For SEC Filing Purposes: Filed under Rule 424(b)(2) Registration No. 333-36888

Pricing Supplement No. 2 Dated January 30, 2001

To Prospectus Dated May 19, 2000 and Prospectus Supplement Dated May 23, 2000

\$300,000,000

ASHLAND INC.

MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES J

Due 9 Months or More from Date of Issue

(Fixed Rate)

Principal Amount: \$50,000,000

(Total Principal Amount Issued to Date: \$300,000,000)

Original Issue Date: February 2, 2001

Maturity Date: August 15, 2005

Interest Rate: 7.83%

Record Date: February 1 and August 1

Interest Payment Date: February 15 and August 15

Issue Price: 104.1560

Redemption:

Check box opposite applicable paragraph.

|X| The Notes cannot be redeemed prior to maturity.

|\_| The Notes may be redeemed prior to maturity.

Commission to be paid to agent: \$225,000

Agent's Commitment:

Name Principal Amount

Banc of America Securities LLC \$50,000,000