

POSTE GEORGE  
Form 4  
February 20, 2003

**FORM 4**

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

OMB APPROVAL

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

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

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

Filed By  
Romeo and Dye's  
Section 16 Filer  
www.section16.net

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol				6. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)			
Poste George			Monsanto Company (MON)				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)			
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. I.R.S. Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an entity (voluntary)		4. Statement for Month/Day/Year		7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)			
P.O. Box 647										
(Street)										
Gilbertsville, PA 19525										
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	<b>Table I Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned</b>							
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 & 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transactions(s) (Instr. 3 & 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	02/19/2003		D <sup>(1)</sup>		839	A	\$16.395	839	D	

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

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

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**FORM 4 (continued) 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 (A) or Disposed of (D)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 & 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
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				(Instr. 3, 4 & 5)		Date Exer-cisable	Expira-tion Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	(Instr. 4)	(D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)
				Code	V (A) (D)						
<b>Option (right to buy)</b>	<b>\$16.395</b>	<b>02/19/03</b>		<b>A</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>02/19/06</b>	<b>02/18/13</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>D</b>

Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Represents shares of deferred common stock deliverable upon termination as a director under the Monsanto Company Non-Employee Director Equity Incentive Compensation Plan. Shares of deferred stock are credited in the form of hypothetical shares to a stock unit account in installments on the last day of each plan month during the director's term and for the payment of dividends. Shares of deferred stock not credited to the stock unit account because of termination as a director before the end of the director's term are forfeited.
- (2) Michael L. DeCamp, attorney-in-fact for George Poste, purasant to Power of Attorney previously filed.

By: /s/ **Michael L. DeCamp**<sup>(2)</sup>

**02/20/2003**

Date

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

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

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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