

UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC
 Form 4
 December 14, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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 *
 TOWNSEND STEVEN H

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC
 [UNFI]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer
 (Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 C/O UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC, 260 LAKE ROAD
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 12/12/2005

____ Director
 ____ Officer (give title below) 10% Owner
 ____ Other (specify below)
 Former President, CEO & COB

DAYVILLE, CT 06241

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

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

(City) (State) (Zip)

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) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | (A) or (D) | Amount or Price | | |
| Common Stock | 12/12/2005 | | S | D | 25,000 \$ 28,638 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | 28,632 | I | See footnote ⁽¹⁾ |

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

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

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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) | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--------------|----------------------------|
| | | | | Code | V (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 11.4 | 12/12/2005 | | M | 8,770 | 10/21/2005 | 12/03/2011 | Common Stock | 8,770 |
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | \$ 12.55 | 12/12/2005 | | M | 7,968 | 10/21/2005 | 12/03/2012 | Common Stock | 7,968 |

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address

Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

TOWNSEND STEVEN H
C/O UNITED NATURAL FOODS INC
260 LAKE ROAD
DAYVILLE, CT 06241

Former President, CEO & COB

Signatures

Mark Shamber, power-of-attorney
in fact

12/14/2005

**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).

Includes (i) 3,380 shares of common stock allocated to Mr. Townsend under the United Natural Foods, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan as of December 13, 2005, (ii) 1,670 shares of common stock allocated to Mr. Townsend under the United Natural Foods, Inc. 401(k) plan's UNFI Stock Fund as of December 13, 2005 and (iii) 23,582 shares of common stock owned by Mr. Townsend's wife and children.

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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