

ECOLAB INC
Form 4
December 14, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287
Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *
LEWIS DIANA D

(Last) (First) (Middle)

ECOLAB INC., 370 WABASHA STREET N.

(Street)

ST. PAUL, MN 55102

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
ECOLAB INC [ECL]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
12/13/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

___ Director ___ 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) ___ Other (specify below)

SVP - Human Resources

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)
 Form filed by One Reporting Person
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	Price	
Common Stock	12/13/2005		M		20,000	\$ 7.594	A
Common Stock	12/13/2005		S		700	\$ 35.21	D
Common Stock	12/13/2005		S		19,300	\$ 35.2	D
Common Stock						11,531.879 ⁽¹⁾	I

By Ecolab Savings Plan

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474
(9-02)

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 7.594 (2)	12/13/2005		M	20,000 (2)	08/16/1997(2) 08/16/2006	Common Stock 20,000

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships
LEWIS DIANA D ECOLAB INC. 370 WABASHA STREET N. ST. PAUL, MN 55102	Director 10% Owner Officer Other SVP - Human Resources

Signatures

/s/David F. Duvick, Attorney-in-Fact for Diana D. Lewis

12/14/2005

Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

(1) Number of UNITS in the Ecolab Stock Fund of the Ecolab Savings Plan (401(k) Plan) as of November 30, 2005. (The 11,531.879 UNITS are the equivalent of approximately 20,118.624 SHARES of the issuer's Common Stock.)

(2) Option granted under the Ecolab Inc. 1993 Stock Incentive Plan on August 16, 1996. The option was originally reported as covering 10,000 shares at an exercise price of \$15.1875 per share, but has been adjusted to reflect a stock split on June 6, 2003. The option became exercisable as to 25% of the total shares subject to the option (excluding any fractional portion less than one share), on each of the first, second and third anniversaries of the date of grant and as to the remaining shares on the fourth anniversary of the date of grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

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