

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE TO

Tender Offer Statement Under Section 14(d)(1) or 13(e)(1)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No. 18)

GOLD KIST INC.

(Name of Subject Company)

PROTEIN ACQUISITION CORPORATION

PILGRIM'S PRIDE CORPORATION

(Names of Filing Persons—Offerors)

Common Stock, Par Value \$0.01 Per Share

(Title of Class of Securities)

380614107

(CUSIP Number of Class of Securities)

Richard A. Cogdill

Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

4845 US Highway 271 North

Pittsburg TX 75686-0093

(903) 434-1000

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Persons Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications on Behalf of Filing Persons)

Copy to:

Alan G. Harvey

Baker & McKenzie LLP

2300 Trammell Crow Center

2001 Ross Avenue

Dallas TX 75201

CALCULATION OF FILING FEE

Transaction Valuation*

\$1,096,185,405

Amount of Filing Fee**

\$117,292

* Estimated for purposes of calculating the amount of the filing fee only. Calculated by multiplying \$21.00, the per share tender offer price, by the sum of (i) the 51,024,977 outstanding shares of Common Stock as of December 3, 2006 as represented by Gold Kist Inc. in the Merger Agreement filed with Amendment No. 11, and (ii) the 1,174,328 shares of Common Stock subject to outstanding grants and awards under Gold Kist Inc. share-based compensation plans as represented by Gold Kist Inc. in the Merger Agreement.

** Calculated as 0.0107% of the transaction value.

Check the box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing with which the offsetting fee was previously paid. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

Amount Previously Paid: \$3,870.00
Form or Registration No.: SC TO-T/A

Filing Party: Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
Date Filed: December 5, 2006

Amount Previously Paid: \$113,422.00
Form or Registration No.: SC TO-T

Filing Party: Pilgrim's Pride Corporation
Date Filed: September 29, 2006

Check the box if the filing relates solely to preliminary communications made before the commencement of a tender offer.

Check the appropriate boxes to designate any transactions to which the statement relates:

third-party tender offer subject to Rule 14d-1.

issuer tender offer subject to Rule 13e-4.

going-private transaction subject to Rule 13e-3.

amendment to Schedule 13D under Rule 13d-2.

Check the following box if the filing is a final amendment reporting the results of the tender offer:

This Amendment No. 18 (this "Amendment") amends and supplements the Tender Offer Statement on Schedule TO filed on September 29, 2006 and amended by Amendment No. 1 filed September 29, 2006, Amendment No. 2 filed October 12, 2006, Amendment No. 3 filed October 16, 2006, Amendment No. 4 filed October 17, 2006, Amendment No. 5 filed October 23, 2006, Amendment No. 6 filed October 24, 2006, Amendment No. 7 filed October 30, 2006, Amendment No. 8 filed November 13, 2006, Amendment No. 9 filed November 20, 2006, Amendment No. 10 filed November 30, 2006, Amendment No. 11 filed December 5, 2006, Amendment No. 12 filed December 8, 2006, Amendment 13 filed December 11, 2006, Amendment No. 14 filed December 13, 2006, Amendment No. 15 filed December 19, 2006, Amendment No. 16 filed December 28, 2006 and Amendment No. 17 filed January 3, 2007 (as so amended, the "Schedule TO") by Protein Acquisition Corporation, a Delaware corporation ("Purchaser") and Pilgrim's Pride Corporation, a Delaware Corporation ("Parent") and owner of all of the outstanding common stock of Purchaser. The Schedule TO relates to the offer by Purchaser to purchase all the issued and outstanding shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), of Gold Kist Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), and the associated common stock and Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock purchase rights (the "Rights," and together with the Common Stock, the "Shares") issued pursuant to the Stockholder Protection Rights Agreement, dated as of July 9, 2004, between the Company and Computershare Investor Services, LLC as successor Rights Agent to Sun Trust Bank (the "Rights Agreement"), for \$21.00 per Share, net to the seller in cash (subject to applicable withholding taxes), without interest, upon the terms and subject to the conditions set forth in the Offer to Purchase dated September 29, 2006, as amended. Except as specifically provided herein, this Amendment does not modify any of the information previously reported on the Schedule TO.

Item 8. Interest in the Securities of the Subject Company.

Item 11. Other Information.

Items 8 and 11 of the Schedule TO are hereby amended and supplemented as follows:

At 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on January 5, 2007, the subsequent offering period expired without extension. Based on information provided by the Depository, as of 5:00 p.m., New York City time, on January 5, 2007, a total of 47,159,471 Shares had been tendered pursuant to the Offer and during the pendency of the subsequent offering period, representing more than 90% of the outstanding Shares, based upon 51,024,977 outstanding Shares as of December 3, 2006, as represented to Parent and Purchaser by the Company in the Merger Agreement.

