

PAXTON GARY C  
 Form 4  
 December 04, 2002

<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.                  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                  Expires: January 31, 2005                  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;">Paxton, Gary C</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 HRL</p>	<p>3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)</p>	<p>4. Statement for (Month/Day/Year)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December, 2002</p>	<p>5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Day/Year)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">/</p>	<p>6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer</p> <p>(Check all applicable)</p> <p><input 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;">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								12,937	D	
Common Stock			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	935	I	Founders Fund

**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		15,000		(1)	12-2-12		Common Stock	15,000	\$22.35	15,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$11.75								1-13-03					4,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$10.25								1-25-04					14,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$12.375								1-11-05					16,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$11.9375								11-21-05					30,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$14.65625								12-18-07					16,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$15.90625								12-23-08					20,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$19.25								1-26-10					20,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$17.6875								12-6-10					20,000	D		
Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$26.09								1-17-12					15,000	D		

Explanation of Responses:

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

/s/ Gary C. Paxton

12/04/2002

\*\* 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*