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

Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the quarterly period ended: 03/31/99 Commission file number: 0-22818

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

50 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard, Uniondale, New York

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports, and (2) has been subject to such filing requirement for the past 90 days.

Yes X No

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (516) 237-6200

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

13,970,790 shares of Common Stock \$.01 par value, as of May 11, 1999.

## THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. INDEX

Page

Part I	Financial Information	Page
Item 1	Financial Statements	
	Consolidated Balance Sheets - March 31, 1999 (unaudited) and June 30, 1998	2
	Consolidated Statements of Income - Three months and nine months ended March 31, 1999 and 1998 (unaudited)	3
	Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows - Nine months ended March 31, 1999 and 1998 (unaudited)	4
	Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Equity - Nine months ended March 31, 1999 (unaudited)	5
	Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	6 to 10
Item 2		6 to 10
Item 2	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	
	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	
	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations  Other Information	
	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations  Other Information  Items 1 to 5 are not applicable	11 to 15

## PART I - ITEM 1 - FINANCIAL INFORMATION THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	March 31, 1999	June 30, 1998
	(Unaudited)	(Note)
ASSETS Current assets: Cash Trade accounts receivable, less	\$ 442,000	\$ 495,000
allowance for doubtful accounts of \$486,000 and \$325,000 Inventories	22,245,000 18,417,000	13,614,000 13,278,000
Other current assets	3,865,000	1,830,000
Total Current Assets	44,969,000	29,217,000
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$1,346,000 and \$834,000 Goodwill and other intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$5,885,000 and \$3,320,000	7,798,000	1,065,000 54,253,000
Deferred financing costs, net of accumulated amortization of \$1,299,000 and \$1,055,000 Other assets	2,008,000 4,885,000	1,502,000 2,254,000
Total Assets	\$188,879,000	\$88,291,000 ======
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY Current liabilities: Accounts payable and accrued expenses Current portion of long-term debt Income taxes payable	\$ 17,882,000 6,765,000 3,493,000 	\$ 9,715,000 4,554,000 410,000 14,679,000
Long-term debt, less current portion Other liabilities Deferred income taxes Total liabilities	54,456,000 2,700,000 1,222,000 	16,561,000 2,628,000 1,176,000 35,044,000
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholder's equity: Preferred stock - \$.01 par value; authorized 5,000,000 shares, no shares issued Common stock - \$.01 par value, authorized 40,000,000 shares, issued 13,820,640 and 11,656,299 shares	138,000	117,000
Additional paid-in capital Retained earnings	86,703,000 15,795,000	45,122,000 8,283,000
	102,636,000	53,522,000
Less: 100,000 shares of treasury stock, at cost	275,000	275,000
Total stockholder's equity	102,361,000	53,247,000
Total liabilities and stockholder's equity	\$188,879,000 ======	\$88,291,000 ======

Note - The balance sheet at June 30, 1998 has been derived from the audited financial statements at that date.  $\,$ 

	Marc	Three Months Ended March 31		hs Ended 31	
	1999	1998	1999	1998	
Net sales Cost of Sales	\$50,833,000 30,494,000	\$28,212,000 16,692,000	\$144,931,000 87,574,000	\$73,224,000 43,604,000	
Gross profit	20,339,000	11,520,000	57,357,000		
Selling, general and administrative expenses Depreciation of	12,449,000	8,039,000	37,232,000	21,364,000	
property and equipment Amortization of	206,000	69,000	520,000	183,000	
goodwill and other intangible assets	863,000	392,000	2,565,000	927,000	
	13,518,000	8,500,000	40,317,000	22,474,000	
Operating income	6,821,000	3,020,000	17,040,000	7,146,000	
Interest expense, net Amortization of deferred financing	1,088,000	527,000	3,500,000	1,706,000	
costs	81,000	122,000	244,000	396,000	
	1,169,000	649,000	3,744,000	2,102,000	
Income before income taxes	5,652,000	2,371,000	13,296,000	5,044,000	
Provision for income taxes	2,459,000	982,000	5,784,000	2,118,000	
Net income	\$ 3,193,000	\$ 1,389,000 =======	\$ 7,512,000 ======	\$2,926,000	
Earnings Per Common Share: Basic	\$ 0.23 ======	\$ 0.12 =======		\$ 0.30 ======	
Diluted	\$ 0.21 =======	\$ 0.11 =======	\$ 0.49 ======	\$ 0.26	
Common equivalent shares: Basic	13,690,000 ======	11,482,000	13,516,000 =====	9,862,000 ======	
Diluted	15,562,000 ======	13,167,000 ======	15,392,000 ======	11,352,000	

