

LEATHERBY DENNIS  
Form 4  
October 05, 2011

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287  
Expires: January 31, 2005  
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

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 \*  
**LEATHERBY DENNIS**

(Last) (First) (Middle)

2200 DON TYSON PARKWAY

(Street)

SPRINGDALE, AR 72762

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
**TYSON FOODS INC [TSN]**

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
10/03/2011

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
Executive VP and CFO

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 Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price
Class A Common Stock					82,720	D	
Class A Common Stock	10/04/2011		M <sup>(3)</sup>		17,730	A	\$ 17.1
Class A Common Stock	10/04/2011		S <sup>(3)</sup>		5,931	D	\$ 17.1
Class A Common Stock	09/29/2011		J <sup>(4)</sup>		154	A	\$ 0
					22,554	I	Employee Stock

Stock

Purchase Plan

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

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SEC 1474  
(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 Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
				Code V (A) (D)		Date Exercisable Expiration Date	Title
Performance Shares	(1)	10/03/2011		A(1)	12,961	(1) (1)	Class A Common Stock
Performance Shares	(2)	09/28/2008	10/04/2011	M(2)	17,730	(2) 10/04/2011	Class A Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
LEATHERBY DENNIS 2200 DON TYSON PARKWAY SPRINGDALE, AR 72762			Executive VP and CFO	

## Signatures

/s/Nathan A. Hodne by Power of Attorney for Dennis Leatherby  
10/05/2011

\_\_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) The award will vest on or expire two business days following the Issuer's 2014 fiscal year based upon a comparison of the market price of the Issuer's Class A Common Stock to a peer group of publicly traded companies. The number of performance shares that can vest under the awards range from 50% to 150% of target level, and the number of derivative securities reported herein is at the maximum vesting

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level of 150%.

(2) On September 29, 2008 the Reporting Person received a grant of performance shares which vested on October 4, 2011. The performance shares were previously reported as derivative securities at the 150% level. On October 4, 2011, 17,730 shares vested (150% level) and are reported herein as acquired non-derivative securities.

(3) On October 4, 2011, 17,730 shares of performance Class A Common Stock vested. The award of those performance shares to the Reporting Person has previously been reported (see Footnote #2). Pursuant to an election made by the Reporting Person, 5,931 shares were sold by the Reporting Person to the Issuer on October 4, 2011, to satisfy tax withholding obligations related to the vesting.

(4) Represents shares of the Issuer's Class A Common Stock purchased for the Reporting Person's account under the Issuer's Employee Stock Purchase Plan since the last Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership was filed by the Reporting Person. Such acquisitions are exempt from Section 16 reporting requirements pursuant to Rule 16b-3.

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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