SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Schedule 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.: 18)*

Name of issuer: Central Garden & Pet Company Class A
Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock
CUSIP Number: 153527205
Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement: December 29, 2023
Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:
⊠ Rule 13d-1(b)
□ Rule 13d-1(c)
□ Rule 13d-1(d)
*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.
The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).
(Continued on the following page(s))

1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON The Vanguard Group - 23-1945930 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE [LINE] IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP В. <u>Х</u> A. 3. SEC USE ONLY 4. CITIZENSHIP OF PLACE OF ORGANIZATION Pennsylvania (For questions 5-8, report the number of shares beneficially owned by each reporting person with:) 5. SOLE VOTING POWER 0 6. SHARED VOTING POWER 26,011 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER 4,273,564 8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 56,446 9. AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 4,330,010 10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES N/A 11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

CUSIP No.: 153527205

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

ΙA

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Schedule 13G Under the Securities Act of 1934

Item 1(a) - Name of Issuer:

Central Garden & Pet Company Class A

Item 1(b) - Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

1340 Treat Boulevard, Suite 600 Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Item 2(a) - Name of Person Filing:

The Vanguard Group - 23-1945930

<u>Item 2(b) – Address of Principal Business Office or, if none, residence:</u>

100 Vanguard Blvd. Malvern, PA 19355

<u>Item 2(c) – Citizenship:</u>

Pennsylvania

Item 2(d) - Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock

Item 2(e) - CUSIP Number

153527205

<u>Item 3 - Type of Filing:</u>

This statement is being filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1. An investment adviser in accordance with §240.13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E).

Item 4 - Ownership:

- (a) Amount Beneficially Owned:
- (b) Percent of Class:

- (c) Number of shares as to which such person has:
- (i) sole power to vote or direct to vote:
- (ii) shared power to vote or direct to vote:
- (iii) sole power to dispose of or to direct the disposition of:
- (iv) shared power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

Comments:

The responses to questions 5 through 9 and 11 on the cover page(s) are incorporated by reference into this Item 4.

Item 5 - Ownership of Five Percent or Less of a Class:

If this statement is being filed to report the fact that as of the date hereof the reporting person has ceased to be the beneficial owner of more than 5 percent of the class of securities, check the following \Box

Item 6 - Ownership of More Than Five Percent on Behalf of Another Person:

The Vanguard Group, Inc.'s clients, including investment companies registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and other managed accounts, have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of, the securities reported herein.

No one other person's interest in the securities reported herein is more than 5%.

Item 7 - Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired The Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:

Not applicable

Item 8 - Identification and Classification of Members of Group:

Not applicable

Item 9 - Notice of Dissolution of Group:

Not applicable

Item 10 - Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired and are held in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired and are not held for the purpose of or with the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of the securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect, other than activities solely in connection with a nomination under §240.14a-11.

Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Date: February 13, 2024

By /s/ Ashley Grim Name: Ashley Grim

Title: Head of Global Fund Administration