

Information contained herein is subject to completion or amendment. A registration statement relating to these securities has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These securities may not be sold nor may offers to buy be accepted prior to the time the registration statement becomes effective. This prospectus shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any such state.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED NOVEMBER 20, 1997

PROSPECTUS

2,825,000 Shares

LOGO

Common Stock

Of the 2,825,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), of The Hain Food Group, Inc. (the "Company") offered hereby (the "Offering"), 2,500,000 shares are being sold by the Company and 325,000 shares are being sold by certain stockholders named herein (the "Selling Stockholders"). The Company will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares by the Selling Stockholders. See "Principal and Selling Stockholders" and "Underwriting."

The Common Stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market ("NASDAQ") under the symbol "HAIN." On October 31, 1997, the last reported sales price of the Common Stock as reported by NASDAQ was \$10 3/4 per share. See "Price Range of Common Stock and Dividend Policy."

See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 6 for a discussion of certain factors that should be considered in connection with an investment in the Common Stock offered hereby.

 THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.
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	Price to Public	Underwriting Discounts and Commissions(1)	Proceeds to Company(2)	Proceeds to Selling Stockholders
Per Share	\$	\$	\$	\$
Total(3)	\$	\$	\$	\$

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- (1) The Company and the Selling Stockholders have agreed to indemnify the several Underwriters against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. See "Underwriting."
- (2) Before deducting expenses payable by the Company estimated at \$412,500.
- (3) The Company has granted to the several Underwriters an option for 30 days to purchase up to an additional 423,750 shares of Common Stock solely to cover over-allotments, if any, on the same terms and conditions as the shares offered hereby. If such option is exercised in full, the total Price to Public, Underwriting Discounts and Commissions and Proceeds to Company will be \$, \$ and \$, respectively. See "Underwriting."

 The shares of Common Stock are offered by the several Underwriters, subject to prior sale, when, as and if issued to and accepted by them, and subject to certain other conditions. The Underwriters reserve the right to withdraw, cancel or modify such offer and to reject orders in whole or in part. It is expected that delivery of the shares of Common Stock will be made on or about , 1997.

Stephens Inc. CIBC Oppenheimer

The date of this Prospectus is , 1997.

CERTAIN PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THIS OFFERING MAY ENGAGE IN TRANSACTIONS THAT STABILIZE, MAINTAIN, OR OTHERWISE AFFECT THE PRICE OF THE COMMON STOCK, INCLUDING TRANSACTIONS EFFECTED ON THE NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET, IN THE OVER-THE-COUNTER MARKET OR OTHERWISE. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THESE ACTIVITIES, SEE "UNDERWRITING."

IN CONNECTION WITH THIS OFFERING, CERTAIN UNDERWRITERS AND SELLING GROUP MEMBERS MAY ENGAGE IN PASSIVE MARKET MAKING TRANSACTIONS IN THE COMMON STOCK ON THE NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 103 OF REGULATION M UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED. SEE "UNDERWRITING."

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

The following is a summary of certain information contained elsewhere in this Prospectus. The summary is not intended to be a complete description of the matters covered in this Prospectus and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by, and should be read in conjunction with, the more detailed information and financial statements (including the notes thereto) appearing elsewhere in this Prospectus or incorporated by reference herein. Unless the context otherwise requires, references herein to the "Company" are to The Hain Food Group, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries, references to "Hain" are to The Hain Food Group, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries prior to the acquisition of Westbrae Natural, Inc. (the "Acquisition"), and references to "Westbrae" are to Westbrae Natural, Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries. Unless otherwise indicated, the information in this Prospectus assumes no exercise of the Underwriters' over-allotment option or of options granted under any of the Company's option plans or the exercise of any outstanding warrants to purchase Common Stock. Industry information used in this Prospectus was obtained from industry sources that the Company believes to be reliable but such information has not been independently verified.

The Company

The Company markets and sells dry, refrigerated and frozen specialty food products under brand names which are sold as "better-for-you" products. The product categories encompass natural and organic foods, medically-directed foods, weight management and portion-control foods, and kosher foods. These products are sold primarily to specialty and natural food distributors and are marketed nationally to supermarkets, natural food stores, and other retail classes of trade. The Company's products are produced by independent food processors ("co-packers") using proprietary specifications and formulations controlled by the Company.

The Company was organized in May 1993 to acquire certain specialty food brands. Since its formation, the Company has completed several acquisitions of companies or brands. In October 1997, the Company acquired Westbrae, a marketer of over 300 high quality natural and organic food and snack products. In March 1997, the Company entered into a licensing agreement with Weight Watchers Gourmet Food Company ("Weight Watchers"), a subsidiary of H.J. Heinz Company ("Heinz"), pursuant to which the Company manufactures, markets and sells Weight Watchers dry and refrigerated products. In May 1997, the Company acquired The Boston Popcorn Company ("Boston Better Snacks"), a marketer of high quality popcorn and chip snack products. In July 1997, the Company acquired the Alba brand of dry milk, shake and cocoa products from Heinz.

As a leading natural and organic food company, the Company sells a full line of products under its "Hain Pure Foods", "Westbrae Natural", "Westsoy", "Little Bear", "Bearitos" and "Farm Foods" brands. The Company's specialty food products include cooking oil and condiment products under its "Hollywood" brand; sugar-free, medically-directed food products under its "Estee" brand (all of which carry the logo of the American Diabetes Association); low-sodium food products under its "Featherweight" brand; weight management and portion-control foods under the "Weight Watchers" brand; frozen kosher food products under its "Kineret" and "Kosherific" brands; regular and reduced fat snack products under its "Boston Better Snacks" brand; and dry milk products under the "Alba" brand. The Company's brand names are well-recognized in the various market categories they serve. The Company has acquired these brands over the past four years and will seek future growth through internal expansion, as well as the acquisition of complementary brands.

The Company's mission is to be the leading marketer and seller of specialty food products, with a strong commitment to total quality management in all departments. The Company intends to increase sales and improve operating results by investing in product development and building brand equity. Key elements of the Company's business strategy are: (i) continue growth through mergers and acquisitions, (ii) invest in brands and consumer awareness, (iii) outsource manufacturing, (iv) leverage economies of scale in production and logistics, and (v) develop export opportunities.

The Company's corporate headquarters are located at 50 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard, Uniondale, New York 11553. Its telephone number is (516) 237-6200.

The Offering

Common Stock offered by the Company	2,500,000 shares
Common Stock offered by the Selling Stockholders	325,000 shares
Common Stock to be outstanding after the Offering(1)	11,386,899 shares
Use of Proceeds	To repay certain indebtedness of the Company, including indebtedness under the New Credit Facility (as defined herein). See "Use of Proceeds."
NASDAQ symbol(2)	HAIN

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(1) Excludes 2,791,794 shares, of which 1,492,500 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of stock options (1,247,500 are currently exercisable), 1,114,294 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of warrants (1,000,000 are currently exercisable) and 185,000 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of conditional options granted to certain officers of the Company subject to stockholder approval. Includes 105,000 shares issued upon the exercise of options in connection with the Offering. The average exercise price of such stock options and warrants is \$4.45.

(2) Prior to October 30, 1997, the Company's NASDAQ symbol was "NOSH".

Summary Historical and Pro Forma Financial Information
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

The following table sets forth summary historical financial information for the Company for the periods indicated and summary pro forma financial information reflecting the Acquisition as if it had occurred at the beginning of each period presented for purposes of the statement of income information and on September 30, 1997 for purposes of the balance sheet information. The summary pro forma financial information is not necessarily representative of what the Company's results of operations or financial position would have been had the Acquisition in fact occurred on such dates and is not intended to project the Company's results of operations or financial position for any future period or date. The summary financial information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements of the Company and the related notes thereto included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

	Year Ended June 30,			Pro Forma for Acquisition 1997	Three Months Ended September 30,		Pro Forma for Acquisition 1997
	1995	1996	1997		1996	1997	
Statement of Income Information:							
Net sales	\$58,076	\$68,606	\$65,353	\$98,247	\$15,437	\$16,336	\$26,064
Cost of sales	36,220	40,884	40,781	60,800	9,708	9,862	15,573
Gross profit	21,856	27,722	24,572	37,447	5,729	6,474	10,491
Selling, general and administrative expenses	15,334	20,905	19,651	29,317	4,333	4,837	7,849
Depreciation of property and equipment ...	158	184	178	272	41	48	71
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	474	651	740	1,283	185	210	346
Operating income	5,890	5,982	4,003	6,575	1,170	1,379	2,225
Interest expense	1,351	1,745	1,639	3,638	458	420	899
Amortization of deferred financing costs	419	473	509	491	123	131	126
Income before income taxes	4,120	3,764	1,855	2,446	589	828	1,200
Provision for income taxes	1,755	1,630	786	1,027	253	352	504
Net income	\$ 2,365	\$ 2,134	\$ 1,069	\$ 1,419	\$ 336	\$ 476	\$ 696
Net income per common and common equivalent share	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.07
Weighted average of common shares and common share equivalents	8,597	8,964	8,993	8,993	8,939	9,965	9,965

As of September 30, 1997

	Actual	Pro Forma for Acquisition	Pro Forma as Adjusted(1)
Balance Sheet Information:			
Working capital	\$ 5,086	\$ 8,160	\$ 8,160
Total assets	49,431	79,475	79,475
Total debt	14,959	41,249	16,051
Total stockholders' equity	26,828	26,828	52,026

(1) As adjusted to give effect to the sale of 2,500,000 shares of Common Stock by the Company in the Offering and the application of the net proceeds to the Company therefrom as described in "Use of Proceeds" and includes proceeds to the Company of \$348,062 upon the exercise of options by certain Selling Stockholders. See "Principal and Selling Stockholders."

RISK FACTORS

Prospective investors should carefully consider the following factors and the other information contained in this Prospectus before purchasing any shares of Common Stock.

Integration of Acquisitions

Since its formation, the Company has completed several acquisitions of companies or brands, including the recent acquisitions of Westbrae in October 1997 and Boston Better Snacks in May 1997. In addition, in March 1997, the Company entered into a licensing agreement with Weight Watchers, a subsidiary of Heinz, pursuant to which the Company will manufacture, market and sell Weight Watchers dry and refrigerated products. In July 1997, the Company acquired the Alba brand from Heinz.

The Company's future success may be dependent upon its ability to effectively integrate these companies and brands, including its ability to realize potentially available marketing opportunities and cost savings, some of which may involve operational changes. There can be no assurance as to the timing or number of marketing opportunities or amount of cost savings that may be realized as the result of the integration process. Further, there can be no assurance that the Company will not experience difficulties with customers, personnel or other parties as a result of these acquisitions, that these acquisitions will enhance the Company's competitive position and business prospects or that the combination of the Company and these acquisitions will be successful. See "Business -- Recent Acquisitions."

Acquisition Strategy

The Company's acquisition strategy is based on identifying and acquiring businesses with products and/or brands that complement the Company's existing product mix. The Company will evaluate specific acquisition opportunities based on prevailing market and economic conditions. There can be no assurance that the Company will be able to successfully identify suitable acquisition candidates, obtain necessary financing, complete acquisitions or integrate acquired businesses into its operations. Acquisitions may not achieve acceptable levels of operating results or otherwise perform as expected. Acquisitions also involve special risks, including risks associated with unanticipated problems, liabilities and contingencies, diversion of management attention and possible adverse effects on earnings resulting from increased goodwill amortization, increased interest costs, the issuance of additional securities and difficulties related to the integration of the acquired business. The Company may encounter increased competition for acquisitions in the future, which could result in acquisition prices the Company does not consider acceptable. In addition, the New Credit Facility (as defined) contains restrictions that limit the Company's ability to make acquisitions. The Company is unable to predict whether or when any prospective acquisition candidate will become available or the likelihood that any acquisition will be completed. See "Business--Business Strategy."

Fluctuations in Operating Results; Fluctuations in Quarterly Results

The Company's operating results have fluctuated in the past and will fluctuate in the future based on many factors. These factors include failure to adequately integrate acquired companies, fluctuations in the general economy, increased competition, changes in operating expenses, expenses related to acquisitions, the potential adverse effect of acquisitions, the size and timing of customer orders, new product introductions, changes in customer preferences and market acceptance of new products. Many of these factors are outside the control of the Company. Due to these and many unforeseen factors, it is likely that in some future quarter the Company's operating results will be below the expectations of public market analysts and investors. In such event, the price of Common Stock would likely be materially adversely affected.

Evolving Customer Preferences

The Company's business is limited to specialty food products in niche markets geared to consumers of natural foods, medically-directed and weight management food products, kosher foods and other specialty food items. The Company is subject to evolving consumer preferences for these products. While the Company continues to diversify its product offerings, there can be no assurance that demand for the Company's products will

continue at current levels or increase in the future. A significant shift in consumer demand away from the Company's products or failure to maintain its current market position would have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements. For example, sales of the Company's rice cakes declined from approximately \$22 million during fiscal year 1996 to approximately \$12 million in fiscal year 1997 due in part to competition from other snack products and an overall decline in rice cake demand. The Company has other significant product categories, such as cooking oils and non-dairy beverages, which, if consumer demand for such categories were to decrease, could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements.

Competition

The geographic and product markets in which the Company operates are highly competitive. The Company faces competition in all of its markets from larger, more established companies that have greater financial, managerial, sales and technical resources than the Company, and some of the Company's markets are dominated by such large firms. There can be no assurance that the Company can successfully compete for sales to distributors or stores that purchase from such larger competitors. Larger competitors also may be able to benefit from economies of scale, pricing advantages or the introduction of new products that compete with the Company's products. There can be no assurance that the Company will achieve the market penetration that it seeks in order to implement its business strategy. There can be no assurance that competitors will not introduce other products in the future that compete with the Company's products or that such competitive products will not have an adverse effect on the Company's financial statements.

Limited Management; Dependence on Key Personnel

The Company is highly dependent upon the services of Irwin D. Simon, its President and Chief Executive Officer. Although the Company has entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Simon and maintains \$1.0 million of key man life insurance on the life of Mr. Simon, the loss of the services of Mr. Simon could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements. In addition, the Company's ability to develop and market its products and to achieve and maintain a competitive position depends, in large part, on its ability to attract and retain qualified operations, sales and marketing personnel.

Reliance on Independent Distributors and Brokers

The Company relies upon sales efforts made by or through non-affiliated food brokers to distributors and other customers. The success of its business depends, in large part, upon the establishment of a strong distribution network. Food brokers act as selling agents representing specific brands on a non-exclusive basis under oral or written agreements generally terminable at any time on 30 days notice and receive a percentage of net sales as compensation. Distributors purchase directly for their own account for resale. Two distributors, United Natural Foods and Tree of Life, accounted for 18.4% and 13.8%, respectively, of the Company's pro forma fiscal year 1997 sales. The loss of, or business disruption at, one or more of these distributors or brokers may have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements. If the Company were required to obtain additional or alternative distribution and food brokerage agreements or arrangements in the future, there can be no assurance it will be able to do so on satisfactory terms or in a timely manner. The inability to enter into satisfactory brokerage agreements may inhibit the Company's ability to implement its business plan or to establish markets necessary to develop its products successfully. See "Business--Sales and Marketing Structure" and "-- Customers."

Reliance on Independent Manufacturers and Co-Packers

The Company does not manufacture, produce or package any of the products or brands which it markets, although it develops and owns the formulas and recipes and designs the packaging for its products. Accordingly, the Company is dependent upon independent manufacturers and co-packers to produce and package its products. The loss of one or more of these manufacturers could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements until such time as an alternate source of supply could be secured, which may be on less favorable terms.

The Company obtains substantially all of its rice cake requirements from two suppliers, a substantial portion of its Weight Watchers refrigerated products from one supplier, and all of its Hollywood cooking oils from one supplier. Failure to obtain in a timely manner and on comparable terms other suppliers if a present supplier terminated its relationship with the Company could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements.

Trademark Ownership

The Company owns the principal trademarks for its products, including HAIN PURE FOODS(R), HOLLYWOOD(R), KINERET(R), KOSHERIFIC(R), FARM FOODS(R), ESTEE(R), FEATHERWEIGHT(R), WESTBRAE NATURALS(R), WESTSOY(R), LITTLE BEAR(R), BEARITOS(R) and ALBA(R) and owns a number of other trademarks used on individual products, such as those for ICE BEAN(R), PIZSOY(R), and BOSTON LITE(R). The Company believes that such trademarks are important to the marketing of the Company's products. In connection with the licensing agreement between Weight Watchers and the Company, the Company obtained the right to use the WEIGHT WATCHERS(R) and certain other trademarks. The Company's inability to use these trademarks could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements.

Government Regulation

The manufacture, marketing, distribution and sale of the Company's specialty food products are subject to various federal, state and local laws and regulations governing the production, sale, safety, advertising, labeling and ingredients of such products. In addition, the Company's kosher food products are subject to additional regulation and inspection. There can be no assurance that the Company, its manufacturers, distributors and co-packers will be able to comply with all such laws and regulations in the future or that new governmental laws and regulations will not be introduced which could result in additional compliance costs, seizures, confiscation, recall or monetary fines, any of which could prevent or inhibit the development, distribution and sale of the Company's products or have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements. In addition, product recalls could adversely affect sales of other of the Company's products.

Product Liability

As a marketer of food products, the Company is subject to a risk of claims for product liability. The Company maintains product liability insurance and generally requires that its co-packers maintain product liability insurance with the Company as a co-insured. There is no assurance that such coverage will be sufficient to insure against claims which may be brought against the Company, or that the Company will be able to maintain such insurance or obtain additional insurance covering existing or new products. If a product liability claim exceeding the Company's insurance coverage were to be successfully asserted against the Company, it could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements.

Reliance on Certification

The Company must comply with the requirements of independent organizations or certification authorities in order to make certain statements on the labels of its products. For example, for the Company's Estee products to carry the logo of the American Diabetes Association (the "ADA"), the packaging must meet the standards of the ADA. In addition, the Company's kosher foods are certified kosher by the Orthodox Union of Rabbis. The loss of any such independent certifications or permissions could adversely affect the marketing position and goodwill afforded such products, which could have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements.

Control by Current Stockholders, Officers and Directors

Upon completion of the Offering, Mr. Simon, the Company's President and Chief Executive Officer, together with the other officers and directors of the Company, will beneficially own an aggregate of 23.6% of the Company's Common Stock, on a fully diluted basis. Accordingly, the officers and directors of the Company will be in a position to influence the election of the Company's directors and otherwise influence stockholder action. See "Principal and Selling Stockholders."

Authorization and Discretionary Issuance of Preferred Stock

The Company's Certificate of Incorporation authorizes the issuance of up to 5,000,000 shares of "blank check" preferred stock with such designations, rights and preferences as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. Accordingly, the Board of Directors is empowered, without stockholder approval, to issue preferred stock with dividends, liquidation, conversion, voting or other rights which could decrease the amount of earnings and assets available for distribution to holders of Common Stock and adversely affect the relative voting power or other rights of the holders of the Company's Common Stock. In the event of issuance, the preferred stock could be used, under certain circumstances, as a method of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control of the Company. Although the Company has no present intention to issue any shares of its preferred stock, there can be no assurance that the Company will not do so in the future. See "Description of Capital Stock."

No Dividends

The Company has not paid any dividends on its Common Stock to date and does not anticipate declaring or paying any dividends in the foreseeable future. The ability of the Company to pay dividends is currently restricted by the New Credit Facility and the Debentures (as defined herein). See "Price Range of Common Stock and Dividend Policy."

Shares Eligible for Future Sale

The market price of the Common Stock could be adversely affected by the sale of substantial amounts of Common Stock in the market following the Offering. Upon consummation of the Offering, 1,391,004 shares may be deemed "restricted securities" as that term is defined under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"). In addition, upon consummation of the Offering, 1,492,500 shares will be reserved for issuance under the Company's stock option plans, of which 1,247,500 will be immediately exercisable, and 1,114,294 shares will be reserved for issuance upon the exercise of outstanding warrants, of which 1,000,000 warrants will be immediately exercisable. Following the expiration and/or release of certain contractual lock-up agreements, "restricted securities" held by certain stockholders will be available for public resale in accordance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act. See "Description of Capital Stock -- Shares Eligible for Future Sale."

Forward-Looking Statements

This Prospectus contains certain forward-looking statements regarding future financial condition and results of operations and the Company's business operations. The words "expect," "estimate," "anticipate," "predict," "intend," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including but not limited to industry and economic conditions and customer actions and the other factors discussed in this Prospectus (including but not limited to statements under the caption "Risk Factors") and in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual outcomes may vary materially from those indicated.

USE OF PROCEEDS

The net proceeds to the Company from the Offering are expected to be approximately \$24.9 million (\$29.1 million if the Underwriters' over-allotment option is exercised in full), assuming an offering price to the public of \$10 3/4 per share. The Company will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of shares by the Selling Stockholders. In connection with the Acquisition, the Company entered into a Second Amended and Restated Credit and Term Loan Agreement dated October 14, 1997 (the "New Credit Facility") with IBJ Schroder Bank & Trust Company providing for a term loan of \$30.0 million in the aggregate and a \$10.0 million revolving credit facility. In accordance with the New Credit Facility, the Company is required to use 50%, up to \$15 million, of the proceeds of the Offering to repay a portion of the New Credit Facility, without prepayment penalties. The balance of the net proceeds to the Company from the Offering may be used, at the option of the Company, to further reduce amounts outstanding under the New Credit Facility or to redeem the Company's 12.5% Senior Subordinated Debentures due April 14, 2004 (the "Debentures"). The New Credit Facility bears interest at rates equal to, at the Company's option, either (i) 0.75% over the bank's base rate or (ii) 2.75% over the Eurodollar Rate. The New Credit Facility terminates, and outstanding principal is due, on September 30, 2003. The borrowings under the New Credit Facility to be repaid with the proceeds of the Offering were used to fund the Acquisition and to refinance indebtedness of the Company and Westbrae. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations --Liquidity and Capital Resources."

CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth (i) the historical capitalization of the Company as of September 30, 1997, (ii) the pro forma capitalization of the Company as of September 30, 1997 after giving effect to the Acquisition and borrowings under the New Credit Facility and (iii) the pro forma capitalization of the Company as of September 30, 1997, as adjusted to give effect to the sale of shares of Common Stock in the Offering and the application of the net proceeds therefrom as described in "Use of Proceeds" and includes proceeds to the Company from the exercise of options by certain Selling Stockholders. This table should be read in conjunction with the Company's financial statements and notes thereto and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

	As of September 30, 1997		
	Historical	Pro Forma for Acquisition	Pro Forma as Adjusted
	(In thousands)		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 184	\$ 359	\$ 359
Debt:			
Senior term loan	\$ 3,339	\$30,000	\$ 4,802
Revolving credit facility	3,800	3,429	3,429
Senior subordinated debentures, net of unamortized original issue discount	7,350	7,350	7,350
Other	470	470	470
Total Debt	14,959	41,249	16,051
Stockholders' equity:			
Preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 5,000,000 shares authorized, none issued	--	--	--
Common stock, par value \$0.01 per share; 40,000,000 shares authorized; 8,881,899 issued and 8,781,899 outstanding, 11,386,899 shares outstanding pro forma as adjusted(1)	89	89	115
Additional paid-in capital	21,547	21,547	46,719
Retained earnings	5,467	5,467	5,467
(Less 100,000 treasury shares at cost)	(275)	(275)	(275)
Total stockholders' equity	26,828	26,828	52,026
Total capitalization	\$41,787	\$68,077	\$68,077

(1) Excludes 2,791,794 shares, of which 1,492,500 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of stock options (1,247,500 are currently exercisable), 1,114,294 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of warrants (1,000,000 are currently exercisable) and 185,000 shares are reserved for issuance upon the exercise of conditional options granted to certain officers of the Company subject to stockholder approval. Includes 105,000 shares issued upon the exercise of options in connection with the offering. The average exercise price of such stock options and warrants is \$4.45.

PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY

The Company's Common Stock is traded on NASDAQ under the symbol "HAIN." The following table sets forth, for the fiscal periods indicated, the high and low sale prices per share of Common Stock on NASDAQ.

Period -----	Price	
	High -----	Low -----
Year Ended June 30, 1996		
First quarter	\$ 4 1/2	\$ 3 1/2
Second quarter	3 3/4	2 15/16
Third quarter	3 11/16	2 15/16
Fourth quarter	4 1/8	3 1/16
Year Ended June 30, 1997		
First quarter	\$ 4	\$ 3 1/16
Second quarter	4	3 1/4
Third quarter	5 3/4	3 3/8
Fourth quarter	5 5/16	4 1/8
Year Ending June 30, 1998		
First quarter	\$ 12 1/16	\$ 4 27/32
Second quarter (through October 28, 1997)	12 13/16	7 7/8

On October 31, 1997 the last reported sale price of the Common Stock on NASDAQ was \$10 3/4 per share.

The Company has not paid any dividends on its Common Stock to date. The Company intends to retain all future earnings for use in the development of its business and does not anticipate declaring or paying any dividends in the foreseeable future. The payment of all dividends will be at the discretion of the Company's Board of Directors and will depend on, among other things, future earnings, operations, capital requirements, contractual restrictions, the general financial condition of the Company and general business conditions. The ability of the Company to pay dividends is currently restricted by the New Credit Facility and the Debentures. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations -- Liquidity and Capital Resources."

