

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

**FORM 4**

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

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

## OMB APPROVAL

OMB  
Number: 3235-0287  
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2005  
Estimated average  
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response... 0.5

(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

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

(City) (State) (Zip)

**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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount (A) or (D)	Price	
Common Stock	08/22/2006		M		5,000	A \$ 14.6562	163,714.5 D
Common Stock	08/22/2006		F		1,927	D \$ 38.02	161,787.5 D
Common Stock	08/22/2006		F		1,362	D \$ 38.02	160,425.5 <sup>(1)</sup> D

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

**Persons who respond to the collection of  
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SEC 1474  
(9-02)

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 Acquired (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. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 14.6562	08/22/2006		M <sup>(2)</sup>	5,000	<sup>(3)</sup> 12/18/2007	Common Stock	5,000

## Reporting Owners

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

## 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.

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