	Nine Months Ended March 31		
	1999 	1998	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
OASH FEWS FROM OF ENATING ACTIVITIES			
Net income Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$7,512,000	\$ 2,926,000	
Depreciation of property and goodwill Amortization of goodwill and other	520,000	183,000	
intangible assets	2,565,000	927,000	
Amortization of deferred financing costs Provision for doubtful accounts Increase (decrease) in cash attributable to changes in assets and liabilities, net of amounts applicable to acquired businesses:	244,000 35,000	396,000 76,000	
Accounts receivable	(3,617,000)	(1,856,000)	
Inventories	1,159,000	(1,267,000)	
Other current assets Other assets	(1,992,000) (2,631,000)	(450,000) (534,000)	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,320,000)	(3,626,000)	
Income taxes payable	3,084,000	1,454,000	
Net cash provided by (used in)			
operating activities	5,559,000	(1,771,000)	
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired	(24,952,000)		
Acquisition of property and equipment	(668,000)	(205,000)	
Net cash used in investing activities	(25,620,000)	(24,042,000)	
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES Proceeds from bank revolving credit			
facility, net	250,000	1,250,000	
Proceeds from senior term loan Payment of senior term loan	60,000,000 (20,350,000)	30,000,000 (25,342,000)	
Costs in connection with bank financing Proceeds from public stock offering,	(750,000)	(785,000)	
net of related expenses Proceeds from exercise of warrants and		20,852,000	
options, net of related expenses	1,817,000	2,070,000	
Payment of debt from acquired company Collections of receivables from	(20,678,000)	(2,103,000)	
equipment sales Payment of other long-term debt		303,000 (165,000)	
Other - net	(281,000)	(191,000)	
Net cash provided by financing			
activities	20,008,000	25,889,000	
Net (decrease) increase in cash Cash at beginning of period	(53,000) 495,000	76,000 219,000	
Cook at and of pariod	т. 442 000	Ф 205 000	
Cash at end of period	\$ 442,000	\$ 295,000	

## THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY (UNAUDITED) FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 1999

	Common Stock			Treasury Stock			
	Shares	Amount	Additional Paid -in Capital	Retained Earnings	Shares	Amount	Total
Balance at June 30, 1998	11,656,299	\$ 117,000	\$45,122,000	\$ 8,283,000	100,000	\$(275,000)	\$53,247,000
Issuance of 1,716,111 shares in connection with the acquisition of businesses  Exercise of Common Stock	1,716,111	17,000	39,733,000				39,750,000
warrants, net of related expenses	90,930	1,000	88,000				89,000
Exercise of stock options	357,300	3,000	1,725,000				1,728,000
Non-cash compensation charge	35,000						35,000
Net income for the period				7,512,000			7,512,000
Balance at March 31, 1999	13,820,640	\$138,000 ======	. , ,	\$15,795,000 ======	100,000	\$(275,000) ======	\$102,361,000 ======

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)

#### GENERAL:

The Company and its subsidiaries operate as one business segment: the sale of natural and other food products. A substantial portion of the products are manufactured by various co-packers.

The Company's natural food product lines consist of Hain Pure Foods, Westbrae Natural, Arrowhead Mills, DeBoles Nutritional Foods, Earth's Best (baby foods), and Garden of Eatin'. Other product lines include Hollywood Foods (principally healthy cooking oils), Weight Watchers (dry and refrigerated products), Estee (sugar-free, medically directed foods), Kineret (kosher foods), Terra Chips (natural vegetable chips), Boston Popcorn (snack products) and Nile Spice (dry soup products).

#### 2. BASIS OF PRESENTATION:

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars, except share and per share amounts.

The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by generally accepted accounting principles. In the opinion of management, all adjustments (including normal recurring accruals) considered necessary for a fair presentation have been included. Reference is made to the footnotes to the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company and subsidiaries as at June 30, 1998 and for the year then ended included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for information not included in these condensed footnotes.

