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HORMEL FOODS CORP /DE/ Form 4 December 09, 2004 OMB APPROVAL FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OMB 3235-0287 Washington, D.C. 20549 Number: Check this box January 31, Expires: if no longer 2005 STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF subject to Estimated average **SECURITIES** Section 16. burden hours per Form 4 or response... 0.5 Form 5 Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, obligations Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section may continue. 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 See Instruction 1(b). (Print or Type Responses) 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading SPLINTER JAMES M Issuer Symbol HORMEL FOODS CORP /DE/ (Check all applicable) [HRL] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) **1 HORMEL PLACE** 12/07/2004 Vice President (Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Filed(Month/Day/Year) Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting AUSTIN, MN 55912 Person (City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 1.Title of 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3. 4. Securities 5. Amount of 6. Ownership 7. Nature of Security (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if TransactionAcquired (A) or Securities Form: Direct Indirect (Instr. 3) Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial anv (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Ownership (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Owned (I) Following (Instr. 4) (Instr. 4) Reported (A) Transaction(s) or (Instr. 3 and 4) Code V Amount (D) Price Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly. Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

 Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

 (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5. Number of	6. Date Exercisable and	7. Title and Amount of	1
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orDerivative	Expiration Date	Underlying Securities	
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	Securities	(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 3 and 4)	ł

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(Instr. 3)	Price of Derivative Security	(Month/Day/Ye	ar) (Instr. 8)	Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)				(
			Code V	(A) (I	D) Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 30.07	12/07/2004	А	12,000	<u>(1)</u>	12/07/2014	Common Stock	12,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships				
1	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other	
SPLINTER JAMES M 1 HORMEL PLACE AUSTIN, MN 55912			Vice President		
Signatures					

James M. Splinter, by Power of Attorney

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

12/09/2004

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) The option vests in four equal annual installments beginning on December 7, 2005.

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.

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