

FIFTH THIRD BANCORP  
Form SC 13G  
February 14, 2006

OMB APPROVAL  
OMB Number: 3235-0145  
Expires: February 28, 2006  
Estimated average burden  
hours per response...11

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

**SCHEDULE 13G**

**Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  
(Amendment No. )\***

Meridian Bioscience  
(Name of Issuer)  
Common Stock  
(Title of Class of Securities)  
589584101  
(CUSIP Number)  
December 31, 2005  
(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

- Rule 13d-1(b)
- Rule 13d-1(c)
- Rule 13d-1(d)

\* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ( Act ) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**



CUSIP No. 589584101

Page 2 of 7

1 NAMES OF REPORTING PERSONS:  
FIFTH THIRD BANCORP

I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY):  
31-0854434

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS):

- (a)   
(b)

3 SEC USE ONLY:

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION:

OHIO

5 SOLE VOTING POWER:

NUMBER OF 1,717,896 shares

6 SHARED VOTING POWER:

SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 0 shares

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER:

EACH REPORTING PERSON 3,363 shares

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER:

WITH: 750 shares

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON:

1,716,333

CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES (SEE INSTRUCTIONS):

**10**

b

Fifth Third Bancorp, through fiduciary accounts held in its subsidiaries, has neither voting power nor dispositive power with respect to an additional 573,283 shares which are not deemed to be beneficially owned.

PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9):

**11**

6.59%

TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS):

**12**

HC

---

Securities and Exchange Commission  
Schedule 13G  
Page 3 of 7 pages

**Item 1(a). Name of Issuer:**

Meridian Bioscience

**Item 1(b). Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:**

3471 River Hills Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45244

**Item 2(a). Name of Person Filing:**

Fifth Third Bancorp

**Item 2(b). Address of Principal Business Office or, if None, Residence:**

Fifth Third Center, Cincinnati, Ohio 45263

**Item 2(c). Citizenship:**

Ohio

**Item 2(d). Title of Class of Securities:**

Common Stock

**Item 2(e). CUSIP Number:**

853887107

---

Securities and Exchange Commission

Schedule 13G

Page 4 of 7 pages

**Item 3. If this statement is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b), or 13d-2(b) or (c), check whether the person filing is a:**

- (a)  Broker or dealer registered under Section 15 of the Act;
  - (b)  Bank as defined in Section 3(a)(6) of the Act;
  - (c)  Insurance company as defined in Section 3(a)(19) of the Act;
  - (d)  Investment company registered under Section 8 of the Investment Company Act;
  - (e)  Investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E);
  - (f)  Employee benefit plan or endowment fund in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(F);
  - (g)  Parent holding company or control person in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G);
  - (h)  Savings association as defined in Section 3(b) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act;
  - (i)  Church plan that is excluded from the definition of an investment company under Section 3(c)(14) of the Investment Company Act;
  - (j)  Group, in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(J).
-

Securities and Exchange Commission  
 Schedule 13G  
 Page 5 of 7 pages

**Item 4. Ownership**

This report relates to beneficial holdings by Fifth Third Bancorp, through several of its subsidiaries, of outstanding shares of the Common Stock of the Issuer. The following tabulations set forth the shares with respect of which voting rights are held or shared and those shares to which there is dispositive power. The following are held in fiduciary accounts in Fifth Third Bancorp's subsidiaries and are deemed beneficially owned:

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned: 1,717,896 shares
- (b) Percent of Class: 6.59%
- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
  - (i) Sole power to vote or to direct the vote 1,717,896 shares
  - (ii) Shared power to vote or to direct the vote 0 shares
  - (iii) Sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of 3,363 shares
  - (iv) Shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition 750 shares  
of

**Item 5. Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class**

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent of the class of securities, check the following o.

**Item 6. Ownership of More than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person**

n/a



Securities and Exchange Commission

Schedule 13G

Page 6 of 7 pages

**Item 7. Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company**

Fifth Third Bancorp, as parent holding company of the subsidiaries listed below, has filed this schedule. The subsidiaries are filing in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G).

Subsidiary	Item 3 Classification
Fifth Third Bank	Bank
Fifth Third Bank (Tennessee)	Bank
Fifth Third Bank (Michigan)	Bank
Fifth Third Asset Management, Inc.	Investment Adviser

**Item 8. Identification and Classification of Members of the Group**

Not Applicable

**Item 9. Notice of Dissolution of Group**

Not Applicable

---

Securities and Exchange Commission  
Schedule 13G  
Page 7 of 7 pages

**Item 10. Certifications**

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired and are not held in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect.

**SIGNATURE**

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct

Fifth Third Bancorp

/s/ Charles Drucker

Executive Vice President

February 14, 2006

Today s Date