In accordance with applicable law, Parent and Purchaser will take all necessary actions to promptly effect the Merger.

Item 12. Material to Be Filed as Exhibits (except for Exhibits designated as "filed herewith," all Exhibits have previously been filed).

- (a)(1) Offer to Purchase dated September 29, 2006.
- (a)(2) Form of Letter of Transmittal.
- (a)(3) Form of Notice of Guaranteed Delivery.
- (a)(4) Form of Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.
- (a)(5) Form of Letter to Clients.
- (a)(6) Form of Guidelines for Certification of Taxpayer Identification Number on Substitute Form W-9.
- (a)(7) Summary Advertisement as published in The Wall Street Journal on September 29, 2006.
- (a)(8) Press Release announcing Parent's intention to commence the Offer issued by Parent on September 28, 2006 (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).

- (a)
(9) Letter dated September 28, 2006 from Parent to the Board of Directors of the Company (included in Exhibit (a)(8)).
- (a)
(10) Letter dated September 28, 2006 to employees of Parent (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (a)
(11) Letter dated September 28, 2006 to customers of Parent (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (a)
(12) Letter dated September 28, 2006 to Parent growers (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (a)
(13) Tender Offer FAQs (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (a)
(14) Frequently Asked Questions for Pilgrim's Pride Employees (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (a)
(15) Press release issued by Parent on September 28, 2006 announcing Parent's intention to commence the Offer to Purchase Gold Kist 10 1/4% Senior Notes due March 15, 2014 and related Consent Solicitation (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (a)
(16) Press release issued by Parent on August 18, 2006 (previously filed on August 18, 2006 pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") and refiled on August 24, 2006 pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12 and Rule 14d-2 under the Exchange Act).
- (a)
(17) Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's Proposal for Gold Kist Inc. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) dated August 21, 2006 (previously filed on August 21, 2006 pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12 and Rule 14d-2 under the Exchange Act).
- (a)
(18) Investor Presentation dated August 21, 2006 (previously filed on August 21, 2006 pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12 and Rule 14d-2 under the Exchange Act).
- (a)
(19) Letter dated August 18, 2006 from Parent to the Company regarding the stockholder proposal provided by O.B. Goolsby, Jr., to the Company (previously filed on August 22, 2006 pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act and deemed filed pursuant to Rule 14a-12 and Rule 14d-2 under the Exchange Act).
- (a)
(20) Letter dated August 30, 2006 from Parent to the Company.
- (a)
(21) Letter dated September 20, 2006 from Parent to the Company.
- (a)
(22) Press Release issued by Parent on September 29, 2006 announcing commencement of the Offer to Purchase the Company's 10 1/4% Senior Notes due March 15, 2014 and related Consent Solicitation.
- (a)
(23) Press Release issued by Parent on October 12, 2006 responding to the Schedule 14D-9 filed by the Company.
- (a)
(24) Press Release issued by Parent on October 12, 2006 announcing the purchase price for the Gold Kist Notes and receipt of tenders and related consents from holders of 73.2% of the outstanding Gold Kist Notes.
- (a)
(25) Press Release issued by Parent on October 16, 2006 announcing receipt of tenders of Gold Kist Notes and related consents sufficient to approve proposed amendments to the Gold Kist Indenture.
- (a)
(26) Press Release issued by Parent on October 17, 2006 announcing early termination of the waiting period under the HSR Act.
- (a)
(27) Press Release issued by Parent on October 23, 2006 with open letter to the Company's stockholders.