SELECTED HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR THE COMPANY
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

The following table sets forth selected historical financial information for the Company for the periods indicated and selected pro forma financial information reflecting the Acquisition as if it had occurred at the beginning of each period presented for purposes of the statements of income information and on September 30, 1997 for purposes of the balance sheet information. The selected historical financial information for each year in the five-year period ended June 30, 1997 is derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for each such year. The selected historical financial information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three-month periods ended September 30, 1996 and 1997 is derived from the unaudited financial statements of the Company for such periods. In the opinion of management, all adjustments consisting of normal recurring accruals considered necessary for a fair presentation have been made. The results of operations for the three months ended September 30, 1997 are not necessarily indicative of the actual results for the full fiscal year ending June 30, 1998. The selected pro forma financial information is not necessarily representative of what the Company's results of operations or financial position would have been had the Acquisition in fact occurred at the beginning of each period presented or on September 30, 1997 and is not intended to project the Company's results of operations or financial position for any future period or date. The selected financial information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements of the Company and the related notes thereto included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

	Year Ended June 30,					Pro Forma for Acquisition 1997
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	
Statement of Income Information						
Net sales	\$ 137	\$14,963	\$58,076	\$68,606	\$65,353	\$98,247
Cost of sales	91	9,812	36,220	40,884	40,781	60,800
Gross profit	46	5,151	21,856	27,722	24,572	37,447
Selling, general and administrative expenses	120	3,976	15,334	20,905	19,651	29,317
Depreciation of property and equipment		57	158	184	178	272
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	1	208	474	651	740	1,283
Operating income (loss)	(75)	910	5,890	5,982	4,003	6,575
Interest expense(1)	--	1,095	1,351	1,745	1,639	3,638
Amortization of deferred financing costs	--	97	419	473	509	491
Income (loss) before income taxes	(75)	(282)	4,120	3,764	1,855	2,446
Provision for income taxes	--	220	1,755	1,630	786	1,027
Net income (loss)	\$ (75)	\$ (502)	\$ 2,365	\$ 2,134	\$ 1,069	\$ 1,419
Net income (loss) per common and common equivalent share	\$(0.08)	\$(0.19)	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.16
Weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents	920	2,694	8,597	8,964	8,993	8,993

Three Months Ended September 30,

	1996	1997	Pro Forma for Acquisition 1997
Statement of Income Information			
Net sales	\$15,437	\$16,336	\$26,064
Cost of sales	9,708	9,862	15,573
Gross profit	5,729	6,474	10,491
Selling, general and administrative expenses	4,333	4,837	7,849
Depreciation of property and equipment	41	48	71
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	185	210	346
Operating income (loss)	1,170	1,379	2,225
Interest expense(1)	458	420	899
Amortization of deferred financing costs	123	131	126
Income (loss) before income taxes	589	828	1,200
Provision for income taxes	253	352	504
Net income (loss)	\$ 336	\$ 476	\$ 696
Net income (loss) per common and common equivalent share	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.05	\$ 0.07
Weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents	8,939	9,965	9,965

As of September 30, 1997

	Actual	Pro Forma for Acquisition	Pro Forma as Adjusted (2)
Balance Sheet Information:			
Working capital	\$ 5,086	\$ 8,160	\$ 8,160
Total assets	49,431	79,475	79,475
Total debt	14,959	41,249	16,051
Total stockholders' equity	26,828	26,828	52,026

(1) Interest expense in fiscal year 1994 includes \$650,000 with respect to financing costs incurred in connection with bridge notes which were repaid with the proceeds of Hain's initial public offering.

(2) As adjusted to give effect to the sale of 2,500,000 shares of Common Stock in the Offering by the Company and the application of the net proceeds therefrom as described in "Use of Proceeds" and the receipt of \$348,062 by the Company upon the exercise of options by certain Selling Stockholders. See "Principal and Selling Stockholders."

SELECTED HISTORICAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR WESTBRAE
(In thousands, except per share amounts)

The following table sets forth selected historical financial information for Westbrae for the periods indicated. The selected historical financial information for each year in the three-year period ended December 31, 1996 is derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Westbrae for each such year. The selected historical financial information for the nine-month periods ended September 30, 1996 and 1997 is derived from the unaudited financial statements of Westbrae for such periods. In the opinion of management, all adjustments consisting of normal recurring accruals considered necessary for a fair presentation have been made. The selected financial information should be read in conjunction with the financial statements of Westbrae and the related notes thereto incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

	Year ended December 31,			Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	1994	1995	1996	1996	1997
Statement of Income Information					
Net sales	\$24,892	\$28,836	\$32,583	\$25,378	\$27,230
Cost of sales	16,059	18,374	20,143	15,728	16,280
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Gross profit	8,833	10,462	12,440	9,650	10,950
Selling, general and administrative expenses	8,168	9,676	10,822	8,453	9,430
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Operating income	665	786	1,618	1,197	1,520
Interest expense	(257)	(259)	(266)	(203)	(136)
Other income, net	148	89	9	5	13
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income before provision for income taxes ...	556	616	1,361	999	1,397
Provision for income taxes (1)	18	14	158	105	170
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net income	\$ 538	\$ 602	\$1,203	\$ 894	\$ 1,227
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

(1) The provision for income taxes has been reduced by \$203,000, \$231,000 and \$516,000 for the years ended December 31, 1994, 1995 and 1996, respectively, to reflect the benefit from the utilization of net operating loss carryforwards. The effective income tax rates used for determining the income tax provision during the nine-month periods ended September 30, 1996 and 1997 have been reduced for the impact of the expected utilization of net operating loss carryforwards.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL
CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion of each of Hain's and Westbrae's historical and pro forma results of operations and financial condition should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements of the Company and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this Prospectus or incorporated herein by reference. The following discussion and analysis covers periods before completion of the Acquisition. See "Risk Factors" and "Selected Historical and Pro Forma Financial Information" for a further discussion relating to the effect that the Offering and the Acquisition described herein may have on the Company.

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, certain Consolidated Statements of Operations data as a percentage of net sales:

	Year Ended June 30,			
	1995	1996	1997	Pro Forma for Acquisition 1997
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of goods sold	62.4	59.6	62.4	61.9
Gross profit	37.6	40.4	37.6	38.1
SG&A expense	26.4	30.5	30.1	29.8
Depreciation and amortization of goodwill and other intangibles	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.6
Operating income	10.1	8.7	6.1	6.7
Interest expense and amortization of deferred financing costs	3.0	3.2	3.3	4.2
Income before income taxes	7.1	5.5	2.8	2.5
Provision for income taxes	3.0	2.4	1.2	1.0
Net income	4.1%	3.1%	1.6%	1.4%

	Three Months Ended September 30,		
	1996	1997	Pro Forma for Acquisition 1997
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of goods sold	62.9	60.4	59.7
Gross profit	37.1	39.6	40.3
SG&A expense	28.1	29.6	30.1
Depreciation and amortization of goodwill and other intangibles	1.5	1.6	1.6
Operating income	7.6	8.4	8.5
Interest expense and amortization of deferred financing costs	3.8	3.4	3.9
Income before income taxes	3.8	5.1	4.6
Provision for income taxes	1.6	2.2	1.9
Net income	2.2%	2.9%	2.7%

Results of Operations of Hain

Three Months Ended September 30, 1997 Compared to Three Months Ended September 30, 1996

On a pro forma basis, net sales were \$26.1 million for the three months ended September 30, 1997. Hain's net sales increased 5.8% to \$16.3 million in the 1997 quarter from \$15.4 million in the 1996 quarter. The sales increase was largely attributable to the addition of the Weight Watchers dry and refrigerated product line, as well as the acquisition of Boston Better Snacks, offset by a decrease in rice cake sales. During the current quarter, Hain continued to experience softness in its rice cake product line. Sales of rice cake products amounted to \$2.4 million (14.6% of total sales) in the current quarter compared with \$3.8 million (24.6% of total sales) in the comparable quarter of the prior year. Hain believes that recent acquisitions reduce its reliance on rice cakes, and provide for a more stable and diversified sales mix.

On a pro forma basis, gross profit was \$10.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 1997. Pro forma gross margin percentage was 40.3%. Hain's gross profit increased 13.0% to \$6.5 million in the 1997 quarter from \$5.7 million in the 1996 quarter. Hain's gross margin percentage increased to 39.6% for the three months ended September 30, 1997 compared to 37.1% for the comparable quarter of the prior year. The increase in gross margin was attributable to a change in product mix and a reduction in warehousing and delivery

expenses as a percentage of sales. Hain has recently adopted free on board pricing for substantially all sales, thereby reducing delivery expenses. This pricing policy also reduced net sales to a minor degree because free on board sales prices are lower than those for delivered items.

On a pro forma basis, selling, general and administrative expenses were \$7.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 1997. Hain's selling, general and administrative expenses increased 11.6% to \$4.8 million in the 1997 quarter from \$4.3 million in the 1996 quarter. Selling, general and administrative expenses as a percentage of net sales increased to 29.6% in the 1997 quarter from 28.1% in the 1996 quarter. The increase was primarily attributable to license fees associated with the Weight Watchers product line.

On a pro forma basis, depreciation and amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets were \$417,000 for the three months ended September 30, 1997. Hain's depreciation and amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets increased 14.2% to \$258,000 in the 1997 quarter from \$226,000 in the 1996 quarter primarily as a result of the amortization of goodwill associated with the acquisition of Boston Better Snacks in May 1997.

On a pro forma basis, interest expense and amortization of deferred financing costs were \$1.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 1997. Hain's interest expense and amortization of deferred financing costs decreased 5.2% to \$551,000 in the 1997 quarter from \$581,000 in the 1996 quarter.

On a pro forma basis, provision for income taxes was \$504,000 for the three months ended September 30, 1997. Hain's provision for income taxes increased 39.1% to \$352,000 in the 1997 quarter from \$253,000 in the 1996 quarter. A large portion of Hain's goodwill amortization is not deductible for financial and tax reporting purposes. Consequently, as pre-tax income increases, the effective income tax rate declines because goodwill amortization becomes a proportionately less significant element of expense. Income taxes as a percentage of pre-tax income amounted to 42.5% in the 1997 quarter compared to 43.0% in the 1996 quarter.

On a pro forma basis, net income was \$696,000 (or \$0.07 per share) for the three months ended September 30, 1997. Hain's net income increased 41.7% to \$476,000 (or \$0.05 per share) in the 1997 quarter from \$336,000 (or \$0.04 per share) in the 1996 quarter, principally as a result of the aforementioned increase in sales and gross margin, offset by the increase in selling, general and administrative expenses.

Fiscal Year 1997 Compared to Fiscal Year 1996

On a pro forma basis, net sales were \$98.2 million for the twelve months ended June 30, 1997. Net sales of Hain for 1997 decreased by \$3.2 million to \$65.4 million as compared with \$68.6 million in 1996. The sales decrease was principally attributable to a \$10.5 million decrease in sales of rice cake products, offset in part by a full year of sales of the Estee division, which was acquired in November 1995 and sales of Weight Watchers products in the fourth quarter of 1997. The rice cake product category for Hain, as well as other sellers of the product (including Quaker Oats), has been under recent pressure from the growing market acceptance of other snack products and from increased competition. Hain is reacting by continuing to introduce new products in a variety of categories, with a goal of reducing reliance on rice cakes and generating a more diversified product sales mix. In addition, Hain believes that its recent license arrangement with respect to the Weight Watchers dry and refrigerated product lines and the acquisition of Weight Watchers and Boston Better Snacks (see Notes 3 and 4 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements) will ultimately more than offset reduced rice cake sales.

On a pro forma basis, gross profit was \$37.4 million for the twelve months ended June 30, 1997. Pro forma gross margin percentage was 38.1%. Hain's gross profit for 1997 decreased by approximately \$3.1 million to \$24.6 million as compared to \$27.7 million in 1996. Gross margin percentage decreased by approximately 2.8% in 1997 compared with 1996, principally due to a change in product mix and an increase in warehousing and delivery costs.

On a pro forma basis, selling, general and administrative expenses were \$29.3 million, or 29.8% of net sales for the twelve months ended June 30, 1997. Hain's selling, general and administrative expenses decreased by \$1.3 million to \$19.7 million in 1997 as compared to \$20.9 million in 1996, principally as a result of lower sales promotional costs on lower sales levels. Such expenses, as a percentage of net sales, declined to 30.1% in 1997 from 30.5% in 1996.

On a pro forma basis, interest and financing costs were approximately \$4.1 million for the twelve months ended June 30, 1997. Interest and financing costs for 1997 decreased to \$2.1 million from \$2.2 million for 1996.

On a pro forma basis, income before income taxes was approximately \$2.4 million for the twelve months ended June 30, 1997. Hain's income before income taxes for 1997 was approximately \$1.9 million as compared to \$3.8 million in 1996. The decrease of \$1.9 million is principally a result of the aforementioned decrease in gross profit offset in part by the decrease in sales promotional costs.

On a pro forma basis, income taxes were \$1.0 million for the twelve months ended June 30, 1997. Hain's income taxes decreased to \$786,000 in 1997 from \$1.6 million in 1996. The decrease in income taxes is substantially attributable to the decrease in income before taxes. Income taxes as a percentage of pre-tax income amounted to 42.4% in 1997 as compared to 43.3% in 1996.

Fiscal Year 1996 Compared to Fiscal Year 1995

Net sales for 1996 increased by approximately \$10.5 million to \$68.6 million as compared with \$58.1 million in 1995. The sales increase was primarily attributable to the acquisition of Estee in November 1995.

Gross profit for 1996 increased by approximately \$5.8 million to \$27.7 million as compared to \$21.9 million in 1995, principally as a result of increased sales. Gross profit percentage increased by approximately 2.8% in 1996 compared with 1995 principally because of a sales price increase on one of Hain's major product lines and more efficient production by co-packers.

Selling, general and administrative expenses increased \$5.6 million to \$20.9 million in 1996 as compared to \$15.3 million in 1995, principally as a result of increased promotional activity in connection with the introduction of new products. Such expenses, as a percentage of net sales, were 4.1% higher than in 1995, reflecting the aforementioned increased promotional activity. The integration of Estee did not result in any significant increases in Hain's general and administrative expenses.

Interest and financing costs for 1996 increased \$448,000 to \$2.2 million as compared to \$1.8 million for 1995, principally because of debt incurred in connection with the acquisition of Estee in November 1995. The increase was offset, in part, by the early retirement of a term loan in November 1994, with the proceeds from the exercise of the warrants and lower interest rates.

Income before income taxes for 1996 decreased \$356,000 to \$3.8 million from \$4.1 million in 1995, principally as a result of the aforementioned increase in the level of promotional spending offset in part by the increase in gross profit based on higher net sales in 1996.

Income taxes decreased to \$1.6 million in 1996 from \$1.8 million in 1995. The decrease in income taxes is substantially attributable to the decrease in income before taxes.

Results of Operations of Westbrae

Nine Months Ended September 30, 1997 Compared to Nine Months Ended September 30, 1996

Net sales for the nine months ended September 30, 1997 were \$27.2 million compared to \$25.4 million in the prior year's period, an increase of 7.3%. New product introductions in 1997 did not reach the level of 1996, when Westbrae had its largest product introduction, non-dairy half gallons. However, continued increases in the sales level of Westbrae's non-dairy beverages and canned products accounted for the increase over the prior year.

Gross profit of Westbrae was \$10.9 million or 40.2% of sales for the nine months ended September 30, 1997 compared to \$9.7 million or 38.0% of sales in 1996. The gross margin increase of 2.2% was caused by a positive change in product mix during 1997 toward Westbrae's higher margin product categories. In addition, Westbrae's new product offerings provide better margins than previous products.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$9.4 million or 34.6% of sales for the nine months ended September 30, 1997 compared to \$8.5 million or 33.3% of sales in the comparable period of 1996. The increase was due largely to programs with distributors and retailers to promote Westbrae's products at attractive retail prices.

Westbrae had net interest and other expense of \$123,000 in the nine months ended September 30, 1997 compared to net interest and other expense of \$198,000 in the prior year's comparable period. Westbrae recorded \$170,000 of income tax expense, representing state tax and the Federal alternative minimum tax, in the nine months ended September 30, 1997.

As a result of the above, Westbrae recorded net income of \$1.2 million (or \$0.19 per share) for the nine months ended September 30, 1997, an increase of 37% over the nine months ended September 30, 1996 in which Westbrae recorded net income of \$894,000 (or \$0.14 per share).

Fiscal Year 1996 Compared to Fiscal Year 1995

Net sales for the year ended December 31, 1996 were \$32.6 million, an increase of 13.0% from net sales of \$28.8 million in the prior year. The sales increase for the year reflects several important marketing strategies adopted by Westbrae as described herein. Westbrae's canned products sales grew by over 30% for the year largely due to additional attractive offerings in this category. During 1996, Westbrae introduced canned organic vegetables and semi-condensed soups. Westbrae has built brand equity in its extensive lines of canned goods and has grown to be among the natural food industry's leaders in this product category through significant product introductions during the last two years.

Westbrae's non dairy beverage business experienced significant growth due to the introduction of six varieties of its Westbrae non dairy beverages in a half gallon size container. Westbrae is the only producer of non-dairy beverages in half gallons in the natural food marketplace and believes that consumer acceptance of this size product should grow to mirror that of dairy milk products. Westbrae's established non-dairy products also continued their record of year over year growth.

Gross profit of Westbrae was \$12.4 million or 38.2% of sales for the year ended December 31, 1996 compared to \$10.5 million or 36.3% of sales in 1995. The 1.9% improvement in gross profit margin reflects Westbrae's objective of formulating new products (and when possible, reformulating existing products) to produce better gross margins.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$10.8 million or 33.2% of sales for the year ended December 31, 1996 compared to \$9.7 million or 33.6% of sales in 1995. The increase was due almost entirely to increased variable expenses, principally promotional expenditures with retailers and distributors to promote Westbrae's products at attractive retail prices. Westbrae believes these expenditures contributed to the generation of increased revenue. The non-variable component of Westbrae's selling, general and administrative expenses remained level with the prior year.

Westbrae had net interest expense of \$266,000 in 1996 compared to net interest expense of \$259,000 in the prior year. The interest expense arises from regular payments on Westbrae's Subordinated Notes as well as short-term borrowing under Westbrae's line of credit. Westbrae had other income (net) of \$9,000 in 1996 compared to \$89,000 in 1995. During 1995, Westbrae recorded \$83,000 of income from an adjustment to the valuation reserve recorded against the receivable from the purchaser of Westbrae's Fine Baked Products operations. This note was fully collected in 1995 and no additional income was recognized in 1996.

Westbrae recorded income tax expense of \$158,000 for the year ended December 31, 1996. Westbrae's state net operating loss carry forward was fully utilized early in 1996 and state income taxes were accrued on the balance of Westbrae's income.

Provision was also made for Federal alternative minimum tax.

As a result of the above items, Westbrae recorded net income of \$1.2 million (or \$0.19 per share) for the year ended December 31, 1996. In the year ended December 31, 1995, Westbrae had net income of \$602,000 (or \$0.10 per share).

Fiscal Year 1995 Compared to Fiscal Year 1994

Net sales for the year ended December 31, 1995 were \$28.8 million, an increase of 15.8% over net sales of \$24.9 million in the prior year. A major contribution to the increased level was the introduction of Chocolate Chip Classic and Cookie Classic reduced fat cookies. These cookies, in ten flavors, accounted for over \$2.5 million of net sales in 1995. Westbrae's non-dairy beverages also experienced a significant increase of approximately 19.0% during 1995.

Gross profit of Westbrae was \$10.5 million or 36.3% of sales for the year ended December 31, 1995 compared to \$8.8 million or 35.5% of sales in 1994. Margins on Westbrae's non-dairy beverages improved somewhat from 1994, offsetting increased costs of Japanese products due to the weakened dollar early in the year.

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$9.7 million or 33.6% of sales for the year ended December 31, 1995 compared to \$8.2 million or 32.8% of sales in 1994. The increase was due largely to marketing expenses incurred to promote Westbrae's products. In 1995, Westbrae began its first consumer magazine advertising program with placements in seven healthy lifestyle magazines. In addition, Westbrae sponsored a promotion in conjunction with Dr. Earl Mindell's book "The Soy Miracle." Westbrae provided displays to most natural food stores in the country and gave the book to consumers who purchased Westbrae's soy beverages.

Westbrae had net interest expense of \$259,000 in 1995 compared to net interest expense of \$257,000 in the prior year. Westbrae had other income (net) of \$89,000 in 1995 compared to \$148,000 in 1994. In both years, this arose largely from an adjustment to the valuation reserve recorded against the receivable from the purchaser of Westbrae's Fine Baked Products operations, \$83,000 in 1995 and \$256,000 in 1994.

Westbrae recorded income tax expense of \$14,000 which represents alternative minimum tax, in the year ended December 31, 1995 while there was \$18,000 of income tax expenses for the year ended December 31, 1994.

As a result of the above items, Westbrae recorded net income of \$602,000 (or \$0.10 per share) for the year ended December 31, 1995. In the year ended December 31, 1994, Westbrae had net income of \$538,000 (or \$0.09 per share).

Quarterly Results

The following tables presents unaudited quarterly operating results for Hain and Westbrae. In the opinion of management, this information has been prepared on the same basis as the audited Consolidated Financial Statements included in this Prospectus and includes all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring accruals) that management considers necessary for a fair presentation of the results for such periods. Such quarterly results are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations for any future period. The Company's results of operations have fluctuated and may continue to fluctuate from period to period, including on a quarterly basis.

Hain	1996 Quarters Ended				1998 Quarter Ended
	Sept. 30	Dec. 31	Mar. 31	June 30	
----- (In thousands, except per share amounts) -----					
Consolidated Statements of Operations:					
Net Sales	\$13,527	\$18,122	\$17,218	\$19,739	
Gross profit	5,364	7,355	6,812	8,191	
Net income	426	701	504	503	
EPS	\$.05	\$.08	\$.06	\$.06	
Hain	1997 Quarters Ended				1998 Quarter Ended
	Sept. 30	Dec. 31	Mar. 31	June 30	

Consolidated Statements of Operations:					
Net Sales	\$15,437	\$17,117	\$13,623	\$19,176	\$16,336
Gross profit	5,729	6,578	5,030	7,235	6,474
Net income	336	428	33	272	476
EPS	\$.04	\$.05	\$.00	\$.03	\$.05

Westbrae	1995 Quarters Ended		1996 Quarters Ended				1997 Quarters Ended		
	Sept.30	Dec. 31	Mar. 31	June 30	Sept. 30	Dec. 31	Mar. 31	June 30	Sept. 30

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

Consolidated Statements of

Operations:

Net Sales	\$ 7,066	\$7,950	\$8,100	\$9,091	\$8,188	\$7,204	\$8,098	\$9,404	\$9,728
Gross profit	2,645	2,918	3,038	3,460	3,152	2,790	3,163	3,770	4,017
Net income	158	195	258	313	324	308	283	424	519
EPS	\$.03	\$.03	\$.04	\$.05	\$.05	\$.05	\$.04	\$.07	\$.08

Liquidity and Capital Resources

In October 1997, in connection with the Acquisition, the Company and IBJ Schroder Bank & Trust Company entered into the New Credit Facility providing for a \$30 million term loan and a \$10 million revolving credit line. The New Credit Facility replaced the Company's existing \$18 million facility with the same bank which provided for a \$9 million term loan and a \$9 million revolving credit line. Borrowings under the facility bear interest at rates equal to, at the Company's option, either (i) 0.75% over the bank's base rate or (ii) 2.75% over the Eurodollar Rate. The term loan is repayable in quarterly principal installments, commencing December 31, 1997 through maturity of the New Credit Facility on September 30, 2003. 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 New Credit Facility are collateralized by principally all of the Company's assets. The New Credit Facility also contains certain financial and other restrictive covenants. The Company borrowed the full \$30 million term loan to fund the cash purchase price and related costs of the Acquisition and to repay certain existing debt of the Company and Westbrae. Of the \$10 million available under the Company's revolving credit line, \$2.0 million was outstanding at October 27, 1997. From time to time, because of inventory requirements, the Company may utilize a portion of the revolving credit line.

The Company's 12.5% Subordinated Debentures (the "Debentures") mature on April 14, 2004 and require principal payments of approximately \$1.9 million on October 14, 2000, and of approximately \$2.3 million, \$2.1 million and \$2.1 million, respectively, on April 14 of 2002, 2003 and 2004.

The aggregate long-term debt service requirements for the year ending September 30, 1998 are approximately \$7.2 million, which includes proceeds from collections of certain receivables from the sale of equipment, which are required to be utilized for prepayments of the term loan. The Company anticipates that cash flow from operations will be sufficient to meet all of its debt service and operating requirements.

Working capital at June 30, 1997 amounted to approximately \$4.5 million, which is adequate to serve the Company's operational needs. The Company purchases its products from independent co-packers and does not intend to invest in plant or equipment relating to the manufacture of products for sale. Consequently, additions to property and equipment are not expected to be material in future periods. The Company's New Credit Facility and Debentures impose limitations on the incurrence of additional indebtedness and require that the Company comply with certain financial tests and restrictive covenants. As at June 30, 1997, the Company was in compliance with such covenants. The financial covenants were restructured in October 1997 upon closing of the New Credit Facility in connection with the Acquisition.

Notwithstanding the significant cash demands created by the Acquisition, the Company believes that cash provided by operations and amounts available under the New Credit Facility will be sufficient for the foreseeable future to finance its operations, service interest payments on its debt and fund capital expenditures.

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.

General

The Company markets and sells dry, refrigerated and frozen specialty food products under brand names which are sold as "better-for-you" products. The product categories encompass natural and organic foods, medically-directed foods, weight management and portion-control foods, and kosher foods. These products are sold primarily to specialty and natural food distributors and are marketed nationally to supermarkets, natural food stores, and other retail classes of trade. The Company's products are produced by co-packers using proprietary specifications and formulations controlled by the Company.

As a leading natural and organic food company, the Company sells a full line of products under its "Hain Pure Foods", "Westbrae Natural", "Westsoy", "Little Bear", "Bearitos" and "Farm Foods" brands. Specialty food products include cooking oil and condiment products under its "Hollywood" brand; sugar-free, medically-directed food products under its "Estee" brand (all of which carry the logo of the American Diabetes Association); low-sodium food products under its "Featherweight" brand; weight management and portion-control foods under the "Weight Watchers" brand; frozen kosher food products under its "Kineret" and "Kosherific" brands; regular and reduced fat snack products under its "Boston Better Snacks" brand; and dry milk products under the "Alba" brand. The Company's brand names are well-recognized in the various market categories they serve. The Company has acquired these brands over the past four years, and seeks to grow through internal expansion, as well as the acquisition of complementary brands in the future.

