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UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC Form 4 December 03, 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 TOWNSEND STEVEN H Issuer Symbol UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC (Check all applicable) [UNFI] (Last) (First) (Middle) 3. Date of Earliest Transaction _X_ Director 10% Owner X_Officer (give title Other (specify (Month/Day/Year) below) below) C/O UNITED NATURAL FOODS 12/01/2004 President, CEO, COB INC, 260 LAKE ROAD (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 DAYVILLE, CT 06241 Person (State) (Zip) (City) 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) any Code Disposed of (D) Beneficially (D) or Indirect Beneficial (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) Owned (I) Ownership 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
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transacti	orDerivative	Expiration Date	Underlying Securities

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Security (Instr. 3)	or Exercise Price of Derivative Security		any (Month/Day/Year)	Code (Instr. 8)	Securities Acquired (Disposed o (Instr. 3, 4 5)	of (D)	(Month/Day/Year)		(Instr. 3 and 4)	
				Code V	7 (A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount Number Shares
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 28.14	12/01/2004		М	220,000		<u>(1)</u>	12/01/2014	Common Stock	220,00
Reporting Owners										

Reporting Owner Name / Address		Relationships					
	Reporting O when Funce / Funcess		10% Owner	Officer	Other		
TOWNSEND STEVEN H C/O UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC 260 LAKE ROAD DAYVILLE, CT 06241		Х		President, CEO, COB			
Signatures							
Steven H. Townsend	12/01/2004						
<u>**</u> Signature of	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).

The employee stock options were granted under the 2002 Stock Incentive Plan and vest immediately. Shares of common stock obtained
(1) through the exercise of options under this grant become eligible to be sold in four equal annual installments, beginning on the first anniversary of the grant date.

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.

Reporting Person