SANDERSON FARMS INC

Form 4

November 03, 2015

FORM 4 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0287

Expires: January 31, 2005

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5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

Form 4 or

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

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

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

| SANDERSON JOE F JR | | | Symbol SANDERSON FARMS INC [SAFM] | | | | | Issuer (Check all applicable) | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|-------|----------------|--|--|---|
| (Last) | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction | | | | | _X_ Director 10% Owner _X_ Officer (give title Other (specify | | |
| 127 FLYNT ROAD, P.O. BOX 988 | | | (Month/Day/Year) 10/31/2015 | | | | | below) below) CEO, Chairman of the Board | | |
| (Street) 4. | | | | 4. If Amendment, Date Original | | | | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check | | |
| LAUREL, MS 39443 | | | Filed(Month/Day/Year) | | | | | Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person | | |
| (City) | (State) | (Zip) | Tab | le I - Non- | Derivative | Secur | rities Acq | uired, Disposed o | f, or Beneficia | lly Owned |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Da (Month/Day/Year | r) Executio any | med n Date, if Day/Year) | Code (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 | 10/31/2015 | | | Code V M | Amount 86,500 | (D) | Price \$ 0 (1) | 873,690 | D | |
| Common Stock | 10/31/2015 | | | F | 40,611 | D | \$ 69.51 | 833,079 | D | |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 9,808 (2) | I | By spouse. |
| Common Stock | | | | | | | | 96,973 | I | Allocated to Reporting Person's |

account in

Issuer ESOP.

(9-02)

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

Persons who respond to the collection of SEC 1474 information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

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. Transactic Code (Instr. 8) | 5. Number of orDerivative 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) | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|--------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| | | | | Code V | (A) (D) | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |
| Performance Shares | <u>(1)</u> | 10/31/2015 | | M | 86,500 | <u>(1)</u> | <u>(1)</u> | Common Stock | 86,500 |

Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships | | | | | | |
|--|---------------|-----------|----------------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| 1 | Director | 10% Owner | Officer | Other | | | |
| SANDERSON JOE F JR 127 FLYNT ROAD P.O. BOX 988 LAUREL, MS 39443 | X | | CEO, Chairman of the Board | | | | |

Signatures

/s/ Timothy F. Rigney, 11/03/2015 Attorney-in-Fact **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 reported transaction was the vesting of performance shares that were awarded on November 1, 2012. The award entitled the Reporting Person to a number of shares of common stock based on the Issuer's level of achievement of performance measures over a two-year period ending October 31, 2014. The performance measures were return on equity and return on sales. On December 30, 2014, the Issuer's Compensation Committee determined that based on the Issuer's actual performance, the Reporting Person was entitled to the number of shares reported in Table II. However, the Reporting Person's performance share agreement provided that the earned shares would not be issued unless the Reporting Person was employed by the Issuer (with some exceptions) for an additional one-year vesting

Reporting Owners 2

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period ending on October 31, 2015. That condition has now been met.

(2) 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. 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.