SANDERSON FARMS INC

Form 4 March 09, 2005

FORM 4

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

Check this box

if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or

Form 5 obligations may continue.

See Instruction 1(b).

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)

(City)

Stock

(State)

(Zip)

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number:

3235-0287

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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	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/08/2005	_X_ Director 10% Owner X_ Officer (give title Other (specify below) CEO, Chairman of Board		
(Street) LAUREL, MS 39440	4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3. 4. Securities Acquired (A) Transaction Disposed of (D) Code (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) (Instr. 8) (A) or				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)	
Common Stock	03/08/2005		Code V M	Amount 39,520	(D)	Price \$ 11.387	1,134,374	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2005		S	1,000	D	\$ 45.95	1,133,374	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2005		S	22,520	D	\$ 46.025	1,110,854	D	
Common Stock	03/08/2005		S	5,000	D	\$ 46.083	1,105,854	D	
Common	03/08/2005		S	6,000	D	\$ 46.136	1,099,854	D	

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

46.136

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					-	nd to the colle		SEC 1474 (9-02)	
Reminder: Re	Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.								
Common Stock						28,225 <u>(1)</u>	I	As co-executor for Estate of Joe Frank Sanderson	
Common Stock						9,808 (1)	I	By spouse	
Common Stock						78,762	I	Allocated to Reporting Persons account in Issuer ESOP	
Common Stock	03/08/2005	S	5,000	D	\$ 46.2	1,094,854	D		

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

number.

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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)	TransactionDerivative Code Securities (Instr. 8) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,		rDerivative Expiration Date Securities (Month/Day/Year) Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4,			7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and	Securition
				Code V	and 5) (A) (D)		Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amou or Numb of Sha
Employee Stock Options (Right to Buy)	\$ 11.387	03/08/2005		M	39,5%	520	10/24/2003(2)	10/23/2012	Common Stock	39,5

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships							
•	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other				
SANDERSON JOE F JR 225 N. 13TH AVENUE	X		CEO, Chairman of Board					

Reporting Owners 2

P.O. BOX 988 LAUREL, MS 39440

Signatures

/s/ D. Michael Cockrell, Attorney-in-Fact

03/09/2005

**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).
- (1) The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.
- (2) Exercisable for a 10-year period, with vesting beginning on the date indicated, which is one year after the date of grant. Vesting continues thereafter at 25% per year on each anniversary date until fully vested.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

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