

TYSON FOODS INC  
Form 8-K  
August 23, 2017

**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 8-K**

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

**Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): August 21, 2017**

**Tyson Foods, Inc.**

**(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)**

**Delaware**

**(State of incorporation or organization)**

**001-14704**

**(Commission File Number)**

**71-0225165**

**(IRS Employer Identification No.)**

**2200 West Don Tyson Parkway, Springdale, AR 72762-6999**

**(479) 290-4000**

**(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of  
Registrant's principal executive offices)**

**Not applicable**

**(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if applicable)**

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company ☐

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐



**Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.**

On August 23, 2017, Tyson Foods, Inc. (the “Company”) completed its previously announced public offerings and sale of \$400,000,000 aggregate principal amount of its Floating Rate Senior Notes due 2020 (the “2020 Notes” or the “Floating Rate Notes”) and \$500,000,000 aggregate principal amount of its 2.250% Senior Notes due 2021 (the “2021 Notes” or the “Fixed Rate Notes” and, together with the 2020 Notes, the “Notes”), pursuant to an underwriting agreement (the “Underwriting Agreement”), dated August 21, 2017, among the Company and Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC and RBC Capital Markets, LLC for themselves and as representatives of the several underwriters named therein.

The sale of the Notes was made pursuant to the Company’s Registration Statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-217775), including a prospectus supplement dated August 21, 2017 (the “Prospectus Supplement”) to the prospectus contained therein dated May 8, 2017, filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission, pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

The Company issued the Notes under an indenture dated as of June 1, 1995 (the “Base Indenture”) between the Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. (as successor to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. (formerly The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A.)), as trustee, as supplemented by a supplemental indenture dated as of August 23, 2017 for each series of Notes (each, a “Supplemental Indenture” and, together with the Base Indenture, the “Indenture”), each between the Company and The Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A., as trustee. The Base Indenture and each Supplemental Indenture (including the forms of each series of Notes) are filed as Exhibits 4.1 through 4.5 to this report and are incorporated herein by reference. The following description of the Notes and the Indenture is a summary and is not meant to be a complete description thereof.

The Floating Rate Notes will bear interest equal to three-month LIBOR plus 0.450%, and the Fixed Rate Notes will bear interest at a fixed rate per annum equal to 2.250%.

Interest on the Floating Rate Notes is payable quarterly in arrears on February 21, May 21, August 21 and November 21 of each year, commencing on November 21, 2017. Interest on the Fixed Rate Notes is payable semi-annually in arrears on February 23 and August 23 of each year, commencing on February 23, 2018. In each case, interest is payable to the persons in whose names such Notes are registered at the close of business on the 14<sup>th</sup> calendar day immediately preceding the applicable interest payment date (whether or not a business day). Interest that the Company pays on the maturity date will be paid to the person to whom the principal will be payable.

The amount of interest payable on the Floating Rate Notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year and the actual number of days elapsed. The amount of interest payable on the Fixed Rate Notes will be computed on the basis of a 360-day year of twelve 30-day months

The 2020 Notes and the 2021 Notes will mature on August 21, 2020 and August 23, 2021, respectively.

The Notes are the general senior unsecured obligations of the Company and will rank equally in right of payment with all of the Company's other existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness from time to time outstanding, including all other senior Notes issued under the Indenture.

The Company may not redeem the Floating Rate Notes prior to maturity. The Company may redeem the Fixed Rate Notes, in whole or in part, at any time prior to July 23, 2021 ("Par Call Date"), at a redemption price equal to the greater of (i) 100% of the principal amount of the Fixed Rate Notes being redeemed plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon to the date of redemption; and (ii) the sum of the remaining scheduled payments of principal of and interest on such Fixed Rate Notes being redeemed (not including any portion of the payments of interest accrued as of the date of redemption), from the redemption date to the Par Call Date, discounted to its present value as of the date of redemption on a semi-annual basis (assuming a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) at the applicable Adjusted Treasury Rate (as defined in the Supplemental Indenture), as determined by the Quotation Agent (as defined in the Supplemental Indenture), plus 15 basis points, plus, accrued and unpaid interest on the principal amount of such Fixed Rate Notes being redeemed to the date of redemption.