Recent Acquisitions

The Company was organized in 1993 for the purpose of acquiring and marketing specialty food brands. The following is a description of the Company's acquisitions in 1997.

Westbrae. In October 1997, the Company acquired Westbrae, a marketer of over 300 high quality natural and organic food and snack products. Westbrae is the natural food industry market leader in milk substitute beverages, the largest single natural food category. Westbrae's and Hain Pure Foods' complementary products combine to lead six of the fifteen top-selling natural food categories. The combination provides for economies of scale in production, marketing and distribution.

Weight Watchers. In March 1997, the Company entered into agreements for the rights to manufacture, market and sell substantially all Weight Watchers brand dry and refrigerated products, as well as to introduce new products, under license from Heinz. The licensing agreement with Heinz is for five years and is renewable under certain circumstances. Weight Watchers dry grocery weight management products have enhanced the Company's position in one of its key specialty food market segments. They are sold and merchandised in similar channels and sections as the Company's Estee and Featherweight brands. According to ACNielsen syndicated research, the Company now has approximately a 60% market share of the medically-directed/weight management section of supermarkets on a national basis.

Alba. The Company acquired the Alba brand from Heinz in July 1997. Alba markets dry milk, shake, and cocoa products. Alba is marketed primarily through specialty food distributors and has its greatest strength on the East Coast. It is frequently merchandised in the same section as Weight Watchers, Estee and Featherweight, although it also has penetrated other supermarket sections carrying powdered beverages. Heinz marketed Alba through its weight management centers for many years, affording it consumer brand synergy with Weight Watchers.

Boston Better Snacks. In May 1997, the Company acquired the assets of Boston Better Snacks, a marketer of high-quality popcorn and chip snack products. Boston Better Snacks' direct-store-delivery ("DSD") route system primarily serves the New England and Mid-Atlantic regions and provides new distribution opportunities for other Company brands. Boston Better Snacks' DSD route system is primarily conducted through Snyder's of Hanover, a large snack food company. This system provides just-in-time inventory replenishment for all of Boston Better Snacks' products.

Industry and Market Overview

Natural and Organic Foods

Natural foods are defined as foods which are minimally processed, completely free of artificial ingredients, preservatives, and other non-naturally occurring chemicals, and in general are as near to their whole, natural state as possible. Organic products are certified to be grown without the use of pesticides, bio-engineering, or any other adulteration. Retail sales in the natural products market is estimated by Natural Foods Merchandiser at \$11.5 billion in 1996, including vitamin and mineral supplements, grocery products, produce, and health and beauty care. The market for organic products is growing at an annual rate of over 20%, and is projected to reach approximately \$3.0 billion in 1997 according to Supermarket News. The Company believes that this growth is being propelled by several factors, including (i) consumer concern over the purity and safety of foods due to the presence of pesticide residues, artificial ingredients and other chemicals, (ii) consumer awareness of the link between diet and health, and (iii) consumer awareness of environmental issues. Independent research reveals that 62% of all adults are highly concerned about food content and that 58% of all adults purchased at least one natural food item in the last year. According to ACNielsen, natural food consumers are generally better educated and more affluent, as well as brand-loyal. The proliferation of natural food supermarkets, including Whole Foods and Wild Oats, are helping to fuel industry growth. Sales from natural foods supermarkets accounted for 51% of total natural foods sales in 1996.

Medically-Directed/Weight Management Foods

The market for medically-directed/weight management foods is growing as the average age of the American population and the number of overweight Americans increase. Over 90 million people attempted to diet in 1996, 25% above 1995. Over 70% of all food and drug shoppers seek to improve their diets, and over 80% of all adults aged 50 and over seek to limit their sugar and salt intake. The American Diabetes Association now advocates a low-fat diet for people with diabetes. Continued demand for sugar- and sodium-restricted foods is expected to fuel growth of the \$90 million medically-directed/weight management dry grocery supermarket category.

Kosher Foods

Consumers who specifically purchase kosher food products represent a \$2.3 billion market. The appeal of kosher foods now transcends the historic consumer base of consumers buying kosher foods for religious reasons, growing to include those who buy kosher foods because they perceive them to be more healthful.

Supermarket Distribution Channel

Supermarkets typically acquire many of their specialty food products through distributors. According to Arthur D. Little, Inc., this is due to demand for variety and service, while minimizing inventory and handling costs. During 1997 several distributors consolidated, providing increased distribution capabilities in broader geographic areas, resulting in the Company streamlining its sales efforts. Specialty foods appeal to supermarkets for the following reasons: (i) the ability of distributors to supply continuous retail replenishment, (ii) the need for supermarkets to expand product assortments, (iii) the higher profit margins associated with specialty foods as opposed to mainstream grocery products, and (iv) the reduced labor costs for services specialty foods distributors can provide.

Business Strategy

The Company's mission is to be the leading marketer and seller of specialty food products, with a strong commitment to total quality management in all departments. The Company intends to build sales and improve operating results by investing in product development and building brand equity. The combined strength of its growing portfolio of brands has increased its importance with manufacturers, brokers, distributors and retailers. The Company believes it therefore has competitive advantages. The following are key elements of the Company's business strategy:

Continue Growth Through Mergers and Acquisitions

The Company is committed to pursuing acquisitions, joint ventures, and strategic alliances that are synergistic with its current portfolio of brands, both domestically and internationally. This will increase the Company's importance to its customers. The fragmented nature of the specialty foods industry provides opportunities for favorable acquisitions. However, there can be no assurance that the Company will consummate any such agreement.

Invest in Brands and Consumer Awareness

The core of the Company's success is the endurance and growth potential of its brands. The Company will continue to invest in its brand equity in order to increase consumer awareness and market share. Each acquisition to date has been of brands with strong consumer loyalty. The Company plans for the timely introduction of new products, repositioning of products poised for growth, improvement of product formulations and support of core product categories. For example, Estee's new line of Smart Treats products were the first low-fat and sugar-free foods and snacks marketed to both diabetic and mainstream consumers.

Outsource Manufacturing

The Company outsources all manufacturing in order to enhance margins and return on capital. This enables the Company to seek the most proficient manufacturers of specific products. The Company utilizes more than one source for products in most key categories. The Company controls standardized formulations and maintains strong quality assurance and control procedures, to assure a consistent product and source of supply.

Leverage Economies of Scale in Production and Logistics

Many of the Company's key product categories are shared among two or more of its brands. This increases production economies, as well as leverage with co-packers, as product quantities are substantially greater than for one brand alone. This strategy promotes higher profit margins and general co-packer cooperation. Economies of scale in ingredients, packaging and other product-related costs are sought and aggressively managed. Costs are similarly managed at all public warehouse facilities, and deliveries of multiple brands are similarly coordinated to reduce freight and improve product competitiveness.

Develop Export Opportunities

The Company increased its focus on export opportunities in 1997 and has met with increasing demand throughout North America, South America, Europe and Asia. The Company will focus on export opportunities not requiring significant investment in custom packaging until sales are well established, as well as those where product demand is already high. The Company anticipates continuing the use of distributors for delivery of its products to these export markets.

Products

The Company has over 700 stock keeping units ("SKUs") which target a broad range of consumer preferences. The Company's products are divided into the following main categories:

Product Line	Brand Name	Product Description
Natural and Organic Foods	(1) Hain Pure Foods	All natural dry, refrigerated and frozen foods, including rice cakes, expeller-pressed oils, condiments and snacks, and selected organic products. Founded in 1926.
	(2) Farm Foods	All natural frozen foods, including Pizsoy non-dairy pizza. Frozen chili made with organic beans. Introduced in 1997. Ice Bean non-dairy ice cream products in pints and novelties.

Product Line	Brand Name	Product Description
	(3) Westbrae Natural/Westsoy	Organic soy and rice non-dairy beverages, as well as soups, beans and snacks.
	(4) Little Bear/Bearitos	Organic snack foods and canned products.
Medically-Directed/Weight Management Foods	(1) Estee	Complete line of sugar-free foods and snacks.
	(2) Featherweight	Low-sodium products for people on sodium-restricted diets.
	(3) Alba	Dry milk, shake, and cocoa products.
	(4) Weight Watchers	Dry and refrigerated portion controlled foods.
Kosher Foods	Kineret	Frozen kosher foods which meet the requirements of the Orthodox Union of Rabbis.
Other Specialty Foods	(1) Hollywood	Vitamin E-enhanced cooking oils, as well as carrot juice, mayonnaise and margarine.
	(2) Boston Better Snacks	High-quality popcorn and chip snacks; primarily New England and Mid-Atlantic distribution.

Customers

The Company's customers include retail and wholesale classes of trade nationally, consisting principally of specialty and natural food distributors, grocery retailers and wholesalers, and kosher food distributors. The Company also has increased its presence in chain drug, mass merchandisers, and military segments during 1997. United Natural Foods and Tree of Life accounted for 18.4% and 13.8%, respectively, of the Company's pro forma fiscal year 1997 sales.

Sales and Marketing Structure

With the completion of the Acquisition, the Company will be organized into three strategic business units: the Specialty Foods Division, the Natural Foods Division, and the Snack Foods Division. Each division will be run by an experienced manager with at least 15 years of industry experience and will have its own sales department, whose personnel are experienced in their areas of responsibility. Each division also will have marketing support consisting of sales planning, promotion planning, and category management personnel, all of whom will share resources and research. Financial and operations support for the divisions will be located at the Company's principal executive offices in Uniondale, New York.

The Specialty Foods Division has two regional vice presidents, each managing three geographically-dispersed region directors. Region directors are responsible for Company sales to classes of trade other than natural foods distributors and retailers. The region directors supervise a national group of approximately 70 food brokers, who act as commissioned sales representatives and field marketers on the Company's behalf. These food brokers work on a non-exclusive basis, although they may not represent competitors of the Company. The marketing department for this division is run by a seasoned executive with 15 years of brand management experience, who supervises the department brand managers.

The Natural Foods Division, located in Carson, California, has a vice president of sales managing six region directors. The division calls on its natural food distributors and key retailers directly and utilizes natural food brokers on a reduced commission basis to execute programs and merchandising strategies at the retail level. The marketing department of this division is headed by an experienced manager who has been with Westbrae for over six years.

The Snack Foods Division has two regional managers who supervise the division's DSD route system. Sales support for this division is shared with the Specialty Foods Division.

Marketing and Category Management

The Company's advertising and promotional programs have grown the Company's brand awareness and equity by using a customized campaign of integrated marketing communications. These elements include packaging, trade and consumer advertising and sales promotion including couponing, public relations, and interactive marketing. The Hain Pure Foods brand has launched a new initiative called "HEY! Read our Labels!"(SM) to capitalize on growing consumer concern with food ingredients. The Company will also benefit from the marketing efforts of Heinz for its Weight Watchers centers, involving the launch of a new weight management program called 1-2-3 Success. This program will be referenced on all new Weight Watchers packaging. Sarah Ferguson, the former Duchess of York, is the spokesperson for Weight Watchers International in a campaign which began in September 1997.

The industry's emphasis on category management and efficient consumer response has been addressed by the Company's investment in syndicated sales data. This data is accumulated by ACNielsen and other third-party research firms, primarily using point-of-purchase scanner technology. This data is then developed by Company personnel into proprietary category management programs for customers. These programs are designed to improve profitability of the sections occupied by the Company's brands. The Company has been appointed "category captain" by certain major grocery chains, indicating the Company's responsibility to develop planograms, often involving four feet of shelf space per brand, to maximize retailer profits.

Manufacturing

All of the Company's products are manufactured by non-affiliated co-packers. The co-packers produce, supply or package the Company products and must comply with strict ingredient and processing standards established by the Company. The Company selectively consolidates its co-packing arrangements for its products to obtain efficiencies. Pursuant to its co-packing arrangements, the Company purchases substantially all of its products as finished goods. Accordingly, the Company's inventories of raw materials and packaging are not significant.

The Company presently obtains all of its requirements for Hain rice cakes from two co-packers, a substantial portion of its Weight Watchers refrigerated products from one co-packer and all of its Hollywood cooking oils from one co-packer. The Company believes that alternative sources of supply are available if co-packing arrangements with its suppliers were to be terminated by the Company or the co-packers. However, there can be no assurance that alternative sources of supply would be able to meet the requirements of the Company.

Technical Services

Quality Assurance and Control

The Company has dedicated itself to conforming to GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) standards at all of its co-packing facilities. Systematic procedures are in place and regulated by an experienced technical staff based on-site at the Company and supplemented by independent laboratory analysis.

The Company audits and inspects all co-packing facilities and warehouses. The Company uses both open- and Julian code dating on all products, and products are retained from each production run. Products are not released from co-packers to warehouses until the quality control team has evaluated and released the product.

Research and Development

Research and development, located in Carson, California, works to develop new products and improve existing products. A seven-person team averaging 20 years of experience works together to keep the Company innovative in product development.

Competition

The Company faces competition in marketing all of its brands and competes with small specialty food companies in specific categories, large grocery products companies and suppliers of private label products. Hain Pure Foods and Westbrae compete with a variety of other natural food companies, including Health Valley. The Hain Pure Foods business also competes with Quaker Oats and Orville Redenbacher in its rice cake business. Hollywood competes with other mainstream oils, but retains its leadership in safflower and peanut oils. Canola oil is a price-driven commodity in which Hollywood faces strong competition. Estee has one major competitor which markets largely duplicative products. It faces strong competition in sugar-free candy, which is marketed outside the medically-directed section of supermarkets. Weight Watchers competes for its share of consumer spending with the many companies offering reduced fat foods. Kineret competes with other frozen food companies, and faces its strongest competition in fish and potato products. Boston Better Snacks faces competition from a variety of popcorn and chip manufacturers.

Government Regulations

The Company's products are subject to various federal, state and local laws governing the production, sale, advertising, labeling and ingredients of food products. Although the Company believes it and its distributors and co-packers are currently in compliance with all material federal, state and local governmental laws and regulations, there can be no assurance that the Company, its distributors and co-packers will be able to comply with such laws and regulations in the future or that new governmental laws and regulations will not be introduced which would prevent or temporarily inhibit the development, distribution and sale of the Company's products to consumers. If any of the Company's distributors or co-packers were to violate any such law or regulation, it could result in fines, recalls, seizure or confiscation of products marketed by the Company.

The Company has, to its knowledge, complied with all current food labeling and packaging requirements, including significant labeling requirements that became effective during 1994.

The Company has not experienced any regulatory problems in the past and has not been subject to any fines or penalties. No assurance can be given, however, that future changes in applicable law, regulations or the interpretation thereof will not necessitate significant expenditures or otherwise have a material adverse impact on the Company, particularly if the Company alters its strategy and directly manufactures its own products.

Employees

As of September 30, 1997, Hain employed a total of 57 full-time employees. The Company's employees are not represented by any labor union. The Company believes that its relations with its employees are good.

Properties

The Company's corporate headquarters are located in 10,000 square feet of leased office space located at 50 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard, Uniondale, New York. This lease commenced on August 15, 1994 and, during 1997, was extended to February 2002. The current annual rental is approximately \$231,000. The Company's Kineret Foods 7,000 square foot warehouse and distribution center is located in East Hills, New York. This lease, which provides for annual net rental of approximately \$40,000, was renewed during 1997 and expires in August 1999. The Company's Boston Better Snacks 10,000 square foot warehouse and distribution center is located in Foxboro, Massachusetts. This lease is for a three-year term and commenced on June 1, 1997. The current annual rental is approximately \$73,000. Approximately 4,000 square feet of this space is sub-leased to a major distributor of the Company's Boston Popcorn business for the same three-year term at a current annual rental of \$31,000.

The Company warehouses its products (other than its Boston Better Snacks and Kineret products) in bonded public warehouses from which it makes deliveries to customers.

Legal Proceedings

The Company is from time to time involved in litigation incidental to the conduct of its business. The Company is not currently a party to any litigation which in the opinion of management is likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, results of operations or financial condition.

Westbrae entered into a financial advisory services agreement with a financial advisor on October 24, 1995, which provided that, if a "sale" of Westbrae were consummated during its term or within one year thereafter, such financial advisor would be entitled to certain fees. Pursuant to a letter dated August 8, 1996, Westbrae provided notice of non-renewal of such agreement, and pursuant to the terms of such agreement, all obligations thereunder terminated twelve months thereafter. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the financial advisor delivered an invoice for fees and expenses of approximately \$1.0 million, and the Company responded setting forth its belief that no amounts are due and owing other than possibly certain expenses incurred during the term of Westbrae's engagement of such financial advisor. The Company was subsequently contacted by counsel for such financial advisor further disputing the non-payment of such invoice. There can be no assurance that legal proceedings will not arise in connection with such dispute or that such proceedings, if commenced, would be resolved in a manner favorable to the Company. The Company intends to vigorously contest any claim made against it, and the Company does not believe that the outcome of this matter will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements. In accordance with the position taken by Westbrae prior to the Acquisition, no provision has been made by the Company for any fee that may be payable in connection with such financial services agreement.

MANAGEMENT

Directors and Executive Officers

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the directors and executive officers of the Company as of October 27, 1997:

Name	Age	Position
Irwin D. Simon	38	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director
Jack Kaufman	58	Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary
Benjamin Brecher	47	Vice President-Operations
Ellen Deutsch	36	Senior Vice President-Sales and Marketing
Andrew Jacobson	37	President-Natural Foods Division
Andrew R. Heyer	40	Chairman of the Board of Directors
Beth L. Bronner	46	Director
William A. Carmichael	52	Director
William J. Fox	41	Director
Jack Futterman	64	Director
Barry Gordon	52	Director
Steven S. Schwartzreich	49	Director

Mr. Simon has been a Director, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company since its inception and is its founder. From December 1990 through December 1992, Mr. Simon was employed in various marketing capacities with Slim-Fast Foods Company ("Slim Fast"), a national marketer of meal replacement and weight loss food supplements with annual revenues in excess of \$500 million. His duties initially involved sales and marketing for the frozen and dairy divisions of Slim Fast, which included establishing and implementing marketing strategies and establishing a distribution system throughout the United States. In March 1992, Mr. Simon became Vice President of Marketing for Slim Fast. From 1986 through 1990, Mr. Simon was employed by The Haagen-Dazs Company, a division of Grand Metropolitan, plc. Haagen-Dazs is a manufacturer and distributor of premium ice cream and related products. Mr. Simon held a number of sales and marketing positions, including Eastern Regional Director of Haagen-Dazs Shops, the entity managing a majority of the franchisee system and all company-owned retail shops.

Mr. Kaufman is a certified public accountant and has been Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary of the Company since February 1994. During 1992 and part of 1993, Mr. Kaufman was a financial executive for JWP, Inc. From 1988 to 1991, Mr. Kaufman was Executive Vice President of Sterling Commercial Capital, Inc., a small business investment company, and from 1976 to 1987 he was Chief Financial Officer of Waldbaum, Inc., a regional supermarket chain.

Mr. Brecher has been Vice President-Operations of the Company since November 1993. Mr. Brecher was an officer and director of Kineret Kosher Foods from 1974 until its acquisition by the Company in November 1993.

Ms. Deutsch has been Senior Vice President-Marketing of the Company since April 1996 and Senior Vice President-Sales and Marketing since April 1997. Prior to May 1996, Ms. Deutsch was a principal of F&D Advertising Agency of Westbury, New York.

Mr. Jacobson became President of the Natural Foods Division of the Company upon consummation of the Acquisition in October 1997. From November 1992 until October 1997, Mr. Jacobson was President of Westbrae Natural Foods and Little Bear. Prior to November 1992, Mr. Jacobson spent eight years in various divisional and corporate positions with Tree of Life, Inc., a major natural and specialty foods distributor. Mr. Jacobson serves on the board of the National Natural Foods Association.

Mr. Heyer has been Chairman of the Board of Directors since he became a Director in November 1993 and a member of the Compensation Committee since 1994. Mr. Heyer has been a Managing Director of CIBC Oppenheimer Corp. (formerly CIBC Wood Gundy Securities Corp.), an affiliate of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and the successor to the Argosy Group, L.P. since August 1995. From February 1990 until August

1995, Mr. Heyer was a Managing Director of the Argosy Group, L.P., an investment banking firm that specialized in merger, acquisition, divestiture, financing, refinancing and restructuring transactions. Mr. Heyer also serves as a director of Hayes Wheels International, Inc. and Niagara Corporation.

Ms. Bronner has been a Director since November 1993 and a member of the Compensation Committee since 1995. Ms. Bronner joined Citibank, N.A. in September 1996 as Vice President and Director of Marketing for the United States and Europe. From July 1994 to August 1996, Ms. Bronner was Vice President-Emerging Markets of American Telephone & Telegraph Company Consumer Communication Services business. Ms. Bronner was President of the Professional Products Division of Revlon, Inc. from May 1993 until June 1994. From February 1992 to May 1993 she was Executive Vice President of the Beauty Care and Professional Products Division of Revlon, Inc. Ms. Bronner also serves as a director of Fortis, Inc.

Mr. Carmichael has been a director since December 1995 and a member of the Audit Committee since 1996. Mr. Carmichael is a certified public accountant and member of the Illinois State Bar. He was Senior Vice President & Chief Accounting Officer of Sara Lee Corporation from 1991 until his retirement in 1993. From 1988 to 1990 he was Senior Vice President & Chief Financial Officer of the Beatrice Company. Mr. Carmichael is a director of several other companies, including Health O Meter Products, Inc., Cobra Electronics Corporation and The Golden Rule Insurance Company.

Mr. Fox has been a Director since December 1996 and a member of the Audit Committee since December 1996. Mr. Fox has been Senior Executive Vice President since January 1997 and Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Revlon, Inc. and Revlon Consumer Products Corporation since 1992 and was elected as a director in November 1995 and September 1994, respectively. He has been Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Revlon Holdings Inc. since November 1991 and a Vice President since 1987. He has been Senior Vice President of MacAndrews & Forbes Holdings Inc. ("MacAndrews") since August 1990 and was Treasurer from February 1987 to September 1992. From April 1983 to February 1987, he held various positions at MacAndrews or its affiliates. Prior to April 1983, Mr. Fox was a certified public accountant at the international auditing firm of Coopers & Lybrand. Mr. Fox is a director of The Cosmetics Center, Inc.

Mr. Futterman has been a Director since December 1996 and a member of the Compensation Committee since December 1996. Mr. Futterman retired as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Pathmark Supermarket chain in March 1996. He joined Pathmark in 1973 as Vice President of its drugstore and general merchandise divisions and occupied a number of positions before becoming Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Futterman is a registered pharmacist and former Chairman of the National Association of Chain Drugstores. He is a Director of Del Labs, Inc. and Party City, Inc., as well as several not-for-profit organizations.

Mr. Gordon has been a Director since November 1993 and a member of the Audit Committee since 1995. Mr. Gordon has been President and a director of American Fund Advisors, Inc., a money management firm since 1980, and was elected Chairman of the Board thereof in 1987. In addition, Mr. Gordon is President of The John Hancock Global Technology Fund (a mutual fund specializing in telecommunications and technology securities) and a director of Winfield Capital Corporation, Robocom Systems, Inc. and Skyland Park Management, Inc., all of which are publicly traded companies.

Mr. Schwartzreich has been a Director since November 1993. Mr. Schwartzreich has been Vice President and a director of Nassau Suffolk Frozen Food Co., Inc., a distributor of frozen food, ice cream and bakery products to retail stores, since 1973. He is currently the Chairman and President of the Hunts Point Cooperative Market located in New York City.

Executive Compensation

Summary of Cash and Certain Other Compensation

The following table sets forth the compensation paid by the Company for services rendered during the three fiscal years ended June 30, 1997 to or for the accounts of the Chief Executive Officer and the other three most highly compensated officers.

Summary Compensation Table

Name and Principal Position	Annual Compensation				Long-Term Compensation		
	Fiscal Year	Salary	Bonus	Other Annual Compensation	Awards		
					Restricted Stock Awards	Securities Underlying Options	All Other Compensation
Irwin D. Simon (1)	1997	\$200,000	\$60,000	\$5,400	--	20,000	--
President, Chief	1996	\$160,000	\$52,000	\$5,400	--	25,000	--
Executive Officer and Director	1995	\$160,000	--	\$5,400	--	--	--
Benjamin Brecher	1997	\$125,000	\$37,500	\$5,400	--	250,000 (2)	--
Vice President-	1996	\$125,000	\$37,500	\$5,400	--	10,000	--
Operations	1995	\$125,000	--	\$5,400	--	15,000	--
Ellen B. Deutsch (3)	1997	\$140,000	\$10,000	\$5,400	--	25,000	--
Senior Vice President-	1996	\$ 35,000	\$ 0	\$1,350	--	20,000	--
Sales & Marketing							
Jack Kaufman	1997	\$100,000	\$30,000	\$5,400	--	50,000	--
Chief Financial	1996	\$100,000	\$30,000	\$5,400	--	10,000	--
Officer, Treasurer and Assistant Secretary	1995	\$100,000	--	\$5,400	--	--	--

- (1) Mr. Simon is employed pursuant to a three year employment agreement (which extended a prior employment agreement) which commenced on July 1, 1996, at annual base compensation of \$200,000 with minimum annual increases of \$25,000 on July 1, 1997 and July 1, 1998.
- (2) Twenty percent of such options became exercisable on December 31, 1996, and an additional 20% become exercisable on December 31 of each of the next four years, provided Mr. Brecher remains employed by the Company.
- (3) Ms. Deutsch commenced employment on April 1, 1996.

Stock Option Grants and Exercises

The tables below set forth information with respect to grants of options to, and exercise of options by, the Chief Executive Officer and the three other most highly compensated executive officers of the Company, during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997.

Option Grants in Last Fiscal Year

Name	Individual Grants			Potential Realizable Value at Assumed Annual Rates of Stock Price Appreciation for Option Term		
	Options Granted to Employee in Fiscal Year	% of Total Number of Securities Underlying Options Granted	Exercise or Base Price (\$/Sh)(1)	Expiration Date	5%	10%
Irwin D. Simon	20,000	4.4%	\$ 4.8125	June 2007	\$ 60,600	\$ 153,400
Benjamin Brecher	250,000(2)	54.9%	\$ 3.25	December 2005	\$510,000	\$1,295,000
Ellen B. Deutsch	25,000	5.5%	\$ 3.25 to \$ 4.8125	December 2006 and June 2007	\$ 75,800	\$ 191,800
Jack Kaufman	50,000	11.0%	\$ 4.8125	June 2007	\$151,500	\$ 393,500

(1) Options were granted at exercise prices which were not less than the fair market value of the Common Stock at the time of grant.

