

SANDERSON JOE F JR
 Form 4
 January 12, 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

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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 *
 SANDERSON JOE F JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol
 SANDERSON FARMS INC
 [SAFM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)
 225 N. 13TH AVENUE, P.O. BOX 988
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)
 01/10/2005

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)
 President, CEO, Chairman of Bd

LAUREL, MS 39440

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

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	(A) or (D)	Price
Common Stock	01/10/2005		S		26,000 ⁽¹⁾	D	\$ 41.95
					188,225 ⁽¹⁾	I	
Common Stock					78,761	I	
					9,808 ⁽¹⁾	I	

As co-executor of Estate of Joe Frank Sanderson
 Allocated to Reporting Persons account in Issuer ESOP
 By Spouse

Common
Stock

Common
Stock

954,854 D

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 Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 6)
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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
SANDERSON JOE F JR 225 N. 13TH AVENUE P.O. BOX 988 LAUREL, MS 39440	X		President, CEO, Chairman of Bd	

Signatures

/s/ Joe F. Sanderson, Jr. 01/12/2005
 **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).

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(1) The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.

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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