- (a)(28) Press Release issued by Parent on October 29, 2006 announcing reduction in weekly chicken processing.
- (a)(29) Press Release issued by Parent on October 30, 2006 announcing extension of the Offer and extension of Parent's offer to purchase and consent solicitation with respect to the Gold Kist Notes.
- (a)(30) Order of the U.S. District Court issued November 2, 2006 denying the Company's Motion for Expedited Hearing and granting Parent's Motion to Modify Scheduling Order.
- (a)(31) Defendants' Motion to Dismiss the Company's Exchange Act Claims.
- (a)(32) Defendants' Memorandum in Support of Motion to Dismiss the Company's Exchange Act Claims.
- (a)(33) Motion by the Parent Nominees (other than Joseph C. Moran and Michael A. Pruitt) to Dismiss the Company's Complaint for lack of personal jurisdiction over such Defendants.
- (a)(34) Memorandum in Support of Motion by the Parent Nominees (other than Joseph C. Moran and Michael A. Pruitt) to Dismiss the Company's Complaint for lack of personal jurisdiction over such Defendants.
- (a)(35) Press Release issued by Parent on November 13, 2006 announcing the revised purchase price for the Gold Kist Notes.
- (a)(36) Press Release issued by Parent on November 30, 2006 announcing extension of the Offer and extension of Parent's offer to purchase and consent solicitation with respect to the Gold Kist Notes.
- (a)(37) Joint Press Release issued by Parent and the Company on December 4, 2006 announcing the execution and delivery of the Merger Agreement and the increase in the purchase price per Share in the Offer.
- (a)(38) Letter dated December 4, 2006 to employees of Parent.
- (a)(39) Letter dated December 4, 2006 to customers of Parent.
- (a)(40) Letter dated December 4, 2006 to Parent growers.
- (a)(41) Supplement dated December 8, 2006 to Offer to Purchase dated September 29, 2006.
- (a)(42) Form of Revised Letter of Transmittal.
- (a)(43) Form of Revised Notice of Guaranteed Delivery.
- (a)(44) Form of Revised Letter to Brokers, Dealers, Commercial Banks, Trust Companies and Other Nominees.
- (a)(45) Form of Revised Letter to Clients.
- (a)(46) Joint Letter of Parent and the Company to stockholders of the Company.
- (a)(47) Press Release issued by Parent on December 11, 2006 announcing the revised purchase price for the Gold Kist Notes.
- (a)(48) Slide presentation dated December 12, 2006 entitled "Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's Acquisition of Gold Kist Inc." Exhibit (a)(48) supersedes in its entirety and replaces the slide presentation entitled "Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's Proposal for Gold Kist Inc." dated August 21, 2006 previously filed as Exhibit (a)(18).
- (a)(49) Press Release issued by Parent on December 28, 2006 announcing expiration of the Offer, expiration of Parent's offer to purchase and consent solicitation with respect to the Gold Kist Notes, acceptance of tendered Shares and Gold Kist Notes and commencement of the subsequent offering period.
- (a)(50) Amended slide presentation dated December 12, 2006 entitled "Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's Acquisition of Gold Kist Inc." Exhibit (a)(50) amends the slide presentation entitled "Pilgrim's Pride Corporation's acquisition of Gold Kist Inc." dated December 12, 2006 previously filed as Exhibit (a)(48).

- (a)
- (51) Press Release issued by Parent on January 8, 2007 announcing expiration of the subsequent offering period (filed herewith).
- (b)(1) Credit Agreement by and among CoBank ACB, Agriland FCS and the Company dated as of September 21, 2006 (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (b)(2) Pilgrim's Pride Corporation \$450,000,000 Senior Unsecured Increasing Rate Bridge Facility Commitment Letter from Lehman Brothers to the Company dated September 27, 2006 (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on September 28, 2006).
- (b)(3) Supplemental Commitment Letter from Lehman Brothers and Credit Suisse to Parent dated October 20, 2006.
- (b)(4) \$450,000,000 Senior Unsecured Term Loan Agreement dated November 29, 2006 among Parent, Lehman Commercial Paper Inc., Lehman Brothers, Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC and Credit Suisse Cayman Islands Branch, including agreed form of Exchange Note indenture.
- (b)(5) Consent and Amendment to Term Loan Agreement, dated as of December 3, 2006, by and among Lehman Commercial Paper Inc., Lehman Brothers Inc., Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, Credit Suisse and Parent.
- (b)(6) First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of December 13, 2006, by and among Parent, as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as lead arranger and co-syndication agent, and sole book runner, and as administrative, documentation and collateral agent, Agriland, FCS, as co-syndication agent, and as a syndication party, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on December 19, 2006).
- (d)(1) Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of December 3, 2006 among Parent, Purchaser and the Company.
- (g) None.
- (h) None.

EXHIBIT INDEX ¹

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- (b)(6) First Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of December 13, 2006, by and among Parent, as borrower, CoBank, ACB, as lead arranger and co-syndication agent, and sole book runner, and as administrative, documentation and collateral agent, Agriland, FCS, as co-syndication agent, and as a syndication party, and the other syndication parties signatory thereto (incorporated by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K filed by Parent on December 19, 2006).
- (d)(1) Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of December 3, 2006 among Parent, Purchaser and the Company.
- (g) None.
- (h) None.



