DEAN FOODS CO Form 4 January 04, 2012

FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

SECURITIES

OMB APPROVAL OMB

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if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations

may continue.

See Instruction

Check this box

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(b).

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * HARDIN JOSEPH S JR

(First)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

(Middle)

DEAN FOODS CO [DF] 3. Date of Earliest Transaction

_X__ Director

820 PICACHO LANE

(Last)

(City)

(Month/Day/Year)

10% Owner Officer (give title _ Other (specify

12/31/2011

(Street) 4. If Amendment, Date Original

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

Person

SANTA BARBARA, CA 93108

(Stata)

(City)	(State) (A	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned							
1.Title of	2. Transaction Date		3.	4. Securi			5. Amount of	6. Ownership	7. Nature of
Security	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	TransactionAcquired (A) or				Securities	Form: Direct	Indirect
(Instr. 3)		any	Code	Disposed of (D)			Beneficially	(D) or	Beneficial
		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	(Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		Owned	Indirect (I)	Ownership	
						Following	(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
					(4)		Reported		
					(A)		Transaction(s)		
			G 1 17		or	ъ.	(Instr. 3 and 4)		
			Code V	Amount	(D)	Price			
Common Stock	12/31/2011		A	5,214 (1)	A	\$0	231,557 (2)	D	
Common Stock	10/27/2011		Z	400 (3)	D	\$0	3,150 (3)	I	by Trusts.

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not (9-02)required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

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1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction Date	3A. Deemed	4.	5.	6. Date Exer	cisable and	7. Title	and	8. Price of	9. Nu
Derivative	Conversion	(Month/Day/Year)	Execution Date, if	Transaction	orNumber	Expiration D	ate	Amour	nt of	Derivative	Deriv
Security	or Exercise		any	Code	of	(Month/Day/	Year)	Underl	ying	Security	Secui
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	Derivative	e		Securit	ies	(Instr. 5)	Bene
	Derivative				Securities			(Instr.	3 and 4)		Own
	Security				Acquired						Follo
	·				(A) or						Repo
					Disposed						Trans
					of (D)						(Instr
					(Instr. 3,						
					4, and 5)						
									A		
									Amount		
						Date	Expiration		or		
						Exercisable	Date		Number		
				~					of		
				Code V	(A) (D)				Shares		

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships						
reporting o macrimine, reduces	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
HARDIN JOSEPH S JR							
820 PICACHO LANE	X						
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93108							

Signatures

Katherine K. Connell, Attorney-In-Fact

**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) These are shares of restricted stock issued in payment of fees owed for services as an independent director. All such shares are subject to vesting in three equal increments, with the first vesting occurring as of the date the shares were issued and then annually thereafter.
- (2) Includes 8,876 shares of common stock from restricted stock units that have vested, and the reporting person has elected to defer receipt until he is no longer a member of the Issuer's Board of Directors.
- (3) Reflects the transfer of 400 shares of the Issuer's common stock directly to a beneficiary of the trust pursuant to the terms of the trust.
- (4) The reporting person is the trustee and disclaims all beneficial interest except to the extent of his pecuniary interest in the trusts, if any. The reporting person's sister and the reporting person's children are the beneficiaries of the trusts.

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.

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