## 3. START UP COSTS:

In April 1998, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants issued SOP 98-5, "Reporting Costs of Start-up Activities" ("SOP 98-5"). SOP 98-5 is effective beginning on July 1, 1999, and requires the start-up costs capitalized prior to such date be written-off as a cumulative effect of an accounting change as of July 1, 1999 and any future start-up costs to be expensed as incurred. Start-up activities are defined broadly as those one-time activities related to introducing a new product or service, conducting business in a new territory, conducting business with a new class of customer or commencing some new operations. It is not practicable to estimate what effect this change will have on fiscal 2000 earnings, however, had SOP 98-5 been adopted at the beginning of the nine month period ended March 31, 1999, income before income taxes would have been reduced by approximately \$3,200,000.

## 4. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME:

On July 1, 1998, the Company adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement of Financial Accounting Standard Statement No. 130 ("FAS 130") "Reporting Comprehensive Income." FAS 130 establishes new rules for the reporting and display of comprehensive income and its components; however, the adoption of FAS 130 had no impact on the Company's net income or stockholders' equity.

#### 5. ACQUISITIONS:

On December 8, 1998, the Company acquired the Nile Spice Soup and Meal Cup ("Nile Spice") business from The Quaker Oats Company. The Nile Spice product line includes premium soups and meals packaged in cups that are sold under the Nile Spice and Near East brands. The cash purchase price amounted to approximately \$4.3 million. In addition, the Company assumed certain liabilities directly related to the acquired business. The Company used its revolving credit facility to fund the purchase price.

On July 1, 1998, the Company acquired the following businesses and brands from The Shansby Group and other investors: Arrowhead Mills (natural foods), DeBoles Nutritional Foods (natural pasta products), Terra Chips (natural vegetable chips) and Garden of Eatin', Inc. (natural snack products). The aggregate purchase price, including acquisition costs, for these businesses amounted to approximately \$61.5 million. The purchase price was paid by the issuance of 1,716,111 shares of the Company's common stock with a market value of \$39.75 million and approximately \$21.7 million in cash. In addition, the Company repaid approximately \$20.8 million of outstanding debt of the acquired businesses. To finance the acquisition, the Company entered into a \$75 million credit facility with its bank providing for a \$60 million Term Loan and a \$15 million revolving credit line.

On October 14, 1997, the Company completed a tender offer for all of the shares of Westbrae Natural, Inc. ("Westbrae), a publicly-owned company, for \$3.625 per share of common stock. The aggregate cash purchase price, including acquisition costs, amounted to approximately \$24 million. In addition, the Company repaid approximately \$2.1 million of outstanding Westbrae debt. Westbrae (formerly known as Vestro Natural Foods, Inc.) is a leading formulator and marketer of high quality natural and organic foods sold under the brand names Westbrae Natural, Westsoy, Little Bear and Bearitos, encompassing 300 food items such as non-dairy beverages, chips, snacks, beans and soups.

Unaudited pro forma results of operations (in thousands, except per share amounts) for the nine months ended March 31, 1998, assuming the above acquisitions, excluding Nile Spice which is not material, had occurred as of July 1, 1997 are as follows:

Nine Months Ended March 31, 1998

Net sales \$126,175 Net income 3,895 Net income per share (diluted) \$ .30

The pro forma operating results shown above are not necessarily indicative of operations in the periods following acquisition.

The above acquisitions have been accounted for as purchases and, therefore, operating results have been included in the accompanying financial statements from the respective dates of acquisition. Goodwill arising from the acquisitions is being amortized on a straight-line basis over 40 years.

### 6. INVENTORIES:

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	March 31, 1999	June 30, 1998
Finished goods Raw materials and packaging	\$12,105,000 6,312,000  \$18,417,000 =======	\$10,006,000 3,272,000  \$13,278,000 =======
LONG-TERM DEBT:		
	March 31, 1999	June 30, 1998
Senior Term Loan Revolving Credit Notes payable to sellers in connection with acquisition of companies and other	\$58,250,000 2,600,000	\$18,600,000 2,350,000
long-term debt	371,000	165,000
Current portion	61,221,000 6,765,000	21,115,000 4,554,000
	\$54,456,000	\$16,561,000

On July 1, 1998, in connection with the acquisitions of businesses from The Shansby Group, the Company and its bank entered into a \$75 million Amended and Restated Credit Facility ("Facility") providing for a \$60 million senior term loan and a \$15 million revolving credit line. The entire senior term loan was borrowed on that date to pay the cash portion of the purchase price of the acquisitions, fund closing costs, repay debt of the acquired businesses, and to repay the then existing balance (\$18.6 million) on the Facility. The interest rate on the Facility is based partially on the ratio of outstanding debt to operating cash flow (as defined). The Company may elect to pay interest based on the bank's base rate or the LIBOR rate. Borrowings on a base rate basis may range from 0.50% below the bank's base rate to 1.00% above the bank's base rate. Borrowings on a LIBOR basis may range from 1.75% to 3.00% over the LIBOR rate. The entire senior term loan is currently borrowed on a LIBOR basis. The senior term loan is repayable in quarterly principal installments which commenced on December 31, 1998 through maturity of the Facility on September 30, 2005.