(2) Twenty percent of such options became exercisable on December 31, 1996, and an additional 20% become exercisable on December 31 of the next four years, provided Mr. Brecher remains employed by the Company.

Aggregate Option Exercises in Last Fiscal Year
and Fiscal Year End Option Values

Name	Shares Acquired on Exercise	Value Realized	Securities Underlying Unexercised Options Held at June 30, 1997		Value of Unexercised In-the-Money Options at June 30, 1997(1)	
			Exercisable	Unexercisable	Exercisable	Unexercisable
Irwin D. Simon(2)	0	\$0	645,000	0	\$984,313	\$ 0
Benjamin Brecher	0	\$0	95,000	200,000	\$132,788	\$312,500
Ellen B. Deutsch	0	\$0	45,000	0	\$ 39,063	\$ 0
Jack Kaufman	0	\$0	110,000	0	\$ 96,850	\$ 0

(1) Based on a price of \$4.8125 per share, the closing bid price for the Common Stock on NASDAQ for such date.

(2) Excludes conditionally granted options. See "-- 1994 Long Term Incentive and Stock Award Plan."

1994 Long Term Incentive and Stock Award Plan

In December 1994, the Company adopted the 1994 Long Term Incentive and Stock Award Plan (the "1994 Plan"), which amended and restated the Company's prior stock option plan. The 1994 Plan provides for the granting of incentive stock options to employees, directors and consultants to purchase up to an aggregate of 855,000 shares of the Company's Common Stock. The 1994 Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors. All of the options granted to date under the 1994 Plan have been qualified stock options providing for exercise prices equivalent to the fair market price at date of grant, and expire 10 years after date of grant. At the discretion of the Compensation Committee, options are exercisable upon grant or over a five year period. Through June 30, 1994, options for an aggregate of 255,000 shares had been granted at a price of \$3.25 per share. During fiscal year 1995, options for an aggregate of 111,500 shares were granted at prices from \$3.50 to \$5.00 per share and 55,000 options were terminated. During fiscal year 1996, 103,500 options were granted at prices ranging from \$2.94 to \$3.25 per share and 15,000 options were terminated. During fiscal year 1997, 475,000 options were granted at prices ranging from \$3.00 to \$4.81 per share, and 20,000 options were terminated. At June 30, 1997, 855,000 options were outstanding, of which 610,000 were then exercisable, and no shares were available for grant.

The Board of Directors has approved, subject to stockholder approval at a meeting of stockholders scheduled to be held on December 9, 1997, an amendment of the 1994 Plan to increase the number of shares issuable over the term of the 1994 Plan by 345,000 shares to 1,200,000 shares in the aggregate. Subject to approval of the amendment to the 1994 Plan by the stockholders, 125,000 stock options have conditionally been granted to Mr. Simon at the closing sales price of \$4.8125 per share on the date of grant (June 30, 1997), 60,000 shares have conditionally been granted to Andrew Jacobson, who became an executive of the Company in connection with the Acquisition, at the closing sales price of \$12.6875 on the date of grant (October 14, 1997) and 160,000 options will remain available for grant under the 1994 Plan. In connection with conditional options to acquire 125,000 shares of Common Stock granted by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors shortly after the end of the Company's fiscal year, the Company will incur a straight line non-cash compensation charge over the 10-year vesting period of the options. The options were conditioned upon Board of Directors' and stockholders' approval. Board of Directors approval was received on October 10, 1997. The non-cash compensation charge will be determined based on the difference between the closing price on the date all of the conditions to the grant have been satisfied, now expected to be December 9, 1997, the date of the Company's annual stockholders meeting, and the closing price on the date of grant. Based on the closing price on October 31, 1997, the annual non-cash compensation charge would be approximately \$74,200.

1993 Executive Stock Option Plan

The Company also has the 1993 Executive Stock Option Plan (the "1993 Plan") pursuant to which it granted Mr. Irwin D. Simon, its founder and Chief Executive Officer, options to acquire 600,000 shares of the Company's common stock. As a result of the Company achieving certain sales thresholds, all of such shares are currently exercisable. The exercise price of options designed to qualify as incentive options is \$3.58 per share and the exercise price of non-qualified options is \$3.25 per share. None of Mr. Simon's options have been exercised. The options expire ten years after date of grant.

1996 Directors Stock Option Plan

At the Annual Meeting of Stockholders held in December 1996, stockholders approved the 1996 Directors Stock Option Plan (the "Directors Plan"). The Directors Plan provides for the granting of stock options to non-employee directors to purchase up to an aggregate of 300,000 shares of the Company's Common Stock. During 1996, options for an aggregate of 90,000 shares were granted at a price of \$3.50 per share, and during 1997, options for an aggregate of 67,500 shares were granted at a price of \$3.38 per share. During 1997, a former director of the Company exercised an option for 15,000 shares. At June 30, 1997, 142,500 options are outstanding and 142,500 are available for grant.

PRINCIPAL AND SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the beneficial ownership of the Company's Common Stock as of October 27, 1997, and as adjusted to reflect the sale of shares of Common Stock offered hereby by the Company and the Selling Stockholders, for (i) each person who is known by the Company to beneficially own more than five percent of the outstanding shares of Common Stock, (ii) each of the Selling Stockholders, (iii) each director, (iv) each executive officer named in the Summary Compensation Table and (v) all of the current directors and executive officers of the Company as a group. Except as otherwise noted, each shareholder has sole voting and investment power with respect to the shares beneficially owned, and no other person is known by the Company to be the beneficial owner of five percent or more of the outstanding shares of Common Stock.

	Shares Owned Before the Offering		Shares Being Offered	Shares Owned After the Offering	
	Number	%		Number	%
Irwin D. Simon(1)	1,573,482	16.7%	125,000	1,448,482	12.0%
Andrew R. Heyer(2)(3)	1,232,176	13.1%	--	1,157,176	9.7%
Jack Kaufman(4)	115,000	1.3%	50,000	65,000	*
Benjamin Brecher(5)	122,097	1.4%	50,000	72,097	*
Ellen Deutsch(4)	50,000	*	--	50,000	*
Bruce M. Lerit(4)	40,000	*	25,000	15,000	*
Beth L. Bronner(6)(7)	59,167	*	--	59,167	*
Barry Gordon(6)(8)	72,500	*	--	72,500	*
Steven S. Schwartz(6)(7)	22,500	*	--	22,500	*
William Carmichael(6)(7)	22,500	*	--	22,500	*
William J. Fox(6)(9)	25,000	*	--	25,000	*
Jack Futterman(6)(9)	16,000	*	--	16,000	*
Argosy-Hain Warrant Holdings, L.P.(10)	550,000	5.8%	--	550,000	4.6%
Argosy-Hain Investment Group, L.P.	619,528	7.1%	75,000	544,528	4.6%
Jay R. Bloom(3)	1,215,222	13.0%	--	1,140,222	9.5%
Dean C. Kehler(3)	1,232,356	13.2%	--	1,157,356	9.7%
Argosy Investment Corp.(3)(11)	1,169,528	12.5%	--	1,094,528	9.2%
Soros Fund Management LLC(12)	1,246,000	14.2%	--	1,246,000	10.9%
George Soros(12)	1,246,000	14.2%	--	1,246,000	10.9%
Stanley F. Druckenmiller(12)	1,246,000	14.2%	--	1,246,000	10.9%
White Rock Capital, L.P.(12)	1,396,000	15.9%	--	1,396,000	12.2%
Thomas U. Barton(12)	1,451,000	16.6%	--	1,451,000	12.7%
Joseph U. Barton(12)	1,421,000	16.2%	--	1,421,000	12.5%
Robertson, Stephens & Company Investment Management, L.P.(13)	477,000	5.4%	--	477,000	4.2%
Bayview Holdings, Inc.(13)	477,000	5.4%	--	477,000	4.2%
Robertson, Stephens Investment Management Co.(13)	477,000	5.4%	--	477,000	4.2%
BankAmerica Corporation(13)	477,000	5.4%	--	477,000	4.2%
All executive officers and directors as a group (eleven persons)(14)	3,310,422	31.8%	325,000	3,010,422	23.6%

* Indicates less than 1%.

(1) Includes 600,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the Company's 1993 Executive Stock Option Plan and 45,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the Company's 1994 Long Term Incentive and Stock Award Plan (the "1994 Plan"). Mr. Simon is President, Chief Executive Officer and a Director of the Company. Excludes conditionally granted options. See "Executive Compensation --1994 Long-Term Incentive and Stock Award Plan."

(2) Includes 22,500 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the Company's 1996 Directors Stock Option Plan (the "Directors Plan"). Mr. Heyer is Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company.

- (3) As the officers and directors of Argosy Investment Corp., which is the general partner of Argosy-Hain Investment Group, L.P. ("AHIG") and Argosy-Hain Warrant Holdings, L.P. ("AHWH"), Messrs. Heyer, Kehler and Bloom may be deemed to be the beneficial owners of the 550,000 shares of Common Stock to be issued upon exercise of AHWH Warrants and the 619,528 shares of Common Stock owned by AHIG.
- (4) Includes 110,000 shares for Mr. Kaufman, 45,000 shares for Ms. Deutsch and 40,000 shares for Mr. Lerit of Common Stock issuable upon exercise of options under the 1994 Plan. Shares sold by Mr. Kaufman and Mr. Lerit in the Offering consist of shares issuable upon the exercise of options. Mr. Kaufman and Ms. Deutsch are officers of the Company.
- (5) Includes 95,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the 1994 Plan. Mr. Brecher is an officer of the Company. Shares sold by Mr. Brecher include 30,000 shares issuable upon exercise of options.
- (6) Director of the Company.
- (7) Includes 22,500 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the Directors Plan.
- (8) Includes 22,500 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the Directors Plan and 50,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the 1994 Plan.
- (9) Includes 15,000 shares of Common Stock issuable upon the exercise of options under the Directors Plan.
- (10) Consists of Warrants to purchase 550,000 shares of Common Stock at \$3.25 per share.
- (11) As general partner of AHIG and AHWH, Argosy Investment Corp. may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of the 550,000 shares of Common Stock to be issued upon the exercise of AHWH Warrants and the 619,528 shares of Common Stock owned by AHIG.
- (12) According to a Schedule 13D dated February 18, 1997 and Amendment No. 1 thereto dated August 5, 1997: (i) Soros Fund Management LLC, a Delaware limited liability company ("SFM LLC"), White Rock Capital, L.P., a Texas limited partnership ("White Rock"), Mr. Soros, Mr. Druckenmiller, Thomas U. Barton and Joseph U. Barton may be deemed beneficial owners of 1,246,000 shares of Common Stock (the "SFM Shares") acquired by White Rock on behalf of certain institutional clients; (ii) White Rock, Thomas U. Barton and Joseph U. Barton may be deemed beneficial owners of an additional 150,000 shares of Common Stock held in a securities portfolio managed by Thomas U. Barton and Joseph U. Barton; (iii) Joseph U. Barton beneficially owns 25,000 shares of Common Stock acquired for his personal account; and (iv) Thomas U. Barton beneficially owns 55,000 shares of Common Stock pursuant to an arrangement with Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette Securities Corporation providing for the trading of options to acquire such shares. Mr. Soros and Mr. Druckenmiller are members of the management committee of SFM LLC, which has been granted investment discretion over the SFM Shares. Thomas U. Barton and Joseph U. Barton are general partners of White Rock.
- (13) According to a Schedule 13D dated July 14, 1997 and Amendment No. 1 thereto dated October 10, 1997, Robertson, Stephens & Company Investment Management, L.P., Bayview Investors, Ltd., Robertson, Stephens Investment Management Co. and BankAmerica Corporation may be deemed beneficial owners of 477,000 shares of Common Stock held by three investment funds: The Robertson Stephens Orphan Fund; The Robertson Stephens Global Low-Priced Stock Fund; and The Robertson Stephens Orphan Offshore Fund.
- (14) Includes 600,000 shares issuable upon the exercise of options under the Company's 1993 Executive Stock Option Plan, 295,000 shares issuable upon the exercise of options under the 1994 Plan, 142,500 shares issuable upon the exercise of options under the Directors Plan and 550,000 shares issuable upon the exercise of Warrants. Excludes conditionally granted options. Options exercisable into 105,000 shares granted under the 1994 Plan will be exercised and sold in connection with the Offering by Messrs. Kaufman, Brecher and Lerit. See notes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9.

DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

General

As of October 27, 1997, the authorized capital stock of the Company is 40,000,000 shares of Common Stock, \$.01 par value per share, of which 8,781,899 shares are outstanding, and 5,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock, \$.01 par value per share, none of which had been issued.

The following description is qualified in all respects by reference to the Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") and the bylaws (the "Bylaws") of the Company.

Common Stock

Each share of Common Stock entitles the holder thereof to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of the stockholders. Since the holders of Common Stock do not have cumulative voting rights, holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares can elect all of the directors of the Company then being elected and holders of the remaining shares by themselves cannot elect any directors. The holders of Common Stock do not have preemptive rights or rights to convert their Common Stock into other securities. Holders of Common Stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends as may be declared by the Board of Directors out of funds legally available therefor. In the event of a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Company, holders of the Common Stock have the right to a ratable portion of the assets remaining after payment of liabilities. All outstanding shares of Common Stock are fully paid and nonassessable.

Preferred Stock

The Company is authorized by its Certificate of Incorporation to issue a maximum of 5,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock, in one or more series and containing such rights, privileges and limitations including voting rights, dividend rates, conversion privileges, redemption rights and terms, redemption prices and liquidation preferences, as the Board of Directors of the Company may, from time to time, determine.

The issuance of shares of Preferred Stock pursuant to the Board of Directors' authority described above could decrease the amount of earnings and assets available for distribution to holders of Common Stock, and otherwise adversely affect the rights and powers, including voting rights, of such holders and may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control of the Company. The Company is not required by the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "Delaware GCL") to seek stockholder approval prior to any issuance of authorized but unissued stock and the Board of Directors does not currently intend to seek stockholder approval prior to any issuance of authorized but unissued stock, unless otherwise required by law.

Warrants

Warrants to purchase an aggregate of 1,114,294 shares of Common Stock have been issued by the Company and are currently outstanding. Each Warrant entitles the holder to purchase one share of common stock, subject to anti-dilution adjustments, at an exercise price ranging from \$3.25 to \$12.29 per share. The Warrants have expiration dates ranging from April 14, 1999 to December 31, 2003. The foregoing amount of outstanding warrants is after the exercise in August and September 1997 of warrants for 200,000 shares at an exercise price of \$6.50 per share.

Shares Eligible for Future Sale

Of the 8,781,899 shares of the Company's Common Stock outstanding on October 27, 1997, 1,391,004 shares may be deemed "restricted securities" (as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act). Such shares may be sold in the future only pursuant to an effective registration statement under the Securities Act or in compliance with Rule 144 under the Securities Act, or pursuant to another exemption therefrom. Approximately 1,376,004 of such shares of Common Stock outstanding are eligible for sale under Rule 144. Sales of Common Stock pursuant to this offering and sales of restricted securities under Rule 144 or pursuant to a future registration statement may depress the price of the Company's Common Stock.

The Company, each of its directors and executive officers, the Selling Stockholders and certain other stockholders and warrant holders have agreed, pursuant to the Underwriting Agreement and other agreements, that they will not sell any Common Stock without the prior consent of Stephens Inc. for a period of 180 days from the date of this Prospectus, except that the Company may, without such consent, grant certain options to purchase stock pursuant to the 1994 Plan and the Directors Plan and the stockholders may, without such consent, (i) transfer shares as bona fide gifts to persons who agree in writing to be bound thereby and (ii) pledge shares of Common Stock as collateral against loans and have such shares sold if such collateral is called.

Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws

Pursuant to the Delaware GCL, the power to adopt, amend and repeal bylaws is conferred solely upon the stockholders unless the corporation's certificate of incorporation also confers such power upon the board of directors. Under the Company's Certificate of Incorporation, the Board of Directors is granted the power to amend the Bylaws of the Company. Such Bylaws provide that each director has one vote on each matter for which directors are entitled to vote. The Certificate of Incorporation and/or the Bylaws also provide that (i) from time to time, by resolution, the Board of Directors has the power to change the number of directors, (ii) the directors will hold office until the next annual meeting of stockholders and until their respective successors are elected and qualified, and (iii) special meetings of stockholders may only be called by the Board of Directors or officers of the Company. These provisions, in addition to the existence of authorized but unissued capital stock, may have the effect, either alone or in combination with each other, of making more difficult or discouraging an acquisition of the Company deemed undesirable by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors of the Company currently consists of eight persons.

Section 203 of the Delaware Law

Section 203 of the Delaware GCL prohibits a publicly held Delaware corporation from engaging in a "business combination" with an "interested stockholder" for a period of three years after the date of the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder, unless (i) prior to the date of the business combination, the transaction is approved by the board of directors of the corporation; (ii) upon consummation of the transaction which resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owns at least 85% of the outstanding voting stock, or (iii) on or after such date the business combination is approved by the board of directors and by the affirmative vote of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the interested stockholder. A "business combination" includes mergers, asset sales and other transactions resulting in a financial benefit to the stockholder. An "interested stockholder" is a person, who, together with affiliates and associates, owns (or within three years, did own) 15% or more of the corporation's voting stock. This provision of law could discourage, prevent or delay a change in management or stockholder control of the Company, which could have the effect of discouraging bids for the Company and thereby prevent stockholders from receiving the maximum value for their shares, or a premium for their shares in a hostile takeover situation.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The Transfer Agent and Registrar for the Common Stock is Continental Stock Transfer & Trust Company, New York, New York.

UNDERWRITING

Upon the terms and subject to the conditions stated in the Underwriting Agreement dated the date of this Prospectus, each Underwriter named below has severally agreed to purchase, and the Company and the Selling Stockholders have agreed to sell to such Underwriter, the number of shares of Common Stock set forth opposite the name of such Underwriter.

Underwriter	Number of Shares
Stephens Inc.	
CIBC Oppenheimer Corp.	
Total	2,825,000 =====

The Underwriting Agreement provides that the obligations of the several Underwriters to pay for and accept delivery of the shares are subject to approval of certain legal matters by counsel and to certain other conditions. The Underwriters are obligated to take and pay for all shares of Common Stock offered hereby (other than those covered by the over-allotment option described below) if any such shares are taken.

The Underwriters, for whom Stephens Inc. and CIBC Oppenheimer Corp. are acting as Representatives, propose to offer part of the shares directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this Prospectus and part of the shares to certain dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of \$ per share under the public offering price. The Underwriters may allow, and such dealers may reallow, a concession not in excess of \$ per share to certain other dealers. After the Offering, the public offering price and such concessions may be changed by the Underwriters. The Representatives of the Underwriters have advised the Company that the Underwriters do not intend to confirm any Shares to any accounts over which they exercise discretionary authority.

In connection with this Offering, certain Underwriters and selling group members (if any) who in the past have acted as market makers in the Common Stock may engage in passive market making activities in the Common Stock on NASDAQ in accordance with Rule 103 of Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Underwriters and other participants in the distribution of the Common Stock generally are prohibited during a specified time period (the "qualifying period"), determined in light of the timing of the pricing of the Offering, from bidding for or purchasing the Common Stock or a related security except to the extent permitted under the applicable rules of Regulation M. Rule 103 allows, among other things, an Underwriter or member of the selling group (if any) for the Common Stock to effect "passive market making" transactions on NASDAQ in the Common Stock during the qualifying period at a price that does not exceed the highest independent bid for that security at the time of the transaction. Such a passive market maker must not display a bid for the subject security at a price in excess of the highest independent bid, and generally must lower its bid if all independent bids are lowered. Moreover, the passive market maker's net purchases of such security on each day of the qualifying period shall not exceed 30% of its average daily trading volume during a reference period preceding the distribution.

In connection with the Offering, the Underwriters may purchase and sell the Common Stock in the open market. These transactions may include over-allotment and stabilizing transactions and purchases to cover syndicate short positions created in connection with the Offering. Stabilizing transactions consist of certain bids or purchases for the purpose of preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the shares of Common Stock; syndicate short positions involve the sale by the Underwriters of a greater number of shares of Common Stock than they are required to purchase from the Company in the Offering. The Underwriters may also impose a penalty bid, whereby selling concessions allowed to syndicate members or other broker-dealers in respect of the shares of Common Stock sold in the Offering for their account may be reclaimed by the syndicate if the shares of Common Stock are repurchased by the syndicate in stabilizing or covering transactions. These activities may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of the shares of Common Stock, which may be higher than the price that might otherwise prevail in the open market; and these activities, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time. These transactions may be effected on NASDAQ, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise.

The Company has granted to the Underwriters an option, exercisable for 30 days from the date of this Prospectus, to purchase up to 423,750 additional shares of Common Stock at the price to the public set forth on the cover page of this Prospectus minus the underwriting discounts and commissions. The Underwriters may exercise such option solely for the purpose of covering over-allotments, if any, in connection with the Offering. To the extent such option is exercised, each Underwriter will be obligated, subject to certain conditions, to purchase approximately the same percentage of such additional shares as the number of shares set forth opposite each Underwriter's name in the preceding table bears to the total number of shares listed in such table.

The Company, and its officers, directors and its affiliate stockholders have agreed that, for a period of 180 days from the date of this Prospectus, they will not, without the prior written consent of Stephens Inc. offer, sell, contract to sell or otherwise dispose of any shares of Common Stock of the Company or any securities convertible into, or exercisable or exchangeable for, any class of Common Stock of the Company, other than by the Company pursuant to its existing benefit plans.

The Company and the Selling Stockholders on the one hand, and the Underwriters, on the other hand, have agreed to indemnify each other against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

Under Rule 2720 of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (the "NASD"), the Company may be deemed an affiliate of CIBC Oppenheimer Corp. The Offering is being conducted in accordance with Rule 2720, which provides that, among other things, when a NASD member participates in the underwriting of an affiliate's equity securities, the initial public offering price can be no higher than that recommended by a "qualified independent underwriter" meeting certain standards. In accordance with this requirement, Stephens Inc. has served in such role and has recommended a price in compliance with the requirements of Rule 2720. In connection with the Offering, Stephens Inc. in its role as a qualified independent underwriter has performed due diligence investigations and reviewed and participated in the preparation of the Prospectus and the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus forms a part. In addition, the Underwriters may not confirm sales to any discretionary account without the prior written approval of the customer.

LEGAL MATTERS

Certain legal matters with respect to the validity of the Common Stock offered hereby will be passed upon for the Company by Cahill Gordon & Reindel (a partnership including a professional corporation), 80 Pine Street, New York, New York 10005. Certain legal matters in connection with this Offering will be passed upon for the Underwriters by Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP, Little Rock, Arkansas.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of The Hain Food Group, Inc. at June 30, 1997 and 1996, and for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 1997, appearing and incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and Registration Statement have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent auditors, as set forth in their report thereon appearing elsewhere and incorporated by reference herein, and are included herein in reliance upon such report given upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The consolidated financial statements of Vestro National Foods Inc. (the prior name of Westbrae) ("Vestro") incorporated herein by reference to Vestro's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1996 (the "Vestro 10-K") for the each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 1996 and the balance sheets of Vestro for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 1996, have been audited by Price Waterhouse LLP, independent accountants, as set forth in their report thereon included in the Vestro 10-K. Such consolidated financial statements are included herein in reliance upon such report given upon the authority of such firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

AVAILABLE INFORMATION

The Company is subject to the informational requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), and is required to file periodic reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") relating to its business, financial statements and other matters. Such reports, proxy statements and other information may be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the Commission at Judiciary Plaza, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington,

D.C. 20549, and at the regional offices of the Commission located at Northwest Atrium Center, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1400, Chicago, Illinois 60621-2511 and at Seven World Trade Center, 13th Floor, New York, New York 10048. Copies of such material can also be obtained from the Commission at prescribed rates from the public reference section of the Commission, Washington, D.C. 20549. Such reports and other information can be reviewed through the Commission's Electronic Data Gathering Analysis and Retrieval System, which is publicly available through the Commission's web site (<http://www.sec.gov>).

The Company has filed a Registration Statement on Form S-3 with the Commission under the Securities Act with respect to the Common Stock offered hereby. As permitted by the rules and regulations of the Commission, this Prospectus omits certain information contained in the Registration Statement. For further information, reference is made to the Registration Statement, including the financial schedules and exhibits incorporated therein by reference or filed as a part thereof. Statements made in this Prospectus as to the contents of any contract, agreement or other document referred to are not necessarily complete, and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of such document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement or otherwise filed with the Commission. Each such statement shall be deemed qualified in its entirety by such reference.

INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The following documents have been filed by the Company with the Commission and are hereby incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and made a part hereof:

- (1) The description of the Company's Common Stock contained in the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A dated November 12, 1993 and any amendment or report filed for the purpose of updating such description;
- (2) The Company's annual report on Form 10-K filed with the Commission for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997;
- (3) The Company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q filed with the Commission for the three month period ended September 30, 1997;
- (4) The Company's current reports on Form 8-K dated September 8, 1997, September 12, 1997 and October 28, 1997;
- (5) Westbrae's annual report on Form 10-K filed with the Commission (under Westbrae's prior name of Vestro Natural Foods, Inc.) for the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997; and
- (6) Westbrae's quarterly reports on Form 10-Q filed with the Commission (under Westbrae's prior name of Vestro Natural Foods, Inc.) for the three month periods ended March 31, 1997 and June 30, 1997.

