

HORMEL FOODS CORP /DE/  
Form 4  
May 31, 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 \*  
VORPAHL LARRY L

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)  
05/26/2006

\_\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_\_\_ 10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below) \_\_\_\_\_ Other (specify below)  
Group 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 Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	05/26/2006		M		10,000	A	\$ 26.09
Common Stock	05/26/2006		M		7,500	A	\$ 22.35
Common Stock	05/26/2006		M		2,500	A	\$ 26.93
Common Stock	05/26/2006		F		13,907	D	\$ 35.65
Common Stock	05/26/2006		F		2,700	D	\$ 35.65

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

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(9-02)

**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. Amount or Number of Shares
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 26.09	05/26/2006		M <sup>(1)</sup>	10,000	<sup>(2)</sup> 01/17/2012	Common Stock	10,000
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 22.35	05/26/2006		M <sup>(1)</sup>	7,500	<sup>(4)</sup> 12/02/2012	Common Stock	7,500
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 26.93	05/26/2006		M <sup>(1)</sup>	2,500	<sup>(5)</sup> 12/02/2013	Common Stock	2,500

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
VORPAHL LARRY L 1 HORMEL PLACE AUSTIN, MN 55912			Group Vice President	

## Signatures

Larry L. Vorpahl, by Power of Attorney  
05/30/2006

\_\_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 has exercised Stock Withholding Rights in connection with this option exercise, as reflected on Table I.
- (2) The option vested in four equal annual installments beginning on January 17, 2003.
- (3) Reporting Person also holds indirectly 817 shares in the JEPST Trust.
- (4) The option is on a vesting schedule of four equal annual installments which began December 2, 2003
- (5) The option is on a vesting schedule of four equal annual installments which began December 2, 2004.

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.