC COMMON	\$ 1.05		\$ 1.03	
BASIC CLASS B COMMON	\$ 0.79		\$ 0.77	
DILUTED	\$ 0.91		\$ 0.89	
AVERAGE SHARES OUTSTANDING:				
BASIC COMMON	4,049		4,036	
BASIC CLASS B COMMON	1,453		1,433	
DILUTED	5,948		5,937	

O I L - D R I C O R P O R A T I O N O F A M E R I C A

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
(in thousands, except for per share amounts)
(unaudited)

	AS OF APRIL 30,	
	2005	2004
CURRENT ASSETS		
CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS AND INVESTMENTS	\$ 16,930	\$ 20,822
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET	23,274	23,446
INVENTORIES	13,490	13,635
PREPAID EXPENSES	7,673	7,911
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	61,367	65,814
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	47,710	46,144
OTHER ASSETS	12,368	15,921
TOTAL ASSETS	\$121,445	\$127,879

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CURRENT LIABILITIES			
CURRENT MATURITIES OF NOTES PAYABLE		\$ 3,080	\$ 4,000
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE		4,782	4,828
DIVIDENDS PAYABLE		558	515
ACCRUED EXPENSES		12,702	16,667
	TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$ 21,122	\$ 26,010
LONG-TERM LIABILITIES			
NOTES PAYABLE		20,240	23,400
OTHER NONCURRENT LIABILITIES		6,391	5,411
	TOTAL LONG-TERM LIABILITIES	26,631	28,811
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		73,692	73,058
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		\$121,445	\$127,879
BOOK VALUE PER SHARE OUTSTANDING		\$ 13.39	\$ 13.36
ADDITIONS TO AND ACQUISITIONS OF			
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	THIRD QUARTER	\$ 1,266	\$ 1,495
	YEAR TO DATE	\$ 5,230	\$ 3,722
DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION CHARGES			
	THIRD QUARTER	\$ 1,813	\$ 1,985
	YEAR TO DATE	\$ 5,635	\$ 6,109

O I L - D R I C O R P O R A T I O N O F A M E R I C A

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (in thousands) (unaudited)

	FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED APRIL 30	
	2005	2004
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
NET INCOME	\$ 5,398	\$ 5,270
ADJUSTMENTS TO RECONCILE NET INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION	5,635	6,109
DECREASE IN ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	915	75
INCREASE IN INVENTORIES	(1,091)	(1,128)
DECREASE IN ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	(177)	(1,732)
(DECREASE) INCREASE IN ACCRYED EXPENSES	(4,040)	2,750
OTHER	937	2,368
TOTAL ADJUSTMENTS	2,179	8,442
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	7,577	13,712
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		

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CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	(5,230)	(3,722)
OTHER	3,916	(4,343)
	-----	-----
NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(1,314)	(8,065)
	-----	-----
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS ON LONG-TERM DEBT	(4,080)	(4,000)
	(1,647)	(1,482)
DIVIDENDS PAID		
PURCHASE OF TREASURY STOCK	(7,082)	(1,344)
OTHER	3,909	1,279
	-----	-----
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(8,900)	(5,547)
	-----	-----
NET (DECREASE) INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(2,637)	100
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	6,348	4,753
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CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, APRIL 30	\$ 3,711	\$ 4,853
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