
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OF 15(d) OF THE
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) July 12, 2002

Central Garden & Pet Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

0-20242
(Commission File Number)

68-0275553
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

3697 Mt. Diablo Boulevard, Lafayette, California
(Address of principal executive offices)

94549
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (925) 283-4573

Inapplicable

(Former name or former address if changed since last report)

[LOGO OF CENTRAL GARDEN & PET]

Corporate Office
3697 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Suite 310
Lafayette, CA 94549
(925) 283-4573
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CENTRAL GARDEN & PET ANNOUNCES
TWO-YEAR EXTENSION OF PRIMARY CREDIT FACILITY**

LAFAYETTE, CALIFORNIA, JULY 12, 2002—Central Garden & Pet Company (NASDAQ: CENT) today announced that it has extended its primary credit facility with Congress Financial Corporation for two years through July 2004. The extended credit facility provides the Company with an aggregate revolving loan commitment amount of up to \$125 million. Current outstanding borrowings under the facility are \$57.4 million.

Due to lower borrowing requirements, the Company reduced the size of the facility from \$200 million to \$125 million. The terms of the extended facility also provide improvements in borrowing base availability and operational flexibility.

Central Garden & Pet Company is a leading producer of consumer garden and pet products. Central's proprietary branded products include Pennington Seed®, Norcal Pottery™, AMDRO®, Maxide®, Strike®, Lilly Miller®, Grant's®, and Matthews® Four Seasons garden products, and All-Glass®, Oceanic Systems®, Island®, Kaytee®, TFH®, Nylabone®, Zodiac®, and Four Paws® pet products. For additional information on Central Garden & Pet, including access to the Company's SEC filings, please visit the Company's website at <http://www.centralgardenandpet.com>.

"Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: The statements contained in this release which are not historical facts are forward-looking statements that are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from

those set forth in or implied by forward-looking statements. These risks are described in the Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filings, including, without limitation, the resolution of the litigation between the Company and The Scotts Company; the success of and the costs associated with the realignment of the Company's lawn and garden distribution operations; any liabilities to which the Company may become subject as a result of the August 2, 2000 fire at its Phoenix distribution center; and the impact of any other outstanding or potential litigation.

As previously announced, Central has instructed its financial advisors to study alternatives for maximizing shareholder value, including among others, asset sales and new strategic alliances.

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