At any time on or after the Par Call Date but prior to the maturity date with respect to the Fixed Rate Notes, the Company may redeem such Fixed Rate Notes, in whole or in part, at any time at a redemption price equal to 100% of the principal amount of the Fixed Rate Notes, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon to the date of redemption.

The Company intends to use the net proceeds from this offering for repayment of amounts outstanding under its term loan tranche due June 2020 (which bore interest at the rate of 2.38% as of July 1, 2017). The Company may, however, use a portion of the proceeds to pay down certain other outstanding debt.

If the Company experiences a Change of Control Triggering Event (as defined in the relevant Supplemental Indenture) with respect to a series of Notes, each holder of Notes of such series may require the Company to purchase such holder's Notes at a purchase price equal to 101% of the aggregate principal amount thereof on the date of purchase, plus accrued and unpaid interest, if any, to the date of purchase.

The Indenture includes certain restrictive covenants, including covenants that limit the ability of the Company and certain of its subsidiaries to, among other things, incur secured debt, enter into sale and lease-back transactions and consolidate, merge or transfer substantially all of the Company's assets to another entity. The covenants are subject to a number of important exceptions and qualifications set forth in the Indenture.

The Indenture contains customary terms, including that upon certain events of default occurring and continuing, either the trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the Notes then outstanding may declare the unpaid principal of the Notes and any accrued and unpaid interest thereon immediately due and payable. In the case of certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization relating to the Company, the principal amount of the Notes together with any accrued and unpaid interest thereon will automatically become and be immediately due and payable.

The foregoing description of the Underwriting Agreement, the Indenture and the related instruments and transactions associated therewith does not purport to complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, the full text of the agreements and instruments, each of which is attached hereto as an Exhibit.

#### *Forward-Looking Statements*

This Current Report on Form 8-K contains forward-looking statements that are based on the Company's management's current expectations. Such forward-looking statements are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including, without limitation, prevailing market conditions and other factors. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may vary materially from those expected. More information about potential risk factors that could affect the Company and its results is included in the Company's filings with the SEC.

#### **Item 2.03. Creation of a Direct Financial Obligation or an Obligation under an Off-Balance Sheet Arrangement of a Registration.**

The description contained under Item 1.01 above is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety into this Item 2.03.

**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

In connection with the offering of the Notes, as described in response to Item 1.01 of this Current Report on Form 8-K, the following exhibits are filed with this Current Report on Form 8-K and are incorporated by reference herein and into the Registration Statement: (i) the Underwriting Agreement, (ii) the Base Indenture, (iii) each Supplemental Indenture, (iv) the form of note for each series of Notes and (v) the opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP and related consent.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits**

(d)Exhibits

| <b>Exhibit<br/>Number</b> | <b>Description</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1.1                       | Underwriting Agreement, dated August 21, 2017  |
| 4.1                       | Base Indenture, dated June 1, 1995 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed December 17, 1997 (Commission File No. 333-42525)) |
| 4.2                       | Supplemental Indenture, dated August 23, 2017, for the 2020 Notes  |
| 4.3                       | Form of 2020 Note (included in Exhibit 4.2)  |
| 4.4                       | Supplemental Indenture, dated August 23, 2017, for the 2021 Notes  |
| 4.5                       | Form of 2021 Note (included in Exhibit 4.4)  |
| 5.1                       | Opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP   |
| 23.1                      | Consent of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)   |

**SIGNATURE**

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

TYSON FOODS, INC.

Date: August 23, 2017    By:    /s/ Dennis Leatherby  
Name: Dennis Leatherby  
Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer



## EXHIBIT INDEX

| <b>Exhibit<br/>Number</b> | <b>Description</b>   |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1.1                       | Underwriting Agreement, dated August 21, 2017  |
| 4.1                       | Base Indenture, dated June 1, 1995 (incorporated herein by reference to Exhibit 4 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed December 17, 1997 (Commission File No. 333-42525)) |
| 4.2                       | Supplemental Indenture, dated August 23, 2017, for the 2020 Notes  |
| 4.3                       | Form of 2020 Note (included in Exhibit 4.2)  |
| 4.4                       | Supplemental Indenture, dated August 23, 2017, for the 2021 Notes  |
| 4.5                       | Form of 2021 Note (included in Exhibit 4.4)  |
| 5.1                       | Opinion of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP   |
| 23.1                      | Consent of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)   |