Pursuant to the revolving credit line, the Company may borrow up to 85% of eligible trade receivables and 60% of eligible inventories. Amounts outstanding under the Facility are collateralized by principally all of the Company's assets. The Facility contains certain financial and other restrictive covenants, which, among other matters, restrict the payment of dividends and the incurrence of additional indebtedness. The Company is also required to maintain various financial ratios, including minimum working capital and interest and fixed charge coverage ratios and is required to achieve certain earnings levels. As of March 31, 1999, \$12.4 million was available under the Company's revolving credit line.

## 8. EARNINGS PER SHARE:

The Company reports basic and diluted earnings per share in accordance with FASB Statement No. 128, "Earnings Per Share" ("FAS 128"). Basic earnings per share excludes any dilutive effects of options and warrants. Diluted earnings per share includes all dilutive common stock equivalents such as stock options and warrants.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings per share pursuant to FAS 128.

	Three Months Ended March 31		Nine Montl March	31
	1999 1998		1999	
Numerator: Net income - numerator for basic and diluted earnings per share		\$ 1,389,000	\$ 7,512,000	, ,
Denominator: Denominator for basic earnings per share - weighted average shares outstanding during the period (a)	13,690,000	11,482,000	13,516,000	9,862,000
Effect of dilutive securities:				
Stock options	1,098,000	1,002,000	1,109,000	928,000
Warrants	774,000	683,000	767,000	562,000
	1,872,000	1,685,000	1,876,000	1,490,000
Denominator for diluted earnings per share - adjusted weighted average shares and assumed conversions	15,562,000 ======	13,167,000 ======	15,392,000 ======	11,352,000 ======
Basic earnings per share	\$ 0.23 ======	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.56 ======	\$ 0.30 =====
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.11	\$ 0.49	\$ 0.26

<sup>(</sup>a) On December 8, 1997, the Company issued 2,500,000 shares of common stock in connection with a public offering. On July 1, 1998, the Company issued 1,716,111 shares in connection with the acquisition of four companies.

## 9. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:

In connection with the Westbrae acquisition, the Company issued a warrant to its bank in October 1997 to purchase 114,294 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$12.294. The value ascribed to this warrant of approximately \$377,000 is being amortized over 6 years. In July 1998, in a cashless exercise of the warrant, the Company issued 63,647 shares to the bank.

In July 1998, warrants for 27,283 shares of the Company's common stock were exercised for aggregate proceeds of approximately \$89,000. These warrants were issued in fiscal 1994 to an affiliate of the Company's former investment banking firm at a price of \$3.25 per share.

## 10. SUBSEQUENT EVENT:

On April 6, 1999, the Company announced an agreement to acquire 100% of the equity of privately held Natural Nutrition Group, Inc. ("NNG"), a leading manufacturer and marketer of premium natural and organic food products in the United States sold under the Health Valley, Breadshops, and Casbah brands. The purchase price consists of \$70 million in cash and a five year \$10 million convertible note. The acquisition is expected to close on or about May 18, 1999. sales from NNG, on a pro forma basis, including their previous acquisition for the year ended December 31, 1998, amounted to \$72 million.

In addition, the Company announced that it has arranged a committed \$160 million senior secured loan facility with IBJ Whitehall Bank & Trust Company, as administrative agent and arranger, and Fleet Bank, N.A., as syndication agent and co-arranger, which provides for a \$30 million revolving credit facility and \$130 million of term loans. This facility will be used to complete the NNG acquisition, refinance the Company's existing indebtedness and provide for ongoing working capital needs. It is expected that the closing of this credit facility will coincide with the closing of NNG.

## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 1999

The Company made the following acquisitions over the past eighteen month period ended March 31, 1999:

Date of Acquisition	Business Acquired
October 14, 1997 July 1, 1998 July 1, 1998 July 1, 1998 July 1, 1998 December 8, 1998	Westbrae Natural, Inc. Arrowhead Mills, Inc. Dana Alexander, Inc. ("Terra Chips") Garden of Eatin', Inc. DeBoles Nutritional Foods, Inc. Nile Spice

All of the foregoing acquisitions ("the acquisitions" or "acquired businesses") have been accounted for as purchases. Consequently, the operations of the acquired businesses are included in the results of operations from their respective dates of acquisition. Each of the acquired businesses markets and sells natural food products. In addition, on June 1, 1998, the Company entered into a license agreement with H.J. Heinz Company to market and sell Earth's Best baby food products to natural food stores. On April 6, 1999 this licensing agreement was modified with H.J. Heinz to include the sale and distribution of the Earth's Best baby food line into the United States retail grocery and natural food channels.

Sales for the current quarter increased by \$22.6 million (80%) as compared to the 1998 quarter. A substantial amount of the increase was attributable to the acquisitions.

Gross profit increased by \$8.8 million compared with the 1998 quarter, principally because of increased sales volume. Gross profit percentage for the quarter amounted to 40%, compared to 40.8% achieved in the corresponding 1998 quarter. The decrease in gross profit percentage is primarily due to the differences in margins achieved on the product mix of existing brands and businesses acquired. Gross profit percentage, however, is comparable to the fiscal 1999 second quarter.

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by \$4.4 million compared with the 1998 quarter. A substantial portion of the increase was attributable to the acquisitions. Such expenses, as a percentage of net sales, amounted to 24.5% in the current quarter compared with 28.5% in the 1998 quarter. The improvement of 4.0% results from certain of the acquired businesses having lower selling expenses than the Company's other product lines, and the realization of reduced administrative expenses from integration of certain operations of the acquired businesses within the Company's existing infrastructure. Not all of the administrative functions of the businesses acquired on July 1, 1998 have as yet been integrated. The Company is in the process of reevaluating its remaining integration plans in light of the pending acquisition of NNG. It is expected that the integration process may not be completed until well into fiscal 2000. During the three months ended March 31, 1999, the Company continued to promote awareness of its new brands and newly acquired products in an effort to expand product distribution into existing and new market channels. Prior to their acquisition by the Company, these brands and certain market channels were not aggressively promoted or pursued. The Company plans to continue to invest in consumer spending and to enhance brand equity while closely monitoring its trade spending; however, the Company believes that certain trade spending categories will increase in the next two to three fiscal quarters which may increase selling, general and administrative expenses to the level experienced in the first two fiscal quarters. During this initiative, there is no guarantee that these investments will be successful, and as the Company attempts to reduce its trade spending and increase consumer awareness, there may be a period of overlap.

Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets increased by \$.5 million compared with the 1998 quarter. Substantially all of the increase was attributable to amortization of goodwill acquired in connection with the acquisitions. Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets amounted to 1.7% of net sales, compared with 1.4% in the 1998 quarter.

Operating income increased by \$3.8 million compared to the 1998 quarter. A substantial portion of the increase relates to the significantly higher sales volume due to the acquisitions. Operating income, as a percentage of net sales, amounted to 13.4%, an increase of 2.7% over the 1998 quarter. This resulted principally from lower selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales, offset by a slightly lower gross profit percentage and higher goodwill amortization resulting from the acquisitions.

Interest and financing costs in the current quarter increased by \$0.6 million compared with the 1998 quarter. This increase was largely attributable to senior bank debt incurred in connection with the acquisitions, offset by reduced interest costs resulting from the prepayment in April 1998 of the Company's 12.5% subordinated debentures. The debentures were retired with the proceeds of senior bank debt carrying a lower interest rate.

Income taxes, as a percentage of pre-tax income, amounted to 43.5% compared to 41.4% in the 1998 quarter. The income tax rate utilized for the current quarter is based on the Company's estimate of the effective income tax rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. The higher effective tax rate in the current period is caused by increased amortization of non-deductible goodwill from current year acquisitions, offset by the reduced impact on such rate of amortization of non-deductible goodwill from previous years acquisitions.

Net income in the current quarter increased by approximately \$1.8 million, and amounted to 6.3% of net sales, compared with 4.9% in the 1998 quarter. This resulted from the higher level of operating income discussed above, offset by higher interest costs and a marginally higher effective income tax rate.

#### NINE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 1999

Sales for the nine months increased by 71.7 million (98%) as compared to the 1998 period. Substantially all of the increase was attributable to the acquisitions.

