

BROWN ERIC A  
Form 4  
December 04, 2002

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| <p><b>FORM 4</b></p> <p>o Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue.<br/>See Instruction 1(b).</p> <p>(Print or Type Responses)</p> | <p><b>UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION</b></p> <p>Washington, D.C. 20549</p> <p><b>STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP</b></p> <p>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</p> | <p>OMB APPROVAL</p> <hr/> <p>OMB Number: 3235-0287<br/>Expires: January 31, 2005<br/>Estimated average burden hours per response. . . 0.5</p> |
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| <p>1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Brown, Eric A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Last) (First) (Middle)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">1 Hormel Place</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Street)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Austin, MN 55912</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(City) (State) (Zip)</p> | <p>2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Hormel Foods Corporation<br/>HRL</p> | <p>4. Statement for (Month/Day/Year)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December, 2002</p> | <p>6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Group Vice President</p> <p>7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person</p> |
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**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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|---|
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| Common Stock |  |  |      |   |        |            |       | 59,270  | D |                 |
|--------------|--|--|------|---|--------|------------|-------|---------|---|-----------------|
| Common Stock |  |  | Code | V | Amount | (A) or (D) | Price | 20,800* | I | Owned by Spouse |
| Common Stock |  |  |      |   |        |            |       | 2,730   | I | 401(k) Trust    |
| Common Stock |  |  |      |   |        |            |       | 5,394   | I | JEPST Trust     |
| Common Stock |  |  |      |   |        |            |       | 1,040   | I | Founders Fund   |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
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|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |
|              |  |  |      |   |        |            |       |         |   |                 |

**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. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4) | 10. Ownership Form of Derivative Securities: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Name of Beneficial Owner (Instr. 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--------|-----|--|-----------------|--|----------------------------|---|---------|--|--|--|---|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V | (A)    | (D) | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date | Title  | Amount or Number of Shares |   |         |  |  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$22.35  | 12-2-02                              |  | A                              |   | 55,000 |     | (1)  | 12-2-12         |  | Common Stock               | 55,000  | \$22.35 | 55,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$10.25  |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 1-25-04         |  |                            |   |         | 30,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$12.375   |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 1-11-05         |  |                            |   |         | 30,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$11.9375  |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 11-21-05        |  |                            |   |         | 50,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$14.65625   |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 12-18-07        |  |                            |   |         | 30,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$15.90625   |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 12-23-08        |  |                            |   |         | 30,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$19.25  |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 1-26-10         |  |                            |   |         | 50,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$17.6875  |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 12-6-10         |  |                            |   |         | 60,000                                     | D  |  |   |
| Stock Options (Right to Buy)               | \$26.09  |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  | 1-17-12         |  |                            |   |         | 50,000                                     | D  |  |   |
|  |  |                                      |  |                                |   |        |     |  |                 |  |                            |   |         |  |  |  |   |

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Explanation of Responses:

(1) The option vests 25% on 12-2-03 and 25% each year thereafter.

\*Beneficial Ownership Disclaimed.

/s/ Eric A. Brown

12/04/02

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person

Date

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

\* 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).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

<http://www.sec.gov/divisions/corpfin/forms/form4.htm>

*Last update: 09/05/2002*