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Check this box if no
longer subject to
Section 16. Form 4 or
Form 5 obligations may
continue. See
Instruction 1(b).

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

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: 3235-0287 Estimated average burden hours per response... 0.5

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)											
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person <sup>*</sup> – NOVOTNY GLENN W	2. Issuer Name an CENTRAL GA			<i>.</i>		5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director 10% Owner					
(Last) (First) 3697 MOUNT DIABLO BOULEVA 310	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10/08/2003						X_Officer (give title below)Other (specify below) Pres./ Chief Executive Officer				
(Street) LAFAYETTE, CA 94549		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			
(City) (State)	(Zip)	Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned									
1. Title of Security     2. Transaction       (Instr. 3)     Date       (Month/Day/Year		Execution Date, if any	if Code or Dispo			Securities Acquired (A) Disposed of (D) str. 3, 4 and 5)		Owned Following Reported	Ownership	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial	
		(Month/Day/Year)	Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price	(Instr. 3 and 4)	Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	Ownership (Instr. 4)	
Common Stock	10/08/2003		М		1,000	A <mark>(1)</mark>	\$15.875	87,147 <sup>(2)</sup>	D		
Common Stock	10/08/2003		S		1,000	D <mark>(3)</mark>	\$27.38	86,147 <u><sup>(4)</sup></u>	D		

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

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 Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

	(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)														
1. Title of	2.	3. Transaction	3A. Deemed	4.		5. N	umber	6. Date Exercisab	le and	7. Title and	Amount	8. Price of	9. Number of	10.	11. Nature
Derivative	Conversion	Date	Execution Date, if	Transact	tion	of		Expiration Date		of Underlyin	ıg	Derivative	Derivative	Ownership	of Indirect
Security	or Exercise	(Month/Day/Year)	any	Code		Der	ivative	(Month/Day/Year	<i>:</i> )	Securities		Security	Securities	Form of	Beneficial
(Instr. 3)	Price of		(Month/Day/Year)	(Instr. 8)	)	Secu	urities			(Instr. 3 and	4)	(Instr. 5)	Beneficially	Derivative	Ownership
	Derivative					Acq	uired						Owned	Security:	(Instr. 4)
	Security					(A)	or						Following	Direct (D)	
						Disp	posed						Reported	or Indirect	
						of (l							Transaction(s)		
							tr. 3, 4,						(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4)	
						and	5)								
											Amount				
								D.	<b>F</b> · <i>C</i>		or				
								Date Exercisable	Expiration	Title	Number				
								Exercisable	Date		of				
				Code	V	(A)	(D)				Shares				
Employee															
Stock															
	¢15.075	10/00/2002		м			1 000	01/02/1000(5)	01/02/2004	Common	1 000	¢ 0	50,000	D	
Option	\$15.875	10/08/2003		М			1,000	01/02/1999 <mark>(5)</mark>	01/02/2004	Stock	1,000	\$ 0	59,000	D	
(right to										210011					
buy)															
								1							

# **Reporting Owners**

	Relationships							
Reporting Owner Name / Address		10% Owner	Officer	Other				
NOVOTNY GLENN W 3697 MOUNT DIABLO BOULEVARD, SUITE 310 LAFAYETTE, CA 94549	Х		Pres./ Chief Executive Officer					

### Signatures

/s/ By Nadine MacPhail, as attorney-in-fact for Glenn W. Novotny	10/08/2003	
Signature of Reporting Person	Date	

# **Explanation of Responses:**

<sup>\*</sup> If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

(1) Options exercised through sales plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

- (2) Includes shares of Central Garden & Pet Company's Common Stock held in the Reporting Person's 401(k) plan and acquired under Central Garden & Pet Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.
- (3) Shares sold through sales plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (4) Includes shares of Central Garden & Pet Company's Common Stock held in the Reporting Person's 401(k) plan and acquired under Central Garden & Pet Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

(5) These options were awarded as part of an option grant that provided for vesting in five equal annual installments commencing on January 2, 1999.

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.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).