#### SEBRING JOSEPH B

Form 4

August 28, 2008

## FORM 4

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

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF

**SECURITIES** 

OMB Number:

3235-0287

**OMB APPROVAL** 

Expires:

January 31, 2005

0.5

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response...

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction

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

1(b).

(Last)

Security

(Instr. 3)

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \* SEBRING JOSEPH B

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

(Middle)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction

SMITHFIELD FOODS INC [SFD]

(Month/Day/Year)

Director X\_ Officer (give title 10% Owner

C/O 200 COMMERCE STREET

(First)

(Street)

08/27/2008

below)

Other (specify

President of John Morrell & Co 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check

4. If Amendment, Date Original

Filed(Month/Day/Year)

Applicable Line)

\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting

(Instr. 4)

Person

SMITHFIELD, VA 23430

(City) 1. Title of

(State)

(Month/Day/Year)

(Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned 2. Transaction Date 2A. Deemed 3.

Execution Date, if

(Month/Day/Year)

4. Securities TransactionAcquired (A) or Code Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8)

5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following

6. Ownership 7. Nature of Form: Direct Indirect (D) or Indirect Beneficial Ownership (T)

(Instr. 4)

(A)

Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)

Code V Amount (D) Price

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)

1. Title of 3. Transaction Date 3A. Deemed 4. 5. Number of 6. Date Exercisable and 7. Title and Amount Derivative Conversion (Month/Day/Year) Execution Date, if **Transaction**Derivative **Expiration Date** of Underlying Securities Security or Exercise Code Securities (Month/Day/Year) any

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(Instr. 3) Price of (Month/Day/Year) (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) (Instr. 3 and 4) Derivative or Disposed of Security (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) Code V (A) (D) Date Expiration Title Amount Exercisable Date Number of Share Performance common (1) 06/16/2013 (1) 08/27/2008 A 10,000 10,00 **Share Units** stock

## **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address Relationships

Director 10% Owner Officer Other

SEBRING JOSEPH B C/O 200 COMMERCE STREET SMITHFIELD, VA 23430

President of John Morrell & Co

# **Signatures**

/s/Michael H. Cole, as Attorney-In-Fact 08/28/2008

\*\*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).

Each performance share unit represents a contingent right to receive one share of Smithfield common stock. The performance share units vest in 20% increments once the volume-weighted average of the closing price of Smithfield's common stock for 15 consecutive trading days equals or exceeds \$26, \$32, \$38, \$44 and \$50. In addition, Mr. Sebring must be employed by Smithfield one year from the date of grant for the performance share units to vest.

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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