All documents subsequently filed by the Company with the Commission pursuant to Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, prior to the filing of a post-effective amendment which indicates that all securities offered have been sold or which deregisters all securities then remaining unsold, shall be deemed to be incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and to be a part hereof from the date of filing such documents. Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated by reference herein shall be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this Prospectus to the extent that a statement contained herein or in any other subsequently filed document which also is or is deemed to be incorporated by reference herein modifies or supersedes such statement. Any such statement so modified or superseded shall not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this Prospectus.

The Company will provide without charge to each person to whom a copy of this Prospectus is delivered, upon the written or oral request of such person, a copy of any or all of the documents incorporated herein by reference (other than exhibits to such documents, unless such exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference in such documents). Requests for such copies should be directed to the President, The Hain Food Group, Inc., 50 Charles Lindbergh Boulevard, Uniondale, New York 11553, (516) 237-6200.

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Consolidated financial statements of The Hain Food Group, Inc. for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1997 (audited) and for the three months ended September 30, 1997 (unaudited)

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Report of Independent Auditors

The Stockholders and Board of Directors
The Hain Food Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of The Hain Food Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of June 30, 1997 and 1996, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 1997. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of The Hain Food Group, Inc. and Subsidiaries at June 30, 1997 and 1996, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended June 30, 1997, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Melville, New York
September 3, 1997

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	June 30,		September 30,
	1996	1997	1997
			(Unaudited)
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash	\$ 306,000	\$ 219,000	\$ 184,000
Trade accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$58,000, \$265,000 and \$258,000	8,069,000	8,447,000	8,151,000
Inventories	7,346,000	6,635,000	7,425,000
Receivables from sales of equipment - current portion	632,000	408,000	379,000
Other current assets	639,000	818,000	990,000
Total current assets	16,992,000	16,527,000	17,129,000
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$399,000, \$577,000 and \$625,000	685,000	743,000	732,000
Receivables from sales of equipment - non-current portion.	310,000	150,000	150,000
Goodwill and other intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$1,334,000, \$2,074,000 and \$2,284,000	27,140,000	29,188,000	28,998,000
Deferred financing costs, net of accumulated amortization of \$706,000, 1,049,000 and \$1,135,000	1,312,000	975,000	1,140,000
Other assets	1,003,000	1,312,000	1,282,000
Total assets	\$47,442,000	\$48,895,000	\$49,431,000
	=====	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 5,560,000	\$ 7,568,000	\$ 6,097,000
Current portion of long-term debt	4,619,000	4,178,000	5,354,000
Income taxes payable	273,000	299,000	592,000
Total current liabilities	10,452,000	12,045,000	12,043,000
Long-term debt, less current portion	12,105,000	10,756,000	9,605,000
Other liabilities	--	483,000	403,000
Deferred income taxes	461,000	552,000	552,000
Total liabilities	23,018,000	23,836,000	22,603,000
	-----	-----	-----
Commitments and contingencies			
Stockholders' 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 8,866,899, 8,881,899 and 8,881,899 shares	89,000	89,000	89,000
Additional paid-in capital	20,413,000	20,804,000	21,547,000
Retained earnings	3,922,000	4,991,000	5,467,000
	24,424,000	25,884,000	27,103,000
Less: 300,000 and 100,000 shares of treasury stock, at cost	--	825,000	275,000
Total stockholders' equity	24,424,000	25,089,000	26,828,000
	-----	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$47,442,000	\$48,895,000	\$49,431,000
	=====	=====	=====

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

	Year Ended June 30,			Three Months Ended September 30,	
	1995	1996	1997	1996	1997
				(Unaudited)	
Net sales	\$58,076,000	\$68,606,000	\$65,353,000	\$15,437,000	\$16,336,000
Cost of sales	36,220,000	40,884,000	40,781,000	9,708,000	9,862,000
Gross profit	21,856,000	27,722,000	24,572,000	5,729,000	6,474,000
Selling, general and administrative expenses	15,334,000	20,905,000	19,651,000	4,333,000	4,837,000
Depreciation of property and equipment	158,000	184,000	178,000	41,000	48,000
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	474,000	651,000	740,000	185,000	210,000
	15,966,000	21,740,000	20,569,000	4,559,000	5,095,000
Operating income	5,890,000	5,982,000	4,003,000	1,170,000	1,379,000
Interest expense, net	1,351,000	1,745,000	1,639,000	458,000	420,000
Amortization of deferred financing costs	419,000	473,000	509,000	123,000	131,000
	1,770,000	2,218,000	2,148,000	581,000	551,000
Income before income taxes	4,120,000	3,764,000	1,855,000	589,000	828,000
Provision for income taxes	1,755,000	1,630,000	786,000	253,000	352,000
Net income	\$ 2,365,000	\$ 2,134,000	\$ 1,069,000	\$ 336,000	\$ 476,000
Net income per common and common equivalent share	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.05
Weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents.	8,597,000	8,964,000	8,993,000	8,939,000	9,965,000

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Year Ended June 30		
	1995	1996	1997
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net income	\$ 2,365,000	\$ 2,134,000	\$ 1,069,000
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation of property and equipment	158,000	184,000	178,000
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	474,000	651,000	740,000
Amortization of deferred financing costs	419,000	473,000	509,000
Provision for doubtful accounts	44,000	123,000	290,000
Other			(34,000)
Deferred income taxes	198,000	36,000	91,000
Increase (decrease) in cash attributable to changes in assets and liabilities, net of amounts applicable to acquired businesses:			
Accounts receivable	(2,775,000)	(218,000)	(383,000)
Inventories	(499,000)	1,172,000	899,000
Other current assets	(255,000)	(166,000)	(347,000)
Other assets	(974,000)	81,000	(309,000)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,413,000)	(2,153,000)	276,000
Income taxes payable	1,058,000	(1,023,000)	26,000
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(1,200,000)	1,294,000	3,005,000
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Acquisition of businesses, net of long-term debt issued to seller		(9,758,000)	(666,000)
Acquisition of property and equipment and other	(429,000)	(215,000)	(146,000)
Net cash used in investing activities	(429,000)	(9,973,000)	(812,000)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from senior term loan		9,000,000	
Proceeds from bank revolving credit facility	300,000	1,100,000	850,000
Purchase of treasury stock			(825,000)
Costs in connection with bank financing	(20,000)	(256,000)	(6,000)
Payment of senior term loan	(8,015,000)	(2,919,000)	(1,234,000)
Proceeds from exercise of warrants and options, net of related expenses	8,424,000		52,000
Collections of receivables from equipment sales	582,000	2,011,000	552,000
Payment of 10% Junior Subordinated Note			(1,269,000)
Payment of other long-term debt and other, net	(127,000)	(138,000)	(400,000)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	1,144,000	8,798,000	(2,280,000)
Net (decrease) increase in cash	(485,000)	119,000	(87,000)
Cash at beginning of period	672,000	187,000	306,000
Cash at end of period	\$ 187,000	\$ 306,000	\$ 219,000

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	1996	1997
	(Unaudited)	
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	\$ 336,000	\$ 476,000
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation of property and equipment	41,000	48,000
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	185,000	210,000
Amortization of deferred financing costs	123,000	131,000
Provision for doubtful accounts	30,000	
Other		
Deferred income taxes		
Increase (decrease) in cash attributable to changes in assets and liabilities, net of amounts applicable to acquired businesses:		
Accounts receivable	988,000	296,000
Inventories	(1,548,000)	(790,000)
Other current assets	(368,000)	(172,000)
Other assets	(41,000)	30,000
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	173,000	(1,471,000)
Income taxes payable	(47,000)	293,000
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(128,000)	(949,000)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Acquisition of businesses, net of long-term debt issued to seller	(65,000)	(57,000)
Acquisition of property and equipment and other	(65,000)	(57,000)
Net cash used in investing activities	(65,000)	(57,000)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from senior term loan		
Proceeds from bank revolving credit facility	250,000	1,550,000
Purchase of treasury stock		(251,000)
Costs in connection with bank financing		(1,509,000)
Payment of senior term loan	(218,000)	(1,509,000)
Proceeds from exercise of warrants and options, net of related expenses		1,293,000
Collections of receivables from equipment sales	204,000	29,000
Payment of 10% Junior Subordinated Note		(141,000)
Payment of other long-term debt and other, net	(29,000)	(141,000)
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	207,000	971,000
Net (decrease) increase in cash	14,000	(35,000)
Cash at beginning of period	306,000	219,000
Cash at end of period	\$ 320,000	\$ 184,000

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1995, 1996 AND 1997

AND THE THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 1997 (Unaudited)

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in Capital
	Shares	Amount at \$.01	
Balance at June 30, 1994	5,933,478	\$59,000	\$12,019,000
Proceeds from exercise of Common Stock warrants and other stock issuances, net of related expenses	2,933,421	30,000	8,394,000
Net income for the year ended June 30, 1995			
Balance at June 30, 1995	8,866,899	89,000	20,413,000
Net income for the year ended June 30, 1996			
Balance at June 30, 1996	8,866,899	89,000	20,413,000
Acquisition of treasury stock			
Exercise of stock options and other ...	15,000	--	79,000
Value ascribed to warrants			312,000
Net income for the year ended June 30, 1997			
Balance at June 30, 1997	8,881,899	89,000	20,804,000
Proceeds from exercise of Common Stock warrants, net of related expenses			743,000
Net income for the three months ended September 30, 1997			
Balance at September 30, 1997	<u>8,881,899</u>	<u>\$89,000</u>	<u>\$21,547,000</u>

RESTUBBED TABLE

	Retained Earnings (Deficit)	Treasury Stock		Total
		Shares	Amount	
Balance at June 30, 1994	\$ (577,000)			\$11,501,000
Proceeds from exercise of Common Stock warrants and other stock issuances, net of related expenses				8,424,000
Net income for the year ended June 30, 1995	2,365,000			2,365,000
Balance at June 30, 1995	1,788,000			22,290,000
Net income for the year ended June 30, 1996	2,134,000			2,134,000
Balance at June 30, 1996	3,922,000			24,424,000
Acquisition of treasury stock		300,000	\$ (825,000)	(825,000)
Exercise of stock options and other ...				79,000
Value ascribed to warrants				312,000
Net income for the year ended June 30, 1997	1,069,000			1,069,000
Balance at June 30, 1997	4,991,000	300,000	(825,000)	25,059,000
Proceeds from exercise of Common Stock warrants, net of related expenses		(200,000)	550,000	1,293,000
Net income for the three months ended September 30, 1997	476,000			476,000
Balance at September 30, 1997	<u>\$5,467,000</u>	<u>100,000</u>	<u>\$ (275,000)</u>	<u>\$26,828,000</u>

See notes to consolidated financial statements.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

1. BUSINESS:

The Company and its subsidiaries operate in one business segment: the sale of specialty food products which are manufactured by various co-packers.

The Company's principal product lines consist of Hain Pure Foods (natural foods), Hollywood Foods (principally healthy cooking oils), Estee (sugar-free, medically directed snacks), Featherweight (low sodium food products), Kineret Foods (frozen kosher foods), Weight Watchers (dry and refrigerated products), and Boston Better Snacks (snacks).

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

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

Consolidation Policy:

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly-owned. Material intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Use of Estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and amounts of income and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Revenue Recognition:

Sales are recognized upon the shipment of finished goods to customers. Allowances for cash discounts are recorded in the period in which the related sale is recognized.

Advertising Costs:

Media advertising costs, which are included in selling, general and administrative expenses, amounted to \$52,000, \$22,000, and \$236,000 for fiscal 1995, 1996 and 1997, respectively. Such costs are expensed as incurred.

Income Taxes:

The Company follows the liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under the liability method, deferred taxes are determined based on the differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities at enacted rates in effect in the years in which the differences are expected to reverse.

Concentration of Credit Risk:

Substantially all of the Company's trade accounts receivable are due from food distributors and food retailers located throughout the United States. The Company performs credit evaluations of its customers and generally does not require collateral. Credit losses are provided for in the consolidated financial statements and consistently have been within management's expectations.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: -- (Continued)

Inventories:

Inventories consist principally of finished goods, raw materials and packaging materials, and are stated at the lower of cost (first-in, first-out basis) or market.

Fair Values of Financial Instruments:

As at September 30, 1997, June 30, 1997 and 1996, the Company had no cash equivalents. The carrying amount of the receivables from sale of equipment approximates their fair value. The Company believes that the interest rates set forth in the Company's debt instruments approximates its current borrowing rate and, accordingly, the carrying amounts of such debt at September 30, 1997, June 30, 1997 and 1996 approximate fair value.

Property and Equipment:

Property and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided under the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets.

Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets:

Goodwill consists of the excess of the cost of acquired businesses over the fair value of the assets and liabilities acquired or assumed, and is being amortized over a period of 40 years from date of acquisition (see Note 7).

Other intangible assets, which are not significant in the aggregate, are being amortized over their respective applicable lives.

Amortizable Long-Lived Assets:

Financial Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 121, "Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to be Disposed of" ("FAS 121"), requires impairment losses to be recorded on long-lived assets used in operations when indicators of impairment are present and the undiscounted cash flows estimated to be generated by those assets are less than the asset carrying amount. FAS 121 also addresses the accounting for long-lived assets that are expected to be disposed of. The Company adopted FAS 121 effective for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1996. The adoption did not have an effect on the Company's consolidated results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

Deferred Financing Costs:

Costs associated with obtaining debt financing are capitalized and amortized over the related lives of the applicable debt instruments. The unamortized deferred financing costs at September 30, 1997, June 30, 1997 and 1996 relate to the bank Credit Facility and Subordinated Debentures (see Note 8).

Earnings Per Common Share:

Net income per share for 1997, 1996 and 1995 and the three month periods ended September 30, 1996 and 1997 is based on the weighted average number of common shares and dilutive common equivalent shares.

In February 1997, the FASB issued Statement No. 128, "Earnings Per Share" ("FAS 128"), which is effective for both interim and annual financial statements for periods ending after December 15, 1997. At that time,

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: -- (Continued)

the Company will be required to change the method currently used to compute earnings per share and restate all periods. Under the new requirements for calculating basic earnings per share, the dilutive effect of stock options and warrants will be excluded. The impact of adopting FAS 128 is not expected to be material.

Supplemental Earnings Common Per Share:

In November 1995, the Company used the proceeds of the exercise of the Company's Class A Warrants ("Warrants") to repay its Senior Term Loan. Had the Warrants been exercised as of July 1, 1994, the net income per share for the year ended June 30, 1995 (based on interest savings, net of tax of approximately \$144,000 and an assumed issuance of shares in connection with the exercise of the Warrants as of July 1, 1994), would have been the same (\$.28 per share), as historically reported.

Unaudited Interim Statements:

The consolidated financial statements as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1996 and 1997 have been prepared by the Company pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The financial statements for such periods are unaudited but, in the opinion of management, all adjustments (including normal recurring accruals) necessary for a fair presentation have been included.

3. ACQUISITIONS:

On May 23, 1997, the Company purchased substantially all of the assets and business, subject to certain liabilities, of The Boston Popcorn Company, Inc. ("Boston Better Snacks"), a manufacturer and marketer of popcorn and chip snack products, principally in the New England and New York City metropolitan areas. The purchase price amounted to approximately \$870,000 of which \$645,000 was paid in cash and \$225,000 by the issuance of a note, with a maturity date in 2002. In addition, the Company assumed certain liabilities. Pro forma information with respect to the foregoing acquisition is not significant.

On November 3, 1995, the Company purchased substantially all of the assets and business, subject to certain liabilities, of The Estee Corporation. Estee is a manufacturer and marketer of sugar-free and low sodium products targeted towards diabetic and health conscious consumers. The purchase price, after giving effect to the early redemption of the junior subordinated note referred to below (see Note 8), amounted to approximately \$11.32 million of which \$9.75 million was paid in cash and \$1.75 million by the issuance of a junior subordinated note, with a maturity date in 2005. In addition, the Company issued a warrant to purchase 200,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$6.50. See Note 10.

The above acquisitions have been accounted for as purchases and, therefore, operating results of the acquired businesses have been included in the accompanying financial statements from the date of acquisition.

Unaudited pro forma results of operations for the year ended June 30, 1996, assuming that the Estee acquisition had occurred as of July 1, 1995 are as follows:

	1996

Net sales	\$75,749,000
Net income	2,316,000
Net income per share	\$ 0.26

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

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

4. LICENSE AGREEMENT:

On March 31, 1997, the Company entered into a license agreement with Weight Watchers Gourmet Food Company ("WWGF" -- a wholly-owned subsidiary of H. J. Heinz Company). Under the agreement, the Company will manufacture, market and sell approximately 60 Weight Watcher dry and refrigerated products. Sales of these products were approximately \$17 million (unaudited) for the 12 months ended March 31, 1997. The agreement provides, among other matters, for a royalty payment to WWGF based on the sales of Weight Watchers products and payment of a share of the pre-tax profits (as defined) from sale of the such products. In connection with the license agreement, the Company purchased approximately \$600,000 of inventory, using borrowings under the Company's revolving credit facility.

5. RECEIVABLES FROM SALE OF EQUIPMENT:

In connection with the acquisitions of Hain, Estee and Boston Better Snacks, the Company acquired certain food manufacturing equipment, which has been sold to co-packers for selling prices equal to the fair value of such equipment recorded at date of acquisition. The balance of the receivables are due in various installments over a five year period through 2001. The proceeds of sale of the Estee equipment are required to be utilized to pay down the bank debt referred to in Note 8.

6. INVENTORIES:

Inventories consist of the following:

	June 30,		September 30,
	1996	1997	1997
Finished goods	\$6,641,000	\$5,418,000	\$5,713,000
Raw materials and packaging	705,000	1,217,000	1,712,000
	<u>\$7,346,000</u>	<u>\$6,635,000</u>	<u>\$7,425,000</u>

7. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS:

Goodwill and other intangible assets consist of the following:

	June 30,		September 30,
	1996	1997	1997
Goodwill	\$28,209,000	\$30,645,000	\$30,665,000
Other intangible assets	265,000	617,000	617,000
	<u>28,474,000</u>	<u>31,262,000</u>	<u>31,282,000</u>
Less: Accumulated amortization	1,334,000	2,074,000	2,284,000
	<u>\$27,140,000</u>	<u>\$29,188,000</u>	<u>\$28,998,000</u>

Substantially all unamortized goodwill relates to the acquisition of Hain, Estee, Boston Popcorn and Kineret Foods. The entities have been in operation for many years and are viewed to have an unlimited life. Accordingly, such goodwill is being amortized over the maximum period (40 years) permitted by Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 17. The increase in goodwill during 1997 is principally attributable to the acquisition of The Boston Popcorn Company and the increase in 1996 is all attributable to the acquisition of Estee.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

8. LONG-TERM DEBT:

Long-term debt consists of the following:

	June 30,		September 30,
	1996	1997	1997
Senior Term Loan	\$ 6,081,000	\$ 4,847,000	\$ 3,339,000
Revolving Credit	1,400,000	2,250,000	3,800,000
12.5% Subordinated Debentures net of unamortized original issue discount of \$1,361,000, \$1,195,000 and \$1,150,000	7,139,000	7,305,000	7,350,000
10% Junior Subordinated Note	1,750,000	--	--
Notes payable to sellers in connection with acquisition of companies, and other long-term debt	354,000	532,000	470,000
	16,724,000	14,934,000	14,959,000
Current portion	4,619,000	4,178,000	5,354,000
	\$12,105,000	\$10,756,000	\$ 9,605,000

In connection with the acquisition of Estee in November 1995, the Company and its bank entered into a \$18 million Amended and Restated Credit Facility ("Facility") providing for a \$9 million senior term loan and a \$9 million revolving credit line. The Facility replaced the Company's existing \$6 million revolving credit line with the same bank. Borrowings under the facility bear interest at rates ranging from 1/2% to 1% over the bank's base rate, which was 8.5% and 8.25% at June 30, 1997 and 1996, respectively. The senior term loan is repayable in quarterly principal installments, commencing March 31, 1996 through maturity of the Facility on June 30, 2000. 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 Company borrowed the full \$9 million senior term loan and \$2 million under the revolving credit line to fund the cash purchase price and related closing costs of the acquisition.

At June 30, 1996 and 1997 and September 30, 1997, the interest rate on the Credit Facility was 9.25%, and 9.50% and 9.50%, respectively.

The Credit Facility, as amended, contains certain 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 ratios, the achievement of certain earnings levels, and interest and fixed charge coverage ratios. The Company was in compliance with all such covenants at June 30, 1997.

The 12.5% Subordinated Debentures ("Debentures") provide for the payment of interest semi-annually in arrears, and principal payments of \$1,943,000 in October 2000, \$2,307,000 in April 2002, \$2,125,000 in April 2003 and a final maturity payment of \$2,125,000 in April 2004. The agreement relating to the issuance of the Debentures also contains certain restrictive covenants which are generally less restrictive than those contained in the Credit Facility. In connection with the issuance of the Debentures, the Company also issued 768,229 shares of common stock to the Debenture holders. Such shares were valued at \$1,644,000 and applied as a discount of the value of the Debentures. The discount is being amortized using the interest method over the life of the Debentures. Amortization expense for the years ended June 30, 1995, 1996 and 1997 amounted to \$108,000, \$141,000 and \$166,000, respectively. Amortization expense for the three month periods ended September 30, 1996 and 1997 amounted to \$42,000 and \$45,000, respectively.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

8. LONG-TERM DEBT: -- (Continued)

The 10% junior subordinated note ("Estee Note"), which was issued to the seller in connection with the acquisition of Estee, provided for the payment of interest semi-annually in arrears and a maturity in November 2005. Pursuant to an option contained in the Estee Note, in April 1997 the note was redeemed by the Company for \$1,269,000. Substantially all of the discount of \$481,000, resulting from such redemption was applied as a reduction of the purchase price of Estee, resulting in a reduction of goodwill.

Maturities of long-term debt at June 30, 1997, are as follows:

Year Ending June 30	

1998	\$ 4,178,000
1999	1,993,000
2000	1,372,000
2001	1,988,000
2002	2,348,000
Thereafter	4,250,000

	16,129,000
Less:	
Unamortized original issue discount	1,195,000

Total long-term debt	\$14,934,000
	=====

Interest paid during the years ended June 30, 1995, 1996 and 1997 amounted to \$1,440,000, \$1,820,000 and \$1,768,000, respectively.

In October 1997, in connection with the acquisition of Westbrae (see Note 15), the Company and its bank entered into a \$40 million Amended and Restated Credit Facility ("New Credit Facility") providing for a \$30 million senior term loan and a \$10 million revolving credit line.

The New Credit Facility replaced the Company's existing \$18 million Facility with the same bank which provided for a \$9 million senior term loan and a \$9 million revolving credit line. Borrowings under the New Credit Facility bear interest at rates equal to, at the Company's option, either (i) 0.75% over the bank's base rate or (ii) 2.75% over the Eurodollar Rate. The senior term loan is repayable in quarterly principal installments commencing December 31, 1997 through maturity of the New Credit Facility on September 30, 2003. 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 New Credit Facility are collateralized by principally all of the Company's assets. The Company borrowed the full \$30 million senior term loan to fund the cash purchase price and related closing costs of the acquisition and to repay certain existing debt of the Company and Westbrae.

The New Credit 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 ratios, the achievement of certain earnings levels, and interest and fixed charge coverage ratios.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

9. INCOME TAXES:

The provision for income taxes for the years ended June 30, 1995, 1996 and 1997 are as follows:

	1995	1996	1997
	-----	-----	-----
Current:			
Federal	\$1,262,000	\$1,337,000	\$541,000
State	295,000	257,000	154,000
	-----	-----	-----
	1,557,000	1,594,000	695,000
Deferred Federal and State	198,000	36,000	91,000
	-----	-----	-----
Total	\$1,755,000	\$1,630,000	\$786,000
	=====	=====	=====

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effects of temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for income tax purposes.

Components of the Company's deferred tax liability for the years ended June 30, 1996 and 1997 are as follows:

	1996	1997
	-----	-----
Difference in carrying amount of receivables from sale of equipment ...	\$ (35,000)	\$ (8,000)
Difference in amortization period on Estee Goodwill	(111,000)	(186,000)
Basis difference on property and equipment	(93,000)	(102,000)
Basis difference on inventory	67,000	134,000
Deferred charges	(294,000)	(462,000)
Allowance for doubtful accounts	5,000	72,000
	-----	-----
Net deferred tax liability	\$ (461,000)	\$ (552,000)
	=====	=====

Reconciliations of expected income taxes at the U.S. federal statutory rate to the Company's provision for income taxes for the years ended June 30, 1995, 1996, and 1997 are as follows:

	1995	%	1996	%	1997	%
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Expected U.S. federal income tax at statutory rate	\$1,401,000	34.0%	\$1,280,000	34.0%	\$ 630,000	34.0%
State income taxes, net of federal benefit	195,000	4.8	172,000	4.6	102,000	5.5
Non-deductible expenses	154,000	3.7	167,000	4.4	169,000	9.1
Other	5,000	.1	11,000	.3	(115,000)	(6.2)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Provision for income taxes	\$1,755,000	42.6%	\$1,630,000	43.3%	\$ 786,000	42.4%
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Income taxes paid during the years ended June 30, 1995, 1996 and 1997 amounted to \$233,000, \$2,623,000 and \$699,000, respectively.

The income tax provisions for the three month periods ended September 30, 1996 and 1997 are based on the expected effective tax rate for the entire fiscal year. It is not practical to calculate current and deferred income taxes on a quarterly basis.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

10. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:

Common Stock:

In June 1996, the Board of Directors of the Company adopted a Common Stock repurchase program authorizing the Company to repurchase up to \$2 million of the Company's common stock. In a private transaction in November 1996, the Company acquired 300,000 shares of its common stock for treasury at \$2.75 per share for an aggregate cost of \$825,000.

In connection with the acquisition of Estee, the Company issued a warrant to the seller to purchase 200,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$6.50 per share. In August and September 1997, the seller exercised all of the warrants and the Company issued 200,000 shares of Common Stock out of treasury for aggregate proceeds of \$1,300,000.