Gross profit increased by \$27.7 million compared with the 1998 period, principally because of increased sales volume. Gross profit percentage for the nine months amounted to 39.6%, compared with 40.5% for the 1998 period. The decrease in gross profit percentage is primarily due to the differences in margins achieved on the product mix of existing brands and businesses acquired.

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by \$15.9 million, compared with the 1998 period. A substantial portion of the increase was attributable to the acquisitions. Such expenses, as a percentage of net sales, amounted to 25.7% in the current nine months compared with 29.2% in the 1998 period. The improvement of 3.5% results from certain of the acquired businesses having lower selling expenses than the Company's other product lines, and the realization of reduced administrative expenses from integration of certain operations of the acquired businesses within the Company's existing infrastructure. During the second quarter of fiscal 1999 the Company started initiatives to promote awareness of our newly acquired brands and products in an effort to expand product distribution in existing and new market channels. Prior to their acquisition by the Company, these brands and/or market channels were not aggressively promoted. The Company plans to continue to invest in consumer spending and to enhance brand equity while closely monitoring its trade spending. During this initiative, there is no guarantee that these investments will be successful and as the Company attempts to reduce its trade spending and increase consumer awareness, there may be a period of overlap.

Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets increased by \$1.6 million compared with the 1998 period. Substantially all of the increase was attributable to amortization of goodwill acquired in connection with the acquisitions. Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets amounted to 1.8% of net sales, compared with 1.3% in the 1998 period.

Operating income increased by \$9.9 million compared to the 1998 period. A substantial portion of the increase relates to the significantly higher sales volume due to the acquisitions. Operating income, as a percentage of net sales, amounted to 11.8%, an increase of 2% over the 1998 period. This resulted principally from lower selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales, offset by a slightly lower gross margin percentage and higher goodwill amortization resulting from the acquisitions.

Interest and financing costs in the nine months increased by \$1.6 million compared with the 1998 period. This increase was largely attributable to senior bank debt incurred in connection with the acquisitions, offset by reduced interest costs resulting from the prepayment in April 1998 of the Company's 12.5% subordinated debentures. The debentures were paid off with the proceeds of senior bank debt carrying a lower interest rate.

Income taxes, as a percentage of pre-tax income, amounted to 43.5% compared to 42.5% in the 1998 period. The income tax rate utilized for the current nine months is based on the Company's estimate of the effective income tax rate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. The higher effective tax rate in the current period is caused by increased amortization of non-deductible goodwill from current year acquisitions, offset by the reduced impact on such rate of amortization of non-deductible goodwill from previous years acquisitions.

Net income in the current nine months increased by \$4.6 million, and amounted to 5.2% of net sales, compared with 4% in the 1998 period. This resulted from the higher level of operating income discussed above, less increased interest costs and a marginally higher effective income tax rate.

### LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

In October 1997, in connection with the acquisition of Westbrae, the Company entered into an amended and restated credit facility with its bank providing for a \$30 million senior term loan and a \$10 million revolving credit line. In December 1997, the Company issued 2.5 million shares of common stock in a public offering raising approximately \$20.9 million, which was used to pay down the senior term loan. In April 1998, the Company re-borrowed approximately \$9 million under the senior term loan to prepay the Company's \$8.5 million 12.5% subordinated debentures.

On July 1, 1998, in connection with the acquisitions of businesses from the Shansby Group, the facility was further amended (as amended, the "Facility") to provide for a \$60 million senior term loan and a \$15 million revolving credit line. The entire senior term loan was borrowed on that date to pay the cash portion of the purchase price of the acquisitions, fund closing costs, and to repay the then existing balance on the Facility. At March 31, 1999, \$58.3 million was outstanding under the senior term loan and \$2.6 million was outstanding under the revolving credit line.

The interest rate on the Facility is based partially on the ratio of outstanding debt to operating cash flow (as defined). The Company may elect to pay interest based on the bank's base rate or the LIBOR rate. Borrowings on a base rate basis may range from 0.50% below the bank's base rate to 1.00% above the bank's base rate. Borrowings on a LIBOR basis may range from 1.75% to 3.00% over the LIBOR rate. The entire senior term loan is currently borrowed on a LIBOR basis.

