DOLE FOOD CO INC Form 8-K February 18, 2009

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

FORM 8-K CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Date of Report: February 13, 2009 DOLE FOOD COMPANY, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware 1-4455 99-0035300

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

One Dole Drive Westlake Village, California 91362

(Address of Principal Executive Offices and Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (818) 879-6600

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):

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

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Section 8. Other Events Item 8.01. Other Events

On February 13, 2009, Dole Food Company, Inc. issued a press release concerning the commencement of a cash tender offer by Dole for all of its outstanding 8 5/8% Senior Notes due 2009. A copy of the press release is attached as Exhibit 99.1 to this Current Report on Form 8-K.

Section 9. Financial Statement and Exhibits

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits:

99.1 Press release concerning the commencement of a cash tender offer by Dole for all of its outstanding 8 5/8% Senior Notes due 2009.

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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, thereunto duly authorized.

February 17, 2009 **Dole Food Company, Inc.**

Registrant

By: /s/ JOSEPH S. TESORIERO

Joseph S. Tesoriero Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit

Number Description

99.1* Press release concerning the commencement of a cash tender offer by Dole for all of its outstanding 8 5/8% Senior Notes due 2009.

* Filed herewith

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