Preferred Stock:

The Company is authorized to issue "blank check" preferred stock (up to 5 million shares) with such designations, rights and preferences as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors. Accordingly, the Board of Directors is empowered to issue, without stockholder approval, preferred stock with dividends, liquidation, conversion, voting, or other rights which could decrease the amount of earnings and assets available for distribution to holders of the Company's common stock. As at June 30, 1997 and 1996, no preferred stock was issued or outstanding.

Warrants:

In December 1994, the Company issued 125,000 shares of Common Stock as a result of the exercise of a warrant issued by the Company in connection with the Company's 12.5% Subordinated Debentures. The proceeds from such exercise were nominal.

In connection with services provided by CIBC Wood Gundy Securities Corp. ("CIBC" -- formerly Argosy Group, L.P.), the Company's investment banking firm, the Company issued in April 1994, to an affiliate of CIBC, warrants to acquire 550,000 shares of the Company's common stock at a price of \$3.25 per share. The exercise price approximates the fair market value of the Company's common stock at the time the warrant was negotiated. None of these warrants have been exercised.

In connection with the acquisition of Estee, the Company issued a warrant to the seller to purchase 200,000 shares of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$6.50 per share. In August and September 1997, the seller exercised all of the warrants and the Company issued 200,000 shares of Common Stock out of treasury for aggregate proceeds of \$1,300,000.

In connection with the Weight Watchers agreement, the Company issued warrants on March 31, 1997, to acquire 250,000 shares of the Company's common stock at prices ranging from \$7.00 to \$9.00 per share. The value ascribed to these warrants of approximately \$312,000 will be amortized over ten years.

During the last three fiscal years, the Company issued a total of 200,000 warrants in connection with services rendered by third party consultants at prices ranging from \$4.13 to \$8.00 per share.

As at June 30, 1997, there are 2,940,000 shares of common stock reserved for issuance of warrants (1,200,000) and Employee and Director Stock Options (1,740,000). See Note 12.

11. LEASES:

The Company's corporate headquarters are located in leased office space in Uniondale, New York, under a lease which expires in March 2002. This lease provides for additional payments of real estate taxes and other operating expenses over a base period amount. In addition, the Company leases warehouse space for a subsidiary and a division under net leases which expire in August 1999 and May 2000.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

11. LEASES: -- (Continued)

The aggregate minimum future lease payments for these operating leases are as follows:

Year Ending June 30	
1998	\$ 321,000
1999	325,000
2000	301,000
2001	274,000
2002	191,000

	\$1,412,000
	=====

Rent expense charged to operations for the years ended June 30, 1995, 1996 and 1997 was \$187,000, \$162,000 and \$224,000, respectively.

12. STOCK OPTION PLANS:

In December 1994, the Company adopted the 1994 Long-Term Incentive and Stock Award Plan ("Plan"), which amended and restated the Company's 1993 stock option plan. The Plan provides for the granting of incentive stock options to employees, directors and consultants to purchase up to an aggregate of 855,000 shares of the Company's common stock. All of the options granted to date under the Plan have been qualified stock options providing for exercise prices equivalent to the fair market price at date of grant, and expire 10 years after date of grant. Vesting terms are determined at the discretion of the Company. During 1995, options to purchase 111,500 shares were granted at prices from \$3.50 to \$5.00 per share. During 1996, options to purchase 103,500 shares were granted at prices from \$2.94 to \$3.25 per share. During 1997, options to purchase 475,000 shares were granted at prices from \$3.00 to \$4.81 per share. At June 30, 1997, no options were available for grant.

In December 1995, the Company adopted a Directors Stock Option Plan. The Plan provides for the granting of stock options to non-employee directors to purchase up to an aggregate of 300,000 shares of the Company's common stock. During 1996, options for an aggregate of 90,000 shares were granted at a price of \$3.50 per share. During 1997, options for an aggregate of 67,500 shares were granted at a price of \$3.38 per share. At June 30, 1997, 142,500 options are available for grant.

The Company also has a 1993 Executive Stock Option Plan pursuant to which it granted Mr. Irwin D. Simon, its founder and Chief Executive Officer, options to acquire 600,000 shares of the Company's common stock. As a result of the Company achieving certain sales thresholds, all of such shares are currently exercisable. The exercise price of options designed to qualify as incentive options is \$3.58 per share and the exercise price of non-qualified options is \$3.25 per share. None of Mr. Simon's options have been exercised. The options expire in 2003.-

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

12. STOCK OPTION PLANS: -- (Continued)

The Company has elected to follow APB Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" ("APB 25") and related Interpretations, in accounting for stock options because, as discussed below, the alternative fair value accounting provided for under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation" ("FAS 123"), requires use of option valuation models that were not developed for use in valuing employee stock options. Under APB 25, because the exercise price of the Company's employee stock options equals the market price of the underlying stock on date of grant, no compensation expense is recognized.

Pro-forma information regarding net income and net income per share is required by FAS 123, and has been determined as if the Company has accounted for its stock options under the fair value method of that Statement. The fair value for these options was estimated at the date of grant using a Black-Sholes option pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions: risk free interest rates, ranging from 5.26% to 6.77%; no dividend yield; volatility factor of the expected market price of the Company's Common Stock at 40%; and a weighted-average expected life of the options of 5 years at June 30, 1997 and 1996.

The Black-Sholes option valuation model was developed for use in estimating the fair value of traded options which have no vesting restrictions and are fully transferable. In addition, option valuation models require the input of highly subjective assumptions including the expected stock price volatility. Because the Company's stock options have characteristics significantly different from those of traded options, and because changes in the subjective input assumptions can materially affect the fair value estimate, in management's opinion, the existing models do not necessarily provide a reliable single measure of the fair value of its employee stock options.

For purposes of pro forma disclosures, the estimated fair value of the options is amortized to expense over the options' vesting period. The Company's pro forma information is as follows:

	1996	1997
	-----	-----
Pro forma net income	\$1,997,000	\$747,000
Pro forma net income per share	\$.22	\$.08

The FAS 123 method of accounting has not been applied to options granted prior to July 1, 1995. As a result, the pro forma compensation cost may not be representative of that to be expected in future years.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

12. STOCK OPTION PLANS: -- (Continued)

A summary of the transactions pursuant to the Company's stock options plans for the three years ended June 30, 1997 follows:

	1995		1996		1997	
	Options	Option Exercise Price	Options	Weighted Exercise Price	Options	Weighted Exercise Price
Outstanding at beginning of year	855,000	\$ 3.25-3.58	911,500	\$ 3.57	1,090,000	\$ 3.52
Granted	111,500	3.50-5.00	193,500	3.25	542,000	3.82
Exercised					(15,000)	3.50
Terminated	(55,000)	3.25	(15,000)	3.25	(20,000)	4.75
Outstanding at end of year	911,500	\$3.52-\$5.00	1,090,000	\$ 3.52	1,597,000	\$ 3.61
Exercisable at end of year	885,000		1,069,000		1,323,000	
Weighted average fair value of options granted during year			\$ 1.33		\$ 1.57	

The following table summarizes information for stock options outstanding at June 30, 1997:

Exercise Price	Options Outstanding	Options Exercisable	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life in Years
\$2.94 - \$3.125	92,000	92,000	8.5
3.25 - 3.58	1,255,000	1,055,000	7.3
4.50 - 4.813	250,000	176,000	9.5
	1,597,000	1,323,000	7.7

13. 401(k) SAVINGS PLAN:

On July 1, 1994, the Company adopted a 401(k) Employee Retirement Plan ("Plan") to provide retirement benefits for eligible employees. All full-time employees of the Company and its subsidiaries who have attained the age of 21 are eligible to participate upon the completion of 30 days of service. Participants may elect to make voluntary contributions to the Plan in amounts not exceeding federal guidelines. On an annual basis, commencing in January 1995, the Company may, in its sole discretion, make certain matching contributions. For the years ended June 30, 1997, 1996 and 1995, the Company made contributions of \$21,000, \$15,000 and \$9,000, respectively.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

14. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (UNAUDITED):

Unaudited quarterly financial data (in thousands, except per share amounts) for fiscal 1997 and 1996 is summarized as follows:

	Three Months Ended			
	September 30, 1996	December 31, 1996	March 31, 1997	June 30, 1997
Net sales	\$15,437	\$17,117	\$13,623	\$19,176
Gross profit	5,729	6,578	5,030	7,235
Operating income	1,170	1,246	600	987
Income before income taxes	589	752	57	457
Net income	336	428	33	272
Net income per common share	\$.04	\$.05	\$.00	\$.03

	Three Months Ended			
	September 30, 1995	December 31, 1995	March 31, 1996	June 30, 1996
Net sales	\$13,527	\$18,122	\$17,218	\$19,739
Gross profit	5,364	7,355	6,812	8,191
Operating income	1,094	1,796	1,489	1,603
Income before income taxes	736	1,210	855	963
Net income	426	701	504	503
Net income per common share	\$.05	\$.08	\$.06	\$.06

15. SUBSEQUENT EVENT:

On September 11, 1997, the Company executed a definitive merger agreement with Westbrae Natural, Inc. ("Westbrae"), a publicly-owned company, pursuant to which the Company commenced a tender offer on September 12, 1997 for all of the outstanding shares of Westbrae for \$3.625 per share of common stock in cash. Pursuant to the definitive merger agreement, certain shareholders of Westbrae who own an aggregate of approximately 69% of the outstanding shares of Westbrae have agreed to tender their shares at the offer price. The aggregate purchase price for all of the outstanding shares of Westbrae and shares under option (assuming all of Westbrae's shares are tendered) is approximately \$23.5 million. In connection therewith, the Company has obtained a financing commitment from its lender for a Credit Facility of \$40 million, consisting of a \$30 million term loan and a \$10 million line of revolving credit. The proceeds of the term loan will be used to fund the total cost of the acquisition and to repay certain existing debt of the Company and Westbrae.

The tender offer expires on October 9, 1997 (unless extended), and this transaction, which is subject to the completion of final diligence procedures, is expected to close by late October 1997.

Westbrae (formerly known as Vestro Natural Foods, Inc.), headquartered in Carson, California, 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. For its fiscal year ended December 31, 1996, Westbrae reported net sales of \$32,583,000 and net income of \$1,203,000. For the six months ended June 30, 1997, Westbrae reported net sales of \$15,502,000 (unaudited) and net income of \$708,000 (unaudited).

On October 14, 1997, the Company completed the Westbrae tender offer for all of the shares of Westbrae for \$3.625 per share of common stock in cash. The aggregate purchase price for all of the outstanding shares of Westbrae and shares under option was approximately \$23.5 million. In connection therewith, the Company and a bank entered into a \$40 million Amended and Restated Credit Facility ("New Credit Facility") providing for a \$30 million senior term loan and a \$10 million revolving credit line. See Note 8.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (Continued)

(Information as of September 30, 1997 and for the three month periods ended September 30, 1997 and 1996 is unaudited)

15. SUBSEQUENT EVENT: -- (Continued)

Unaudited pro forma results of operations for the three months ended September 30, 1997, assuming that the acquisition of Westbrae had occurred as of July 1, 1997 are as follows:

Net sales	\$26,064,000
Net income	696,000
Net income per share	\$.07

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

Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information
(Unaudited)

The following unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial information is based on (i) the historical consolidated financial statements of the Company which are included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and (ii) the historical consolidated financial statements of Westbrae Natural, Inc. and subsidiaries which are included elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus and should be read in conjunction with such financial statements and notes thereto.

The historical condensed balance sheets represent the financial position of the Company and Westbrae Natural, Inc. as of September 30, 1997. The unaudited pro forma condensed combined balance sheet as of September 30, 1997 assumes the Acquisition and the related financing with respect thereto, had occurred as of that date.

The unaudited pro forma condensed combined statements of operations were prepared assuming that the Acquisition had occurred as of the beginning of each period presented. The unaudited pro forma statements of income give effect to (i) the acquisition of Westbrae under the purchase method of accounting and (ii) certain estimated operational and financial benefits and costs that are a direct result of the acquisition of Westbrae.

The unaudited pro forma condensed financial statements have been prepared based on assumptions deemed appropriate by the Company and may not be indicative of actual results of the future operations of the Company.

Pro Forma Condensed Balance Sheet
September 30, 1997
(Amounts in thousands)
(Unaudited)

	Historical		Pro Forma	
	Hain	Westbrae	Adjustments	Combined
Assets				
Current Assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 184	\$ 1,175	(\$ 1,000)(1)	\$ 359
Accounts receivable, net	8,151	2,895		11,046
Inventories	7,425	4,451		11,876
Receivables-sales of equipment	379	--		379
Other current assets	990	603		1,593
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total current assets	17,129	9,124	(1,000)	25,253
Property and equipment, net	732	138		870
Receivables-sales of equipment, non current portion	150	--		150
			(6,535)(2)	
Goodwill and other intangible assets, net	28,998	6,535	20,745 (3)	49,743
Unamortized financing costs and other assets	2,422	256	781 (4)	3,459
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total assets	\$49,431	\$16,053	\$ 13,991	\$79,475
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable and accrued expenses ..	\$ 6,097	\$ 3,754		\$ 9,851
			(1,000)(1)	
Current portion of revolving credit	3,800		(2,800)(5)	
			3,429 (6)	3,429
			(1,333)(5)	
Current portion of senior term loan	1,333		3,000 (6)	3,000
Current portion of other long-term debt	221	859	(859)(7)	221
Income taxes payable	592			592
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	12,043	4,613	437	17,093
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Long-term Debt, less current portion:				
Senior credit facility	2,006	--	(2,006) (5)	
Subordinated debentures	7,350	1,255	27,000 (6)	27,000
Other	249	--	(1,255)(7)	7,350
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total long-term debt	9,605	1,255	23,739	34,599
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Other liabilities	403	--	--	403
Deferred income taxes	552			552
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Liabilities	22,603	5,868	24,176	52,647
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Stockholders' equity:				
Preferred stock	--	--	--	--
Common stock	89	60	(60)(8)	89
Additional paid in capital	21,547	17,202	(17,202)(8)	21,547
Retained earnings	5,467	(7,077)	7,077 (8)	5,467
Treasury Stock	(275)	--	--	(275)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity	26,828	10,185	(10,185)	26,828
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity	\$49,431	\$16,053	\$ 13,991	\$79,475
	=====	=====	=====	=====

See note to unaudited pro forma condensed financial statements.

Pro forma Condensed Statement of Income
For the Year Ended June 30, 1997
Amounts in thousands, except per share amounts
(Unaudited)

	Historical		Pro Forma	
	Hain	Westbrae	Adjustments	Combined
Net sales	\$65,353	\$32,894	--	\$98,247
Cost of sales	40,781	20,019	--	60,800
Gross profit	24,572	12,875	--	37,447
Selling, general and administrative expenses	19,651	10,809	(\$ 1,143) (1)	29,317
Depreciation of property and equipment	178	94	--	272
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	740	213	(213) (2) 543 (3)	1,283
	20,569	11,116	(813)	30,872
Operating income	4,003	1,759	813	6,575
Interest expense	1,639	213	1,786 (4)	3,638
Amortization of deferred financing costs	509	0	(18) (5)	491
	2,148	213	1,768	4,129
Income before income taxes	1,855	1,546	(955)	2,446
Provision for income taxes	786	206	35(6)	1,027
Net income	\$ 1,069	\$ 1,340	(\$ 990)	\$ 1,419
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Net income per common and common share equivalents	\$ 0.12			\$ 0.16
	=====			=====
Weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents	8,993			8,993
	=====			=====

See notes to unaudited pro forma condensed financial statements.

Pro forma Condensed Statement of Income
For the Three Months Ended September 30, 1997
Amounts in thousands, except per share amounts.
(Unaudited)

	Historical		Pro Forma	
	Hain	Westbrae	Adjustments	Combined
Net sales	\$16,336	\$9,728	--	\$26,064
Cost of sales	9,862	5,711	--	15,573
Gross profit	6,474	4,017	--	10,491
Selling, general and administrative expenses	4,837	3,313	(\$ 301) (1)	7,849
Depreciation of property and equipment	48	23	--	71
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets	210	53	(53) (2) 136 (3)	346
	5,095	3,389	(218)	8,266
Operating income	1,379	628	218	2,225
Interest expense	420	34	445 (4)	899
Amortization of deferred financing costs	131	0	(5) (5)	126
	551	34	440	1,025
Income before income taxes	828	594	(222)	1,200
Provision for income taxes	352	75	77 (6)	504
Net income	\$ 476	\$ 519	(\$ 299)	\$ 696
Net income per common and common share equivalents	\$ 0.05			\$ 0.07
Weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents	9,965			9,965

See notes to unaudited pro forma condensed financial statements.

Notes to Pro Forma Condensed Combined Financial Information
(Unaudited)

General:

On October 14, 1997, the Company completed the acquisition of Westbrae Natural, Inc. ("Westbrae") in a transaction that has been accounted for as a purchase. The cost of the acquisition (including closing costs) and the repayment of the Company's existing Credit Facility with IBJ Schroder bank and Trust Company ("IBJ") and the repayment of Westbrae debt was funded by the New Credit Facility with IBJ providing for a \$30 million senior term loan and a \$10 million revolving credit facility.

Details of the pro forma adjustments relating to the acquisition and the financing are set forth below.

Pro forma balance sheet adjustments:

- (1) Westbrae cash and cash equivalents utilized to pay down Revolving Credit.
- (2) Elimination of Westbrae goodwill at date of acquisition.
- (3) Excess of acquisition costs over the fair value of the net tangible assets of Westbrae at date of acquisition.
- (4) Financing costs incurred in connection with the financing relating to the acquisition.
- (5) Old Credit Facility paid off with proceeds of New Credit Facility upon acquisition of Westbrae.
- (6) Proceeds of New Credit Facility used to finance the acquisition, repay the Old Credit facility and repay Westbrae debt at date of acquisition.
- (7) Westbrae debt at date of acquisition paid off with proceeds of New Credit Facility.
- (8) Elimination of Westbrae equity accounts at date of acquisition.

Pro forma statement of income adjustments:

- (1) Adjustment to give effect to the reduction of certain costs and expenses associated with the elimination of the principal corporate offices of Westbrae.
- (2) Elimination of Westbrae historical amortization of goodwill.
- (3) Goodwill amortization with respect to goodwill acquired in the acquisition of Westbrae.
- (4) Increase in interest costs resulting from the financing of the Westbrae acquisition.
- (5) Adjustment of amortization of financing costs resulting from the New Credit Facility.
- (6) Adjustment to historical provision for income taxes to eliminate the effect of net operating loss carryforwards utilized by Westbrae and to adjust income taxes to the expected effective tax rate following acquisition.

=====
 No dealer, salesperson or any other person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representation not contained in this Prospectus in connection with the offer made hereby. If given or made, such information or representation must not be relied upon as having been authorized by the Company, the Selling Stockholders or any Underwriter. This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or a solicitation of an offer to buy to any person in any jurisdiction where such an offer would be unlawful. The delivery of this Prospectus does not imply that the information herein is correct as of any time subsequent to its date.

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=====
 2,825,000 Shares

The Hain Food Group, Inc.

LOGO

Common Stock

 PROSPECTUS

Stephens Inc.

CIBC Oppenheimer

, 1997
 =====

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION.

The following table sets forth the costs and expenses, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, incurred in connection with the sale of Common Stock being registered (all amounts are estimated except the SEC registration fee, the NASD filing fee and the NASDAQ listing fee). Pursuant to a registration rights agreement between the Company and the Selling Stockholders, the Company will bear all expenses incurred in connection with the sale of the Common Stock being registered hereby, and the Selling Stockholders will not bear any portion of such expenses other than Underwriters' commissions and discounts relating to the shares to be sold by each Selling Stockholder and certain "blue sky" filing, registration and qualification fees, as provided in such agreement.

SEC Registration Fee	\$ 10,091
NASD Filing Fee	3,830
NASDAQ NMS Listing Fee	17,500
Printing	125,000
Legal Fees and Expenses	125,000
Accounting Fees and Expenses	85,000
Blue Sky Fees and Expenses	10,000
Stock Certificates and Transfer Agent Fees	15,000
Miscellaneous	21,079

Total	\$412,500
	=====

Item 15. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Article Tenth of the certificate of incorporation of the Registrant eliminates the personal liability of directors or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, provided that such elimination of the personal liability of a director of the Registrant does not apply to (a) any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the Registrant or its stockholders, (b) acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (c) actions prohibited under Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "DGCL") (i.e., liabilities imposed upon directors who vote for or assent to the unlawful payment of dividends, unlawful repurchase or redemption of stock, unlawful distribution of assets of the Issuer to the stockholders without the prior payment or discharge of the Registrant's debts or obligations, or unlawful making or guaranteeing of loans to directors), or (d) any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

Section 145 of the DCGL provides, in summary, that directors and officers of Delaware corporations such as the Registrant are entitled, under certain circumstances, to be indemnified against all expenses and liabilities (including attorneys' fees) incurred by them as a result of suits brought against them in their capacity as a director or officer, if they acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, if they had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful; provided, that no indemnification may be made against expenses in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which they shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation, unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, they are fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnify for such expenses which such court shall deem proper. Any such indemnification may be made by the corporation only as authorized in each specific case upon a determination by stockholders or disinterested directors that indemnification is proper because the indemnitee has met the applicable standard of conduct. In addition, Article Eleventh of the Registrant's certificate of incorporation and Article VI of the Registrant's by-laws provide for the Registrant to indemnify its corporate personnel, directors and officers to the full extent permitted by Section 145 of the DGCL, as the same may be supplemented or amended from time to time.

Item 16. EXHIBITS.

The following exhibits are filed as part of this Registration Statement:

Exhibit No.	Description
1.1	Form of Underwriting Agreement
5.1	Opinion of Cahill Gordon & Reindel regarding the legality of the securities being registered**
23.1	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP, Independent Auditors
23.2	Consent of Price Waterhouse LLP, Independent Accountants
23.3	Consent of Cahill Gordon & Reindel (included in Exhibit 5.1)**
24.1	Powers of Attorney**

** Previously filed.

Item 17. UNDERTAKINGS.

(A) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13 (a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that is incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new Registration Statement relating to the securities offered herein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof; and

(B) Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

(C) The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes that:

1. For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in the form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

2. For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant has duly caused this Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Uniondale, State of New York, on this 20th day of November, 1997.

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC.

/s/ Jack Kaufman
By: -----
Name: Jack Kaufman
Title: Chief Financial Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons and by Jack Kaufman as Attorney-in-Fact in the capacities and on the date indicated.

* ----- Andrew R. Heyer	Chairman of the Board of Directors	November 20, 1997
* ----- Irwin D. Simon Director	President, Chief Executive Officer and	November 20, 1997
/s/ Jack Kaufman ----- Jack Kaufman	Vice President-Chief Financial Officer	November 20, 1997
* ----- Beth L. Bronner	Director	November 20, 1997
* ----- William P. Carmichael	Director	November 20, 1997
* ----- William J. Fox	Director	November 20, 1997
* ----- Jack Futterman	Director	November 20, 1997
* ----- Barry Gordon	Director	November 20, 1997
* ----- Steven S. Schwartzreich	Director	November 20, 1997
*By: /s/ Jack Kaufman ----- Jack Kaufman Attorney-in-Fact		

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit	Description
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** Previously filed.

2,825,000 Shares
Common Stock
(\$.01 par value)

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC.

UNDERWRITING AGREEMENT

STEPHENS INC. AND
CIBC OPPENHEIMER CORP.
as Representatives of the
Several Underwriters
c/o Stephens Inc.
111 Center Street
Little Rock, Arkansas 72201

November __, 1997

Gentlemen:

The Hain Food Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and the stockholders of the Company whose names appear in Schedule I hereto (collectively, the "Selling Stockholders"), propose to sell to the several underwriters (the "Underwriters") for whom you are acting as representatives (the "Representatives") an aggregate of 2,825,000 shares (the "Firm Shares") of the Company's common stock, \$.01 par value (such class of stock being herein called the "Common Stock"). The Company and the Selling Stockholders are sometimes referred to collectively herein as the "Sellers." The respective amounts of the Firm Shares to be sold by each of the Sellers are set forth in Schedule I hereto. In addition, to cover over-allotments in connection with the sale of the Firm Shares, the Company proposes to grant to the Underwriters an option to purchase up to an additional 423,750 shares (the "Option Shares") of Common Stock.

As Representatives, you have advised the Company and the Selling Stockholders that (a) you are authorized to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the several Underwriters and (b) the Underwriters are willing, acting severally and not jointly, to purchase the amounts of the Firm Shares set forth opposite their respective names in Schedule II hereto, plus their pro rata portion of the Option Shares if you elect to exercise the over-allotment option in whole or in part for the accounts of the several Underwriters. The Firm Shares and the Option Shares (to the extent the aforementioned option is exercised) are herein called the "Shares."

In consideration of the mutual agreements contained herein and of the interests of the parties in the transactions contemplated hereby, the Company, the Selling Stockholders and the several Underwriters hereby agree as follows:

1. Representations and Warranties.

(a) The Company represents and warrants as follows:

(i) The Company has been duly organized and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware with full power and authority (corporate and other) to own its properties and conduct its business as described in the Prospectus hereafter mentioned; the subsidiaries of the Company (the

"Subsidiaries") as listed in Exhibit ___ hereto are the only subsidiaries of the Company, and have been duly organized and are validly existing as corporations in good standing under the laws of their respective jurisdictions of incorporation with full power and authority (corporate and other) to own their properties and conduct their businesses as described in the Prospectus; each of the Company and its Subsidiaries is duly qualified to do business as a foreign corporation and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which the character of the business conducted by it or the location of the properties owned or leased by it makes such qualification necessary, except where the failure to be so qualified would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect (as defined below); and all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Subsidiaries have been validly authorized and issued, are fully paid and non-assessable, and are owned by the Company, free and clear of any claim, lien, encumbrance or other security interest, except for liens granted pursuant to the Company's existing bank credit agreement.

(ii) The outstanding shares of Common Stock of the Company, including all shares to be sold by the Selling Stockholders, are validly authorized and issued, fully paid and non-assessable; the portion of the Shares to be issued and sold by the Company, when issued and paid for as contemplated herein, will be validly authorized and issued, fully paid and non-assessable; and no preemptive rights of stockholders exist with respect to the Shares or the issue and sale thereof.