**PILGRIM'S PRIDE RECEIVES OVER 90% OF GOLD KIST'S SHARES
IN SUBSEQUENT OFFERING PERIOD**

Pittsburg, Texas– January 8, 2007 – Pilgrim's Pride Corporation (NYSE: PPC) today announced the completion of the subsequent offering period of its tender offer to acquire all of the outstanding shares of Gold Kist Inc. (NASDAQ: GKIS) common stock for \$21.00 per share in cash. As of 5:00 p.m. New York City Time on January 5, 2007, a total of 47,159,479 shares, representing approximately 92% of Gold Kist outstanding common stock, have been tendered into Pilgrim's Pride's initial tender offer and during the subsequent offering period. All Gold Kist shares validly tendered during the subsequent offering period have been accepted for payment. Pilgrim's Pride accepted shares tendered during the initial offer period on December 27, 2006.

Pilgrim's Pride intends to complete the acquisition of the remaining shares of Gold Kist through a merger of the acquisition vehicle, Protein Acquisition Corporation, into Gold Kist, in which all Gold Kist shares not tendered into Pilgrim's Pride's initial tender offer or during the subsequent offering period (other than shares held in the treasury of Gold Kist or held by Pilgrim's Pride or any of its subsidiaries) will be converted into the right to receive \$21.00 per share. Following the merger, Gold Kist will be a wholly owned subsidiary of Pilgrim's Pride. Under applicable law, the merger is not subject to the approval of the remaining Gold Kist stockholders.

As previously announced, Pilgrim's Pride has also completed its tender offer to purchase and related consent solicitation for Gold Kist's outstanding 10 1/4% Senior Notes due March 15, 2014. The debt tender offer was made in connection with Pilgrim's Pride's acquisition of Gold Kist. As of 5:00 p.m., New York City Time, December 27, 2006, the Company had received tenders and related consents with respect to 100% of the aggregate principal amount of the outstanding Gold Kist Notes, all of which were accepted for payment.

On December 3, 2006, Pilgrim's Pride and Gold Kist entered into a definitive merger agreement, under which Pilgrim's Pride agreed to acquire all of the outstanding shares of Gold Kist common stock for \$21.00 per share in cash. The transaction was unanimously approved by the boards of directors of both Pilgrim's Pride and Gold Kist and has a total equity value of approximately \$1.1 billion, plus the assumption or refinancing of approximately \$144 million of Gold Kist's debt.

Baker & McKenzie LLP and Morris, Nichols, Arsht & Tunnell, LLP are acting as legal counsel and Credit Suisse, Legacy Partners Group LLC and Lehman Brothers Inc. are acting as financial advisors to Pilgrim's Pride. Innisfree M&A Incorporated is acting as information agent for Pilgrim's Pride's offer.

Pilgrim's Pride Corporation

Pilgrim's Pride Corporation is the largest chicken producer in the United States and Puerto Rico and the second-largest producer and seller of chicken in Mexico. Pilgrim's Pride employs approximately 56,500 people and operates 37 processing and 12 prepared-food facilities, with major operations in Texas, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Mexico and Puerto Rico as well as other facilities in Arizona, Iowa, Mississippi, Ohio and Utah.

Pilgrim's Pride products are sold to foodservice, retail and frozen entree customers. The Company's primary distribution is through retailers, foodservice distributors and restaurants throughout the United States and Puerto Rico and in the Northern and Central regions of Mexico. For more information, please visit <http://www.pilgrimspride.com>.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements contained in this press release that state the intentions, plans, hopes, beliefs, anticipations, expectations or predictions of the future of Pilgrim's Pride Corporation and its management, including as to the expected benefits of the acquisition of Gold Kist, are forward-looking statements. It is important to note that the actual results could differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected in such forward-looking statements include: matters affecting the poultry industry generally, including fluctuations in the commodity prices of feed ingredients, chicken and turkey; additional outbreaks of avian influenza or other diseases, either in our own flocks or elsewhere, affecting our ability to conduct our operations and/or demand for our poultry products; contamination of our products, which has recently and can in the future lead to product liability claims and product recalls; exposure to risks related to product liability, product recalls, property damage and injuries to persons, for which insurance coverage is expensive, limited and potentially inadequate; changes in laws or regulations affecting our operations or the application thereof; competitive factors and pricing pressures or the loss of one or more of our largest customers; currency exchange rate fluctuations, trade barriers, exchange controls, expropriation and other risks associated with foreign operations; management of our cash resources, particularly in light of our leverage, and restrictions imposed by and as a result of, our leverage; inability to effectively integrate Gold Kist's business or realize the associated cost savings and operating synergies currently anticipated; and the impact of uncertainties of litigation as well as other risks described under "Risk Factors" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K and subsequent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Pilgrim's Pride Corporation undertakes no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Pilgrim's Pride:

Investors

Kathy Costner, Vice President
903-434-1430

Media

Joele Frank / Steve Frankel
Joele Frank, Wilkinson Brimmer Katcher
212-355-4449