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) December 9, 2002

MGP Ingredients, Inc. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

KANSAS0-1719648-0531200(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)(Commission
File Number)(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1300 Main Street Box 130 Atchison, Kansas 66002 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(913) 367-1480 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Item 5. Other Events and Required FD Disclosure.

Attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated into this Item 5 by reference is a press release which was issued on December 9, 2002 by the Company relating to its stock repurchase program.

Item 7. Exhibits

99.1 Press Release dated December 9, 2002.

SIGNATURES

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

MGP INGREDIENTS, INC.

Date: December 9, 2002

By:/s/ Laidacker M. Seaberg Laidacker M. Seaberg President and Chief Executive Officer [Company Logo Omitted] News Release
1300 Main Street, P.O. Box 1300 * Contact: Steve Pickman or Nate Cairney
Atchison, Kansas 66002-0130 at 913-367-1480
913.367.1480 * 800.255.0302 * Fax 913.367.0192
www.mgpingredients.com * Symbol/Market: MGPI/NASDAQ

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MGP INGREDIENTS BOARD AUTHORIZES STOCK BUY BACK

ATCHISON, Kan., December 9, 2002--The Board of Directors of MGP Ingredients, Inc. (MGPI/Nasdaq) has authorized management to buy back up to 1 million shares of the company's common stock in open market and private transactions. This authorization is in addition to previous stock repurchase authorizations totaling 2 million shares. To date, the company has purchased 1,830,818 shares under the earlier authorizations.

The stock repurchase program contemplates that repurchases will be made in accordance with Rule 10b-18 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. There is no assurance as to the actual number of shares that the company will repurchase, and the company may suspend or cancel the program at any time or from time to time. Purchases will depend on market conditions. Shares purchased will be used to fund the company's stock incentive plans and for other corporate purposes.

MGP Ingredients, Inc. is a leading producer and marketer of value-added proteins and starches derived primarily from wheat. In addition, the company produces natural food grade alcohol for use in beverage, food and industrial applications, and fuel grade alcohol, commonly known as ethanol. The company is headquartered in Atchison, Kan., and owns and operates production facilities at that location, in Pekin, Ill., and Kansas City, Kan.

###