(iii) The Shares conform in all material respects with the statements concerning them in the Prospectus.

(iv) A registration statement (File No. 333-38939) with respect to the Shares has been carefully prepared by the Company in conformity with the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), and the Rules and Regulations (the "Rules and Regulations") of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") thereunder and has been filed with the Commission under the Securities Act on Form S-3. The Company meets the requirements for the use of Form S-3 under the Securities Act. Copies of such registration statement and of the related preliminary prospectus have heretofore been delivered by the Company to you. Such registration statement and prospectus, including exhibits, financial statements and schedules, as finally amended and revised upon the effectiveness of the registration statement, including information, if any, deemed to be part of the registration statement at the time of effectiveness pursuant to Rule 430A under the Securities Act and as filed with the Commission pursuant to its Rule 424(b), are herein respectively referred to as the "Registration Statement" and the "Prospectus." Each preliminary prospectus with respect to the Shares is herein referred to as a "Preliminary Prospectus."

(v) Neither the Commission nor any other agency, body, authority, court or arbitrator has issued any order preventing or suspending the use of any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus relating to the proposed offering of the Shares nor, to the knowledge of the Company, instituted proceedings for that purpose. The Registration Statement, the Prospectus and any Preliminary Prospectus, and any amendments or supplements thereto will contain all statements which are required to be stated therein by, and will in all material respects conform to the requirements of, the Securities Act and the Rules and Regulations. Neither the Registration Statement, nor the Preliminary Prospectus nor any amendment thereto, and neither the Prospectus nor any supplement thereto, contains any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state any material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading; provided, however, that the Company makes no representations or warranties as to information contained in

or omitted from the Registration Statement or any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus, or any such amendment or supplement, in reliance upon, and in conformity with, written information furnished to the Company by or on behalf of any Underwriter through the Representatives or by or on behalf of the Selling Stockholders (in their capacity as such) specifically for use in the preparation thereof.

(vi) The consolidated financial statements of the Company and its Subsidiaries, together with related notes and schedules as set forth in the Registration Statement or incorporated therein by reference, present fairly the financial position and the results of operations of the Company and the Subsidiaries consolidated, at the indicated dates and for the indicated periods. Such financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, consistently applied throughout the periods involved, and all adjustments for a fair presentation of results for such periods have been made. The Selected Consolidated Financial Data included in the Prospectus present fairly the information shown therein and have been compiled on a basis consistent with that of the financial statements from which they were derived.

(vii) Except as is disclosed in the Prospectus, there is no action or proceeding pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened against the Company or any of the Subsidiaries before any court or administrative agency which might be expected to (A) result in any material adverse change in the financial condition, or in the earnings, business, affairs, properties or results of operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole ("Material Adverse Change" or "Material Adverse Effect," as the case may be), whether or not arising in the ordinary course of business, (B) adversely affect the performance of this Agreement or the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated, except as disclosed in the Prospectus and for which the Company maintains a reserve in an amount which it believes is adequate to cover potential liabilities, or (C) be required to be disclosed in the Registration Statement.

(viii) The Company and each of its Subsidiaries are not in violation of any law, ordinance, governmental rule or regulation or court decree to which they may be subject which violation reasonably would be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(ix) The Company and the Subsidiaries have good and marketable title to all of the real properties and valid title to all other assets purported to be owned by any of them as reflected in the financial statements (or as described in the Prospectus) hereinabove described, subject to no lien, mortgage, pledge, charge or encumbrance of any kind except those reflected in such financial statements (or as described in the Prospectus) or which do not materially affect the present or proposed use of such properties or assets or would not cause a Material Adverse Effect. The Company and its Subsidiaries occupy their leased properties under valid, subsisting and binding leases with only such exceptions as in the aggregate are not material and do not interfere with the conduct of the business of the Company and its Subsidiaries. There exists no default under the provisions of any lease, contract or other obligation to which the Company or any of the Subsidiaries is a party which may result in a Material Adverse Change.

(x) The Company and its Subsidiaries have filed all Federal, State and foreign tax returns which have been required to be filed and have paid all taxes indicated by said returns and all assessments received by them or any of them to the extent that such taxes have become due and there is no tax deficiency that has been or, to the Company's knowledge, might be asserted against the Company or any of

its Subsidiaries that might have a Material Adverse Effect. All material tax liabilities are adequately provided for on the books of the Company and its Subsidiaries.

(xi) Since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, as they may be amended or supplemented, and except as set forth in the Registration Statement, (A) there has not been any Material Adverse Change nor, to the knowledge of the Company, is any such change threatened, (B) there has not been any transaction entered into by the Company or its Subsidiaries that is material to the earnings, business, affairs, properties or operations of the Company and its Subsidiaries taken as a whole, other than transactions in the ordinary course of business and changes and transactions contemplated by the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, as they may be amended or supplemented, (C) other than liabilities incurred in the ordinary course of business, including changes in amounts outstanding under the Company's revolving credit facility, there has not been any material change in the capital stock, long term debt or material liabilities of the Company or its Subsidiaries, and (D) there has not been any dividend or distribution of any kind declared, paid or made on the capital stock of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries. Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has any contingent obligations or liabilities which are required to be but are not disclosed in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus.

(xii) Neither the Company nor any of the Subsidiaries is in default under any agreement, indenture or other instrument to which it is a party or by which it or any of its properties is bound and which default would reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect. The consummation of the transactions herein contemplated and the fulfillment of the terms hereof will not result in a breach of any of the terms and provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust or other agreement or instrument to which the Company or any of the Subsidiaries is a party, or of the Company's or any of the Subsidiaries' articles of incorporation or by-laws or any order, rule or regulation applicable to the Company or the Subsidiaries of any court or of any regulatory body or administrative agency or other governmental body having jurisdiction, except for such breaches or defaults as would not reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect.

(xiii) Each approval, consent, order, authorization, designation, declaration or filing by or with any regulatory, administrative or other governmental body, domestic or foreign, necessary in connection with the execution and delivery by the Company of this Agreement and the performance of its obligations hereunder (except such additional steps as may be necessary to make the Registration Statement effective and to qualify the Shares for public offering by the Underwriters under State securities or Blue Sky laws) has been obtained or made and is in full force and effect.

(xiv) The Company and each Subsidiary hold all material licenses, authorizations, charters, certificates and permits from governmental authorities which are necessary to the conduct of their businesses and neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has received notice of any proceeding relating to the revocation or modification of any of such licenses, authorizations, charters, certificates or permits. The Company and its Subsidiaries own or otherwise possess rights to the patents, patent rights, licenses, inventions, copyrights, trademarks, service marks and trade names presently employed by them in connection with the businesses now operated by them as described in the Prospectus, and neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries has infringed or received any notice of infringements of or conflict with asserted rights of others with respect to any of the foregoing, except where such infringement or conflict would not reasonably be expected to result in a Material Adverse Effect.

(xv) Ernst & Young LLP and Price Waterhouse LLP, who have audited certain of the financial statements filed with the Commission as part of the Registration Statement and Prospectus or incorporated by reference therein, are independent public accountants within the meaning of the Securities Act, the Rules and Regulation S-X of the Commission and Rule 101 of the Code of Professional Ethics of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

(xvi) There are no agreements, contracts or other documents of a character required to be described in the Registration Statement or the Prospectus or required by Form S-3 to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement or incorporated by reference in the Registration Statement which are not described, filed or incorporated as required.

(xvii) No labor dispute is pending or, to the knowledge of the Company, threatened by the Company's or any Subsidiary's employees which could result in a Material Adverse Effect. No collective bargaining agreement exists with any of the Company's employees and, to the Company's knowledge, no agreement is imminent.

(xviii) Except as contemplated by Section 2 hereof and as disclosed in the Prospectus and permitted by the Rules, the Company has not (itself or through any person) taken and will not take, directly or indirectly, any action designed to or which might reasonably be expected to, cause or result in a violation of Section 5 of the Securities Act or Regulation M under the Securities Act or in stabilization or manipulation of the price of the Company's common stock.

(xix) Without limiting the generality of any of the foregoing representations and warranties and except to the extent no Material Adverse Effect would reasonably be expected to occur, (a) none of the operations of the Company or its Subsidiaries is in violation of any material environmental law, regulation or any permit; (b) neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries has been notified that it is under investigation or under review by any governmental agency with respect to compliance therewith or with respect to the generation, use, treatment, storage or release of hazardous material; (c) neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries have any material liability in connection with the past generation, use, treatment, storage, disposal or release of any hazardous material; (d) there is no hazardous material that may reasonably be expected to pose any material risk to safety, health, or the environment, on, under or about any property owned, leased or operated by the Company or any of its Subsidiaries or, to the knowledge of the Company, any property adjacent to any such property; and (e) there has heretofore been no release of any hazardous material on, under or about such property, or, to the knowledge of the Company, any such adjacent property. None of the present or, to the knowledge of the Company, past property of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is listed or proposed for listing on the National Priorities List pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), or on the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation Liability Information System List ("CERCLIS") or any similar state list of sites requiring remedial action. Neither the Company nor any of its Subsidiaries is subject to any state Environmental Property Transfer Act, or to the extent that any such statute is applicable to any property, the Company and its Subsidiaries have fully complied with their obligations under such statute(s), and neither has any outstanding obligations or liabilities under any state Environmental Property Transfer Act.

(xx) The Company and its Subsidiaries maintain insurance of the types and in the amounts customary for their businesses, including, but not limited to, insurance covering liability and real and personal

property owned or leased by the Company against theft, damage, destruction, acts of vandalism and all other risks customarily insured against, all of which insurance is in full force and effect.

(xxi) Neither the Company nor any Subsidiary has at any time during the last five years (a) made any unlawful contribution to any candidate for foreign office, or failed to disclose fully any contribution in violation of law, or (b) made any payment to any federal or state governmental officer or official, or other person charged with similar public or quasi-public duties, other than payments required or permitted by the laws of the United States or any jurisdiction thereof.

(xxii) The documents incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, when they became effective or were filed with the Commission, as the case may be, conformed in all material respects to the requirements of the Securities Act or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules and regulations of the Commission thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act"), as applicable, and none of such documents contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and any further documents so filed and incorporated by reference in the Prospectus, when such documents are filed with the Commission, will conform in all material respects to the requirements of the Exchange Act, and will not contain an untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

(xxii) The unissued Shares issuable upon the exercise of options (the "Options") to be exercised by certain of the Selling Stockholders (the "Optionholders") have been duly and validly authorized and reserved for issuance, and at the time of delivery to the Underwriters with respect to such Shares, such Shares will be issued and delivered in accordance with the provisions of the Stock Option Agreements between the Company and such Selling Stockholders pursuant to which such Options were granted (the "Option Agreements") and will be duly and validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable and will conform to the description thereof in the Prospectus.

(xxiii) The Options were duly authorized and issued pursuant to the Option Agreements and constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company and the Optionholders are entitled to the benefits provided by the Option Agreements; the Option Agreements were duly authorized, executed and delivered and constitute valid and binding instruments enforceable in accordance with their terms subject, as to enforcement, to bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization and other laws of general applicability relating to or affecting creditors' rights and to general equity principles; and the Options conform to the descriptions thereof in the Prospectus.

(b) Each Selling Stockholder, severally, represents and warrants as follows:

(i) Such Selling Stockholders has duly executed and delivered powers of attorney (the "Power of Attorney"), in the form heretofore delivered to the Representatives, appointing the person named therein as such Selling Stockholder's attorney-in-fact (the "Attorney-in-Fact") with authority to perform this Agreement on behalf of such Selling Stockholder, and such Selling Stockholder has duly executed and delivered a custody agreement (the "Custody Agreement"), in the form heretofore delivered to the Representatives, with the Company as custodian (the "Custodian"). Certificates, other than those representing such Firm Shares to be issued upon the exercise of Options, in negotiable form for the Firm Shares to be sold by such

Selling Stockholder hereunder have been deposited with the Custodian pursuant to the Custody Agreement for the purpose of delivery pursuant to this Agreement and each of the Selling Stockholders who is selling Firm Shares upon the exercise of Options has duly completed, executed and deposited with the Custodian irrevocable Option exercise notices, in the form specified by the relevant Option Agreement, with respect to all of the Firm Shares to be sold upon the exercise of Options by such Selling Stockholders hereunder. All authorizations, orders and consents necessary for the execution and delivery by such Selling Stockholder of this Agreement, the Power of Attorney and the Custody Agreement have been duly and validly given, and such Selling Stockholder has full legal right, power and authority to enter into this Agreement, the Power of Attorney and the Custody Agreement and to sell, assign, transfer and deliver to the several Underwriters the Firm Shares to be sold by such Selling Stockholder hereunder. Such Selling Stockholder agrees that such of the Firm Shares represented by the certificates on deposit with the Custodian or the irrevocable Option exercise notice, in either case, are for the benefit of, coupled with and subject to the interests of the Underwriters hereunder, that the arrangements made for such custody and the appointment of the Attorney-in-Fact are to that extent irrevocable, and that the obligations of such Selling Stockholder hereunder shall not be terminated, except as provided in this Agreement, the Power of Attorney or the Custody Agreement, by any act of such Selling Stockholder, by operation of law or otherwise, whether by death or incapacity or by the occurrence of any other event. If such Selling Stockholder should die or become incapacitated or if any other event shall occur before delivery of such Firm Shares hereunder, the certificates for such Firm Shares or the irrevocable Option exercise notice, in either case, deposited with the Custodian shall be delivered by the Custodian in accordance with this Agreement as if such death, incapacity or other event had not occurred, regardless of whether the Custodian or the Attorney-in-Fact shall have received notice thereof.

(ii) Such Selling Stockholder has (other than the Firm Shares to be issued upon exercise of Options) and at the Closing Date (as such date is hereinafter defined) will have good and valid title to the portion of the Firm Shares to be sold by such Selling Stockholder, free of any liens, encumbrances, equities and claims, and full right, power and authority to effect the sale and delivery of such Firm Shares; and upon the delivery of and payment for such Firm Shares pursuant to this Agreement, assuming due issuance of any Firm Shares to be issued upon exercise of Options, good and valid title thereto, free of any liens, encumbrances, equities and claims, will be transferred to the several Underwriters.

(iii) The consummation by such Selling Stockholder of the transactions herein contemplated and the fulfillment of the terms hereof will not result in a breach of any of the terms and provisions of, or constitute a default under, any indenture, mortgage, deed of trust or other material agreement or instrument to which such Selling Stockholder is a party, or of any order, rule or regulation applicable to such Selling Stockholder of any court or of any regulatory body or administrative agency or other governmental body having jurisdiction.

(iv) Such Selling Stockholder has not taken during the pendency of the offering and will not take for a period of 120 days following the date hereof, directly or indirectly, any action designed to, or which has constituted, or which might reasonably be expected to cause or result in, stabilization or manipulation of the price of the Common Stock of the Company.

(v) Such Selling Stockholder (except for Argosy-Hain Investment Group, L.P. which makes no representation as to this clause (v)) has no reason to believe that the representations and warranties of the

Company contained in this Section 1 are not true and correct, is familiar with the Registration Statement and has no knowledge of any material fact, condition or information not disclosed in the Prospectus which would reasonably be expected to have a Material Adverse Effect, and the sale of the portion of the Firm Shares by such Selling Stockholder pursuant hereto is not prompted by any information concerning the Company or the Subsidiaries which is not set forth in the Prospectus.

2. Purchase, Sale and Delivery of the Stock. On the basis of the representations, warranties and covenants herein contained, and subject to the conditions herein set forth, the Sellers agree to sell to the Underwriters and each Underwriter agrees, severally and not jointly, to purchase, at a price of \$_____ per share, the amounts of the Firm Shares set forth opposite the name of each Underwriter in Schedule II hereto. The Firm Shares to be purchased by each Underwriter from each Seller shall be as nearly as practicable in the same proportion as the number of Firm Shares being sold by each Seller bears to the total number of Firm Shares to be sold hereunder.

Payment for the Firm Shares shall be made by certified or official bank check or by wire transfer of immediately available U.S. Funds to designated accounts of the Company and the Selling Stockholders, to the order of the Company or the Selling Stockholders, as applicable, against delivery of certificates for the Shares to the Representatives for the accounts of the several Underwriters. Delivery of certificates shall be to the Representatives c/o Stephens Inc. ("Stephens"), 111 Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, or at such other address as Stephens may designate in writing. Payment will be made at the offices of Stephens, or at such other place as shall be agreed upon by Stephens, the Company and the Selling Stockholders, at approximately 9:00 a.m., central time, on _____, 1997, such time and date being herein referred to as the "Closing Date." The certificates for the Firm Shares will be delivered in such denominations and in such registrations as Stephens reasonably requests in writing and will be made available for inspection at such locations as Stephens may reasonably request at least one full business day prior to the Closing Date.

In addition, on the basis of the representations and warranties herein contained, and subject to the terms and conditions herein set forth, the Company hereby grants an option to the several Underwriters to purchase up to an aggregate of 423,750 shares of Common Stock (the "Option Shares") at the price per share as set forth in the first paragraph of this Section 2. The option granted hereby may be exercised in whole or in part, but only once, upon written notice (or oral notice, subsequently confirmed in writing) given not more than 30 days after the date of this Agreement, by you, as Representatives of the several Underwriters, to the Company setting forth the number of Option Shares as to which the several Underwriters are exercising the option. The number of Option Shares to be purchased by each Underwriter shall be in the same proportion to the total number of Option Shares being purchased as the number of Firm Shares being purchased by such Underwriter bears to the total number of Firm Shares, adjusted to avoid fractional shares. The option with respect to the Option Shares may be exercised only to cover over-allotments in the sale of the Firm Shares by the Underwriters. Stephens, on behalf of the Representatives of the several Underwriters, may cancel such option at any time prior to expiration by giving written notice (or oral notice, subsequently confirmed in writing) of such cancellation to the Company. To the extent, if any, that the option is exercised, payment for the Option Shares shall be made by wire transfer of immediately available U.S. Funds to a designated account of the Company, to the order of the Company, at the offices specified above and at a date and time more than five (5) business days after the Underwriters' exercise of the option (the "Option Closing Date") (which may be the Closing Date). Certificates for the Option Shares shall be delivered in the same manner and upon the same terms as the Underwritten Shares.

3. Qualified Independent Underwriter." The Company hereby confirms its engagement of Stephens Inc. and Stephens Inc. hereby confirms its agreement with the Company to render services as a "qualified independent underwriter" within the meaning of Section (b)(15) of Rule 2720 of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. (the "NASD") with respect to the offering and sale of the Shares, including the recommendation of a public offering price of the Shares. Stephens Inc., in its capacity as qualified independent underwriter, and not otherwise, is referred to herein as the "QIU."

4. Offering by the Underwriters. It is understood that the several Underwriters are to make a public offering of the Firm Shares as soon as the Representatives deem it advisable to do so after the Registration Statement has become effective. The Firm Shares are to be initially offered to the public at the public offering price set forth in the Prospectus. The Representatives may from time to time thereafter change the public offering price and other selling terms. To the extent, if at all, that any Option Shares are purchased pursuant to Section 2 hereof, the Underwriters will offer them to the public on the foregoing terms.

It is further understood that you will act as the Representatives for the Underwriters in the offering and sale of the Shares in accordance with the Agreement Among Underwriters, which has been entered in by you and the several other Underwriters.

5. Covenants of the Company. The Company covenants and agrees with the several Underwriters that:

(a) The Company will use its best efforts to cause the Registration Statement to become effective and will not, either before or after effectiveness, file any amendment thereto or supplement to the Prospectus of which the Representatives shall not previously have been advised and furnished with a copy or to which the Representatives shall have reasonably objected in writing or which is not in compliance with the Rules and Regulations.

(b) The Company will advise the Representatives promptly of any request of the Commission for amendment of the Registration Statement or for supplement to the Prospectus or for any additional information, or of the issuance by the Commission of any stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement or the use of the Prospectus or of the institution of any proceedings for that purpose, and the Company will use its best efforts to prevent the issuance of any such stop order preventing or suspending the use of the Prospectus and to obtain as soon as possible the lifting thereof, if issued.

(c) The Company will cooperate with the Representatives in endeavoring to qualify the Shares for sale under the State securities or Blue Sky laws of such jurisdictions as the Representatives may reasonably have designated in writing and will make such applications, file such documents and furnish such information as may be reasonably required for that purpose; provided, however, that the Company shall not be required to qualify as a foreign corporation or to file a general consent to service of process in any jurisdiction where it is not so qualified or required to file such a consent. The Company will, from time to time, prepare and file such statements, reports and other documents as are or may be required to continue such qualifications in effect for so long a period as the Representatives may reasonably request for distribution of the Shares.

(d) The Company will deliver to, or upon the order of, the Representatives from time to time, as many copies of any Preliminary Prospectus as the Representatives may reasonably request. The Company will deliver to, or upon the order of, the Representatives during the period of time after the first date of the public offering of the Shares, and thereafter from time to time during the period when delivery of a Prospectus is required

under the Securities Act, as many copies of the Prospectus in final form, or as thereafter amended or supplemented, as the Representatives may reasonably request. The Company will deliver to the Representatives at or before the Closing Date four signed copies of the Registration Statement and all amendments thereto, including all exhibits, filed therewith, and will deliver to the Representatives such number of copies of the Registration Statement, but without exhibits, and of all amendments thereto, as the Representatives may reasonably request.

(e) If during the period in which a Prospectus is required by law to be delivered by an Underwriter or dealer any event shall occur as a result of which, in the judgment of the Company or the Underwriters or in the opinion of counsel for the Underwriters, it becomes necessary to amend or supplement the Prospectus in order to make the statements therein, in the light of the circumstances existing at the time the Prospectus is delivered to a purchaser, not misleading, or, if it is necessary at any time to amend or supplement the Prospectus to comply with any law or to file under the Exchange Act any document which would be deemed to be incorporated by reference in the Prospectus in order to comply with the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, the Company promptly will prepare and file with the Commission an appropriate amendment or supplement to the Prospectus so that the Prospectus as so amended or supplemented will not, in the light of the circumstances when it is so delivered, be misleading, or so that the Prospectus will comply with law, and will deliver to the Representatives such number of copies of the amended or supplemented Prospectus as the Representatives may reasonably request.

(f) The Company will, for a period of five years from the Closing Date, so long as the Company is subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act, deliver to the Representatives copies of annual reports and information furnished by the Company to its stockholders or filed with any securities exchange pursuant to the requirements of such exchange or with the Commission pursuant to the Securities Act or the Exchange Act. The Company will deliver to the Representatives similar reports with respect to significant subsidiaries, as that term is defined in the Rules and Regulations, which are not consolidated in the Company's financial statements.

(g) Promptly after the Company is advised thereof, it will advise the Representatives, and confirm the advice in writing, that the Registration Statement shall have become effective.

(h) The Company will use the net proceeds from the sale of the Shares substantially in the manner set forth in the Prospectus under the caption "Use of Proceeds."

(i) Other than as permitted by the Securities Act, the Rules and Regulations and the Exchange Act, the Company will not distribute any prospectus or offering materials in connection with the offering and sale of the Shares and prior to the Closing Date or the Option Closing Date will not issue any press releases or other communications directly or indirectly and will hold no press conferences with respect to the Company, the financial condition, results of operations, business, properties, assets or liabilities of the Company, or the offering of the Shares, without the prior written consent of Stephens.

(j) The Company will maintain a transfer agent and, if necessary under the jurisdiction of incorporation of the Company, a registrar for its common stock and will use its best efforts to maintain the listing of the Shares on The Nasdaq National Market.

(k) Except as contemplated hereby or by the Prospectus, the Company will not, for a period of one hundred eighty (180) days after the Effective Date of the Registration Statement, offer to sell, contract to sell, sell or

otherwise dispose of any shares of the Company's common stock or securities convertible into shares of the Company's common stock without the prior written consent of Stephens, which consent will not be unreasonably withheld other than pursuant to existing benefit plans, as amended from time to time.

The foregoing covenants and agreements shall apply to any successor of the Company, including without limitation, any entity into which the Company might consolidate or merge.

6. Costs and Expenses. Whether or not the Registration Statement becomes effective, and except as expressly set out in this Section 6, the Company will pay all costs, expenses and fees incident to the performance of the obligations of the Sellers under this Agreement, including, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following: the accounting fees of the Company; the fees and disbursements of counsel for the Company and the Selling Stockholders; the cost of printing and delivering the Agreement Among Underwriters, the Underwriters' copies of the Registration Statement, Preliminary Prospectuses, the Prospectus, this Agreement and the Underwriters' Questionnaire and Power of Attorney, and the Blue Sky Survey and any supplements thereto; the filing fees incident to securing any required review by the NASD of the terms of the sale of the Shares on behalf of, and any disbursements made by, the Representatives or Stephens in its capacity as a "qualified independent underwriter; and the expenses, including the reasonable fees and the disbursements of counsel for the Underwriters, incurred in connection with the qualification of the Shares under State securities or Blue Sky laws. If, in the opinion of counsel to the Underwriters which is concurred in by counsel for the Company and the Selling Stockholders, the qualification of the Shares under any State securities or Blue Sky laws requires that the Company and the Selling Stockholders share any of the costs, expenses and fees set forth above, the Company and the Selling Stockholders agree to share pro rata, based on the number of Shares to be sold by each, such costs, expenses and fees as identified by counsel. Any transfer taxes imposed on the sale of the Shares to the several Underwriters will be paid by the Company. The Company shall not, however, be required to pay for any of the Underwriters' expenses (other than those related to qualification under State securities or Blue Sky laws), except that if this Agreement shall not be consummated because the conditions in Section 8 hereof are not satisfied, or because this Agreement is terminated by the Representatives pursuant to Section 7 hereof, or by reason of any failure, refusal or inability on the part of the Company or the Selling Stockholders to perform any undertaking or satisfy any condition of this Agreement or to comply with any of the terms hereof on their part to be performed, unless such failure to satisfy said condition or to comply with said terms be due to the default or omission of any Underwriter, then the Company shall reimburse the Underwriters for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, including fees and disbursements of counsel, reasonably incurred in connection with investigating, marketing and proposing to market the Shares or in contemplation of performing their obligations hereunder but the Company shall not in any event be liable to any of the several Underwriters for damages on account of loss of anticipated profits from the sale by them of the Shares.