The senior term loan is repayable in quarterly principal installments (the first principal payment commenced on December 31, 1998) through maturity of the Facility on September 30, 2005. Pursuant to the Facility, the Company may borrow under its revolving credit line up to 85% of eligible trade receivables and 60% of eligible inventories.

Amounts outstanding under the Facility are collateralized by principally all of the Company's assets. The Facility also contains certain financial and other restrictive covenants. As of March 31, 1999, \$12.4 million was available under the Company's revolving credit line. Utilization of the revolving credit line varies over the course of the year based on inventory requirements.

The aggregate principal payments on the current senior term loan for the twelve months ending March 31, 2000 are \$4.0 million. The Company anticipates that cash flow from operations will be sufficient to meet all of its debt service and operating requirements.

On April 6, 1999, in conjunction with the announcement of the NNG agreement (the purchase price consists of \$70 million in cash and a five year \$10 million convertible note), the Company announced that it has arranged a committed \$160 million senior secured loan facility with IBJ Whitehall Bank & Trust Company, as administrative agent and arranger, and Fleet Bank, N.A., as syndication agent and co-arranger, which provides for a \$30 million revolving credit facility and \$130 million of term loans. This facility will be used to complete this acquisition, refinance the Company's existing indebtedness and provide for ongoing working capital needs.

Working capital at March 31, 1999 amounted to approximately \$16.8 million, which management believes is adequate to serve the Company's operational needs. Prior to the acquisitions, the Company purchased all of its products from independent co-packers and did not invest in plant or equipment relating to the manufacture of products for sale. The Company has not as yet determined whether it will continue production at the plants acquired in the acquisitions, integrate these manufacturing processes into NNG's manufacturing operations or delegate such production to independent co-packers. Consequently, there may be some level of capital expenditure in connection with the operation of those facilities, but the amount is not considered material in relation to the Company's operations.

The Facility imposes limitations on the incurrence of additional indebtedness and requires that the Company comply with certain financial tests and restrictive covenants. As of March 31, 1999, the Company was in compliance with such covenants.

#### YEAR 2000

The "Year 2000" issue is the result of computer systems that were programmed in prior years using a two digit representation for the year. Consequently, in the Year 2000, date sensitive computer programs may interpret the date "00" as 1900 rather than 2000. The Company has completed an assessment of its systems affected by the Year 2000 issue and have found only minor issues to be addressed. The Company believes its business operations computer programs/ systems are Year 2000 compliant. Certain systems of the acquired businesses, including those of NNG's, are not Year 2000 compliant; however, the Company will integrate the computer functions of such businesses prior to the end of 1999. Accordingly, it is anticipated that Year 2000 issues will not have a material adverse impact of the Company's financial position, liquidity or results of operations.

The Company has had formal communications with all of its significant suppliers and large customers to determine the extent to which the Company's interface systems are vulnerable to those third parties' failure to remediate their own Year 2000 issues. While the Company believes that the Year 2000 issue will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial position, liquidity or results of operations, there is no guarantee that the systems of other companies on which the Company's systems rely will be timely converted and would not have an adverse effect on the Company's systems.

### **SEASONALITY**

Sales of food products consumed in the home generally decline to some degree during the Summer vacation months. However, the Company believes that such seasonality has a limited effect on operations.

## INFLATION

The Company does not believe that inflation had a significant impact on the Company's results of operations for the periods presented.

## NOTE REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION

Certain statements contained in this Annual Report constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Sections 21E of the Exchange Act. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors which may cause the actual results, levels of activity, performance or achievements of the Company, or industry results, to be materially different from any future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include, among others, the following: general economic and business conditions; the ability of the Company to implement its business and acquisition strategy; the ability to effectively integrate its acquisitions; the ability of the Company to obtain financing for general corporate purposes; competition; availability of key personnel; and changes in, or the failure to comply with government regulations. As a result of the foregoing and other factors, no assurance can be given as to the future results, levels of activity and achievements and neither the Company nor any person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of these statements.

## ITEM 6. - EXHIBITS AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

(a) Exhibits

Financial Data Schedule (Exhibit 27)

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

There were not reports filed on Form 8-K during the three months ended March 31, 1999.

## **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC.

Date: May 14, 1999 /s/ Irwin D. Simon

Irwin D. Simon, President and Chief Executive Officer

Date: May 14, 1999 /s/Gary M. Jacobs

Gary M. Jacobs, Senior Vice President-Finance and Chief Financial Officer

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9-MOS
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Jul-01-1998
Mar-31-1999
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