7. Conditions of Obligations of the Underwriters. The obligations of the Underwriters are subject to the accuracy, as of the Closing Date, of the representations and warranties of the Company and the Selling Stockholders contained herein, and to the performance by the Company of its obligations hereunder and to the following additional conditions:

(a) The Registration Statement shall have become effective not later than 10:00 A.M. eastern time, on the date of this Agreement, unless a later time and date be agreed to by the Representatives, and no stop order suspending the effectiveness thereof shall have been issued and no proceedings for that purpose shall have been taken or, to the knowledge of the Company or the Selling Stockholders, shall be contemplated by the Commission.

(b) The Representatives shall have received on the Closing Date an opinion of Cahill Gordon & Reindel, counsel for the Company and the Selling Stockholders, dated the Closing Date, addressed to the Underwriters to the effect that:

(i) The Company has been duly incorporated and is validly existing as a corporation in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware with full corporate power and authority to own its properties and conduct its business as described in the Prospectus; the Subsidiaries have been duly incorporated and are validly existing as corporations in good standing under the laws of their respective jurisdictions of incorporation with full corporate power and authority to own their properties and conduct their businesses as described in the Prospectus; each of the Company and its Subsidiaries is duly qualified to do business as a foreign corporation and is in good standing in each jurisdiction in which the character of the business conducted by it or the location of the properties owned or leased by it makes such qualification necessary, except for such jurisdictions where the failure to be so qualified would not result in a Material Adverse Effect; and all of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Subsidiaries have been validly authorized and issued, are fully paid and non-assessable, and are owned by the Company, free and clear of any claim, lien, encumbrance or other security interest (other than with respect to its bank credit agreement), and, to such counsel's knowledge, no options, warrants or other rights to purchase, agreements or other obligations to issue or other rights to convert any obligations into any shares of capital stock or ownership interests in the Subsidiaries are outstanding.

(ii) The Company has authorized and outstanding, to the knowledge of such counsel, capital stock as set forth under the caption "Description of Capital Stock" in the Prospectus, except for issuances subsequent to the date of the prospectus, if any, pursuant to reservations, commitments, to benefit plans or other existing agreements; the authorized shares of its Common Stock have been validly authorized; the outstanding shares of its Common Stock have been duly authorized and validly issued and are fully paid and non-assessable; all of the Shares conform as to legal matters in all material respects to the description thereof contained in the Prospectus; the certificates for the Shares are in due and proper form; the Shares of Common Stock, including the portion of the Option Shares, if any, to be sold by the Company pursuant to this Agreement have been duly authorized and will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable when issued and paid for as contemplated by this Agreement; and no preemptive rights of stockholders exist pursuant to applicable law, the Company's Certificate of Incorporation, Bylaws, or, to such counsel's knowledge, any material agreement or other material instrument to which the Company is a party or by which it is bound with respect to any of the Shares or the issue and sale thereof.

(iii) The Registration Statement has been declared effective under the Securities Act and, to the knowledge of such counsel, no stop order proceedings with respect thereto have been instituted or are pending or threatened under the Securities Act.

(iv) The Registration Statement, all Preliminary Prospectuses, the Prospectus and each amendment or supplement thereto, as of the respective dates they were filed or declared effective, appeared on their face to comply as to form in all material respects with the requirements of the Securities Act and the Rules and Regulations (except that such counsel need express no opinion as to the financial statements and other financial or statistical information included therein), and the conditions for use of a registration statement on Form S-3 have been satisfied.

(v) The statements under the caption "Description of Capital Stock" in the Prospectus, insofar as such statements constitute a summary of documents referred to therein or matters of law, are accurate summaries in all material respects and fairly present the information required to be shown.

(vi) Such counsel does not know of any contracts or documents required to be filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement or described in the Registration Statement or Prospectus which are not so filed (or incorporated by reference therein) or described as required, and such contracts and documents as are summarized in the Registration Statement or Prospectus are fairly summarized in all material respects.

(vii) Without having made any independent investigation and relying solely on certificates of responsible officers of the Company, such counsel knows of no material legal proceedings pending or threatened against the Company or any of its Subsidiaries required to be disclosed in the Registration Statement except as set forth or referred to in the Prospectus.

(viii) The execution and delivery of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated do not and will not conflict with or result in a breach of any of the terms or provisions of, or a default under, the articles of incorporation or by-laws of the Company or any of its Subsidiaries, or any material agreement or instrument known to such counsel to which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries is a party or by which the Company or any of its Subsidiaries may be bound.

(ix) This Agreement has been duly authorized, executed and delivered by the Company and constitutes a valid and binding obligation of the Company.

(x) No approval, consent, order, authorization, designation, declaration or filing by or with any regulatory, administrative or other governmental body is necessary in connection with the execution and delivery of this Agreement and the consummation of the transactions herein contemplated (other than as required by NASD regulation or State securities and Blue Sky laws, as to which such counsel need express no opinion), except such as have been obtained under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act and such other approvals as have been obtained or made, specifying the same.

(xi) Based solely on the representations of the Selling Stockholders, this Agreement and the Custody Agreement have been duly authorized, executed and delivered on behalf of the Selling Stockholders and constitute the valid and binding obligations of each of the Selling Stockholders.

(xii) The Selling Stockholders have full legal right, power and authority, and any approval required by law (other than as required by State securities and Blue Sky laws, as to which such counsel need express no opinion), to sell, assign, transfer and deliver the portion of the Shares to be sold by the Selling Stockholders.

(xiii) The Underwriters (assuming that they are bona fide purchasers within the meaning of the Uniform Commercial Code) have acquired good and marketable title to the portion of the Shares being sold by the Selling Stockholders on the Closing Date, free and clear of all claims, liens, encumbrances and security interests whatsoever (assuming, with respect to Shares being issued upon the exercise of the Options, that payment of the exercise price therefor is made to the Company as provided in the Custody Agreement).

In rendering the opinions required by this Section 7(b), such counsel may rely (A) as to matters involving the application of laws of any jurisdiction other than the State of Delaware or the United States, to the extent they deem proper and specified in such opinion, upon the opinion of other counsel of good standing whom they believe to be reliable and who are satisfactory to counsel for the Underwriters' and (B) as to matters of fact, to the extent they deem proper, on certificates of responsible officers of the Company and public officials, and with regard to the opinions in paragraphs (xii) and (xiii), on the representations of the Selling Stockholders contained in this Agreement and the Custody Agreement. The opinions of such counsel in paragraphs (x), (xii) and (xiii) above are based upon their review of those laws, rules and regulations which, in their experience, are normally applicable to transactions of the type contemplated by this Agreement.

In addition, such counsel shall state that such counsel has participated in conferences with representatives of the Underwriters, officers and other representatives of the Company and representatives of the independent certified public accountants of the Company and its subsidiaries, at which conferences the contents of the Registration Statement and Prospectus and related matters were discussed and, although such counsel does not pass upon and does not assume any responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or fairness of the statements contained in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, on the basis of the foregoing (relying as to materiality to a large extent upon the discussions with, and representations and opinions of, officers and other representatives of the Company), no facts have come to the attention of such counsel which causes such counsel to believe that the Registration Statement at the Effective Date contained an untrue statement of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading or that the Prospectus includes any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; provided, that such counsel need express no comment with respect to the financial statements, schedules and other statistical and financial data included in the Registration Statement or Prospectus.

(c) The Representatives shall have received on the Closing Date an opinion of counsel for the Company, dated the Closing Date, addressed to the Underwriters to the effect that: the Company and its Subsidiaries own the entire right, title and interest in and to any and all patents, trade names, trademarks, service marks, and copyrights used in the Company's business or licensed by the Company or its Subsidiaries for use by others; any such items licensed to the Company or its Subsidiaries by other parties have been licensed pursuant to a valid and enforceable license agreement and such use is in conformity with the license agreement; and to the knowledge of such counsel, there are no pending or threatened proceedings or litigation affecting, challenging, or with respect to the validity or otherwise of such patents, trademarks, trade names or copyrights, or any license for use of such items (whether by or to the Company).

(d) The Underwriters shall have received from Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP, counsel for the Underwriters, an opinion dated the Closing Date, substantially to the effect specified in subparagraphs (ii), (iii), and (iv) of Paragraph (b) of this Section 7. In rendering such opinion, Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP may rely as to all matters governed other than by Federal law on the opinion of counsel referred to in Paragraph (b) of this Section 7. In addition to the matters set forth above, such opinion shall also include a statement to the effect that nothing has come to the attention of such counsel which leads them to believe that the Registration Statement, the Prospectus or any amendment or supplement thereto contains an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading (except that such counsel need express no view as to financial statements and other financial information included

therein). With respect to such statement, Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP may state that their belief is based upon the procedures set forth therein, but is without independent check and verification.

(e) The Representatives shall have received at or prior to the Closing Date from Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP a memorandum or summary, in form and substance satisfactory to the Representatives, with respect to the qualification for offering and sale by the Underwriters of the Shares under the State securities or Blue Sky laws of such jurisdictions as the Representatives may reasonably have designated to the Company.

(f) The Representatives shall have received a signed letter on or prior to the effective date of the Registration Statement and again on and as of the Closing Date from Ernst & Young LLP and Price Waterhouse LLP, independent certified public accountants, with respect to the financial statements and certain financial information contained in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus or incorporated therein by reference. Each such letter shall be in form and substance satisfactory to the Representatives and their counsel.

(g) The Representatives shall have received on the Closing Date a certificate or certificates of the President and Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer of the Company to the effect that, as of the Closing Date, each of them severally represents as follows:

(i) The Registration Statement has become effective under the Securities Act and no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement has been issued, and no proceedings for such purpose have been taken or are, to his knowledge, contemplated by the Commission.

(ii) He does not know of any litigation instituted or threatened against the Company or any of its Subsidiaries of a character required to be disclosed in the Registration Statement which is not so disclosed; he does not know of any material contract required to be filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement which is not so filed; and the representations and warranties of the Company contained in Section 1 hereof are true and correct in all material respects as of the Closing Date.

(iii) He has examined the Registration Statement and the Prospectus and, in his opinion, as of the effective date of the Registration Statement, the statements contained in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus were true and correct in all material respects, and such Registration Statement and Prospectus did not omit to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary in order to make the statements therein, in light of the circumstances in which they were made, not misleading and, in his opinion, since the effective date of the Registration Statement, no event has occurred which should have been set forth in a supplement to or an amendment of the Prospectus which has not been so set forth in such supplement or amendment.

(h) The Company and the Selling Stockholders shall have furnished to the Representatives such further certificates and documents confirming the representations and warranties contained herein and related matters as the Representatives may reasonably have requested.

The opinions and certificates mentioned in this Agreement shall be deemed to be in compliance with the provisions hereof only if they are in all material respects satisfactory to the Representatives and to Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP, counsel for the Underwriters.

The several obligations of the Underwriters to purchase the Option Shares hereunder are subject to satisfaction on and as of the Option Closing Date of the conditions set forth in Paragraphs (a) through (g) above, except that the opinions called for in Paragraphs (b) and (c), the letter called for in Paragraph (e) and the certificate called for in Paragraph (f) shall be revised to reflect the sale of the Option Shares.

If any of the conditions provided for in this Section 7 shall not have been fulfilled when and as required by this Agreement, the obligations of the Underwriters hereunder may be terminated by the Representatives by notifying the Company of such termination in writing or by telegram at or prior to the Closing Date. In such event the Company, the Selling Stockholders and the Underwriters shall not be under any obligation to each other (except to the extent provided in Sections 6 and 9 hereof).

8. Conditions of the Obligations of the Sellers. The obligations of the Sellers to sell and deliver the Shares are subject to the conditions that at or before 10:00 A.M., eastern time, on the date of this Agreement, or such later time and date as the Company and the Representatives may from time to time consent to in writing or by telegram, the Registration Statement shall have become effective; and at the Closing Date no stop order suspending the effectiveness of the Registration Statement shall have been issued or proceedings therefor initiated or threatened.

9. Indemnification.

(a) The Company agrees to indemnify and hold harmless each Underwriter and each person, if any, who controls any Underwriter, within the meaning of the Securities Act, and without limiting any other indemnification available under this Section 9, Stephens Inc. in its capacity as QIU and each person, if any, who controls the QIU, against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) which arise out of or are based upon any breach of any representation, warranty, agreement, or covenant contained herein, or any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus, any amendment or supplement thereto or any document incorporated by reference therein, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; and will reimburse each Underwriter and each such controlling person for any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by such Underwriter or such controlling person in connection with investigating or defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability, action or proceeding; provided, however, that the Company will not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage or liability arises out of or is based upon an untrue statement, or alleged untrue statement, or omission or alleged omission made in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus, or such amendment or supplement, in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by or through the Representatives specifically for use in the preparation thereof and, provided, further, that the indemnity agreement contained in this Section 9(a) shall not inure to the benefit of any Underwriter to the extent that a prospectus relating to the purchase of such Shares was required to be delivered by such Underwriter under the Securities Act in connection with such purchase and any such loss, claim, damage or liability of such Underwriter results from the fact that there was not sent or given to such person, at or prior to the written confirmation of the sale of such Shares to such person, a copy of the Prospectus as then amended or supplemented (excluding any documents incorporated by reference therein). This indemnity agreement will be in addition to any liability which the Company may otherwise have.

(b) Each Selling Stockholder agrees, severally, to indemnify and hold harmless each Underwriter and each person, if any, who controls any Underwriter, within the meaning of the Securities Act, and without limiting

any other indemnification available under this Section 9, Stephens Inc. in its capacity as QIU and each person, if any, who controls the QIU, provided, however, that the indemnification obligation of each Selling Stockholder shall be limited to the net proceeds received by such Selling Stockholder with respect to the Shares sold, from and against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) which arise out of or are based upon any breach of any representation, warranty, agreement, or covenant contained herein, or any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus, any amendment or supplement thereto or any document incorporated by reference therein, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, but only with reference to information relating to such Selling Stockholder furnished in writing by or on behalf of such Selling Stockholder expressly for use in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus or the Prospectus; provided, however, that the Selling Stockholders will not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage or liability arises out of or is based upon an untrue statement, or alleged untrue statement, or omission or alleged omission made in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus, or such amendment or supplement, in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by or through the Representatives specifically for use in the preparation thereof and, provided, further, that the indemnity agreement contained in this Section 9(b) shall not inure to the benefit of any Underwriter to the extent that a prospectus relating to the purchase of such Shares was required to be delivered by such Underwriter under the Securities Act in connection with such purchase and any such loss, claim, damage or liability of such Underwriter results from the fact that there was not sent or given to such person, at or prior to the written confirmation of the sale of such Shares to such person, a copy of the Prospectus as then amended or supplemented (excluding any documents incorporated by reference therein). This indemnity agreement will be in addition to any liability which each Selling Stockholder may otherwise have.

(c) Each Underwriter severally, but not jointly, will indemnify and hold harmless the Selling Stockholders, the Company, and each person, if any, who controls the Company, within the meaning of the Securities Act, against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities to which the Company or any such director, officer, Selling Stockholder or controlling person may become subject, under the Securities Act or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions or proceedings in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus, or any amendment or supplement thereto, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or the alleged omission to state therein a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading in the light of the circumstances under which they were made; and will reimburse any legal or other expenses reasonably incurred by the Company or such Selling Stockholder or controlling person in connection with investigating or defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability, action or proceeding; provided, however, that each Underwriter will provide indemnity and be liable in each case only to the extent that such untrue statement or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission has been made in the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus or such amendment or supplement, in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to the Company by or through the Representatives specifically for use in the preparation thereof. This indemnity agreement will be in addition to any liability which such Underwriter may otherwise have.

(d) Promptly after receipt by an indemnified party under this Section 9 of notice of the commencement of any action or proceeding, such indemnified party will, if a claim in respect thereof is to be made against an indemnifying party under this Section 9, notify the indemnifying party of the commencement thereof; but the omission so to notify the indemnifying party

will not relieve it from any liability which it may have to any indemnified party otherwise than under this Section 9, except to the extent that the indemnifying party is substantially prejudiced by the omission of such notification. In case any such action or proceeding is brought against any party, and it notifies an indemnifying party of the commencement thereof, the indemnifying party will be entitled to participate therein, and, to the extent that it may wish, jointly with any other indemnifying party, similarly notified, to assume the defense thereof with counsel satisfactory to such indemnified party and after notice from the indemnifying party to such indemnified party of its election so to assume the defense thereof, the indemnifying party will not be liable to such indemnified party under this Section 9 for any legal or other expenses subsequently incurred by such indemnified party in connection with the defense thereof other than reasonable costs of investigation.

(e) In order to provide for just and equitable contribution in circumstances in which the indemnification provided for in this Section 9 is for any reason held to be unavailable to an indemnified party under subsection (a) or (b) above in respect to any losses, claims, damages or liabilities referred to therein, then each applicable indemnifying party, in lieu of indemnifying such indemnified party, shall contribute to the amount paid or payable by such indemnified party as a result of such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (i) in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative benefits received by the Sellers on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other hand from the offering of the Shares or (ii) if the allocation provided by clause (i) above is not permitted by applicable law, in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect not only the relative benefits referred to in clause (i) above but also the relative fault of the parties in connection with the statements or omissions which resulted in such losses, claims, damages or liabilities, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative benefits received by the Sellers on the one hand and the Underwriters on the other hand shall be deemed to be in the same proportion as the total proceeds from the offering (net of underwriting discounts and commissions but before deducting expenses) received by the Company or the Selling Stockholders bears to the underwriting discounts and commissions received by the Underwriters. The relative fault of a party shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of a material fact or the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact relates to information supplied by such party and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. The amount paid or payable by a party as a result of the losses, claims, damages and liabilities referred to above shall be deemed to include any legal or other fees or expenses reasonably incurred by such party in connection with investigating or defending any action or claim.

The Sellers and the Underwriters agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 9 were determined by pro-rata allocation (even if the Underwriters were treated as one entity for such purpose) or by any other method of allocation which does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to in the immediately preceding paragraph. Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section 9, no Underwriter shall be required to contribute any amount in excess of the amount by which the total price at which the Shares underwritten by it and distributed to the public were offered to the public exceeds the amount of any damages that such Underwriter has otherwise been required to pay by reason of such untrue or alleged untrue statement or omission or alleged omission. No person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. The Underwriters' obligations in this subsection (d) to contribute shall be several in proportion to their respective underwriting obligation and not joint.

(f) In any proceeding relating to the Registration Statement, any Preliminary Prospectus, the Prospectus or any supplement or amendment thereto, each party against whom contribution may be sought under this Section 9 hereby consents to the jurisdiction of any court having jurisdiction over any other contributing party, agrees that process issuing from such court may be served upon him or it by any other contributing party and consents to the service of such process and agrees that any other contributing party may join him or it as an additional defendant in any such proceeding in which such other contributing party is a party.

(g) The indemnification contained in this Section 9 and the representations and warranties of the Company and the Selling Stockholders set forth in this Agreement will remain operative and in full force and effect regardless of any investigations made by or on behalf of any Underwriters or controlling persons thereof, or by or on behalf of the Company or its directors or officers or the Selling Stockholders, and will survive delivery of, and payment for, the Shares.

10. Default of Underwriters. If any Underwriter shall fail to purchase and pay for the Firm Shares or the Option Shares, as the case may be, which such Underwriter has agreed to purchase and pay for hereunder (otherwise than by reason of any default on the part of the Company or the Selling Stockholders), you, as Representatives of the Underwriters, shall use your best efforts to procure within 24 hours thereafter one or more of the other Underwriters, or any others, to purchase from the Company and the Selling Stockholders such amounts as may be agreed upon and upon the terms set forth herein, the Shares which the defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters failed to purchase. If during such 24 hours you, as such Representatives, shall not have procured another purchaser, then (i) if the aggregate number of Shares with respect to which such default shall occur does not exceed ten percent of the Firm Shares or the Option Shares, as the case may be, the other Underwriters shall be obligated, severally, in proportion to the respective number of Firm Shares which they are obligated to purchase hereunder, to purchase the Shares which such defaulting Underwriter or Underwriters failed to purchase, or (ii) if the aggregate number of Shares with respect to which such default shall occur exceeds 10 percent of the Firm Shares or the Option Shares, as the case may be, the Company or you, as the Representatives of the Underwriters, will have the right, by written notice given within the next 24-hour period to the parties to this Agreement, to terminate this Agreement without liability on the part of the non-defaulting Underwriters or of the Company or the Selling Stockholders except to the extent provided in Section 9 hereof. In the event of a default by any Underwriter or Underwriters as set forth in this Section 11, the Closing Date or the Option Closing Date, as the case may be, may be postponed for such period, not exceeding seven days, as you, as Representatives, may determine in order that the required changes in the Registration Statement or in the Prospectus or in any other documents or arrangements may be effected. The term "Underwriter" includes any person substituted for a defaulting Underwriter. Any action taken under this Section 11 shall not relieve any defaulting Underwriter from liability in respect of any default of such Underwriter under this Agreement.

11. Notices. All communications hereunder shall be in writing and, except as otherwise provided herein, will be mailed, delivered, or telegraphed and confirmed as follows: if to the Underwriters, to Stephens Inc., 111 Center Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, Attention: W. Scott Davis, with a copy to Wright, Lindsey & Jennings LLP, 200 West Capitol Avenue, Suite 2200, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, Attention: C. Douglas Buford, Jr., and if to the Company or the Selling Stockholders, to The Hain Food Group, Inc., 50 Charles Lindbergh Blvd., Uniondale, New York 11553, Attention: President, with a copy to Cahill Gordon & Reindel, 80 Pine Street, New York, New York 10005, Attention: Roger Meltzer.

12. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated by you by notice to the Sellers as follows:

(a) at any time prior to the earlier of (i) the time the Shares are released by you for sale by notice to the Underwriters, or (ii) 11:30 A.M., central time, on the first business day following the date on which the Registration Statement becomes effective;

(b) at any time prior to the Closing Date if any of the following has occurred: (i) since the respective dates as of which information is given in the Registration Statement and the Prospectus, any Material Adverse Change which would, in your reasonable judgment, materially impair the investment quality of the Shares; (ii) any outbreak of hostilities or other national or international calamity or crisis or change in economic or political conditions if the effect of such outbreak, calamity, crisis or change on the financial markets of the United States would, in your reasonable judgment, make the offering or delivery of the Shares impracticable; (iii) general suspension of trading in securities on the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange or the over-the-counter market or limitation on prices (other than limitations on hours or numbers of days of trading) for securities on either such Exchange or the over-the-counter market; (iv) the enactment, publication, decree or other promulgation of any federal or state statute, regulation, rule or order of any court or other governmental authority which in your reasonable discretion materially and adversely affects or will materially and adversely affect the business or operations of the Company; (v) declarations of a banking moratorium by either federal or New York State authorities; or (vi) the taking of any action by any federal, state or local government or agency in respect of its monetary or fiscal affairs which in your reasonable discretion has a material adverse effect on the securities markets in the United States; or

(c) as provided in Sections 7 and 10 of this Agreement.

13. Successors. This Agreement has been and is made solely for the benefit of the Underwriters, the Company, the Selling Stockholders and their respective successors, executors, administrators, heirs and assigns, and the officers, directors and controlling persons referred to herein, and no other person will have any right or obligation hereunder. The term "successors" shall not include any purchaser of the Shares merely because of such purchase.

14. Miscellaneous. The reimbursement, indemnification and contribution agreements contained in this Agreement and the representations, warranties and covenants of the Company and the Selling Stockholders in this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect regardless of (a) any termination of this Agreement, (b) any investigations made by or on behalf of any Underwriter or controlling person, or (c) delivery of any payment for the Shares under this Agreement.

This Agreement may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

This Agreement shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of Arkansas.

If the foregoing letter is in accordance with your understanding of our agreement, please sign and return to us the enclosed duplicates hereof, whereupon it will become a binding agreement among the Company, the Selling Stockholders and the several Underwriters in accordance with its terms.

Very truly yours,

THE HAIN FOOD GROUP, INC.

By _____
Title _____

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS, as identified in
Schedule I hereto

By _____
Attorney-in-Fact
for the Selling Stockholders

The foregoing Underwriting Agreement is hereby confirmed and accepted as of the date first above written.

STEPHENS INC. and CIBC OPPENHEIMER CORP.
as Representatives

By: STEPHENS INC.

By _____
Authorized Officer

Acting severally on behalf of itself and the other several Underwriters named in Schedule II hereto.

SCHEDULE I

Seller -----	No. of Firm Shares -----
Company	2,500,000
Selling Stockholders:	
Irwin D. Simon.....	125,000
Jack Kaufman.....	50,000
Benjamin Brecher.....	50,000
Bruce M. Leric.....	25,000
Argosy - Hain Investment Group, L.P.....	75,000

TOTAL.....	2,825,000 =====

SCHEDULE II

Underwriter

No. of Firm Shares

Stephens Inc.

Oppenheimer & Co., Inc.....

2,825,000
=====

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

We consent to the reference to our firm under the caption "Experts" in Amendment No. 2 to the Registration Statement (Form S-3 No. 333-38939) and related Prospectus of The Hain Food Group, Inc. for the registration of 3,248,750 shares of its common stock and to the incorporation by reference therein of our report dated September 3, 1997, with respect to the consolidated financial statements of The Hain Food Group, Inc. included in its Annual Report (Form 10-K) for the year ended June 30, 1997, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Melville, New York
November 19, 1997

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

We hereby consent to the use in the Prospectus constituting part of this Registration Statement on Form S-3 of our report dated March 25, 1997, appearing on page F-1 of the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Vestro Natural Foods Inc., for the year ended December 31, 1996. We also consent to the reference to us under the headings "Experts" in such Prospectus.

/s/ Price Waterhouse LLP

PRICE WATERHOUSE LLP

Costa Mesa, California
November 4, 1997