FORM 4

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

OMB APPROVAL

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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

(Finit of Type	e Responses)														
1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* NOVOTNY GLENN W			2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY [CENT]						5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) X Director X Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)						
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1340 TREAT BLVD., SUITE 600				3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/13/2004						Pres./ Chief Executive Officer					
(Street) WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597				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				
(City)		(State)	(Zip)			Table I	- Non-I)erivativ	Securiti	ies Acan	ired, Disposed	of, or Benef	ficially Own	ed	
(Instr. 3) Date		2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)		3. Tran Code (Instr. 8	(Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acqu (A) or Disposed o (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		5. Amount of S				7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
						Code	e V	Amoun	(A) or (D)	Price				(I) (Instr. 4)	
Common	Stock		12/13/2004			M		15,000) A (1)	\$ 13	98,148 (2)			D	
Common S	Stock		12/13/2004			S		59	D (3)	\$ 38.24	98,089			D	
Common S	Stock		12/13/2004		S		5,300	D	\$ 38.36	92,789			D		
Common S	Stock		12/13/2004			S		800	D	\$ 38.37	91,989			D	
Common S	Stock		12/13/2004			S		300	D	\$ 38.38	91,689			D	
Common Stock 12/13/2004		12/13/2004			S		200	D	\$ 38.39	91,489			D		
Common Stock 12/13/2004		12/13/2004			S		100	D	\$ 38.42	91,389			D		
Common Stock 12/1		12/13/2004			S		100	D	\$ 38.43	91,289			D		
Common Stock		12/13/2004			S		6,941	D	\$ 38.44	84,348			D		
Common Stock		12/13/2004			S		100	D	\$ 38.46	84,248			D		
Common Stock 12		12/13/2004			S		1,100	D	\$ 38.88	83,148			D		
Reminder: R	eport on a sep	parate line for each	class of securities b	eneficiall	y owned	directly or		•	o respoi	nd to th	e collection o	f informati	on contain	ed SEC	1474 (9-02)
											d to respond ι rol number.	unless the	form displ	ays	, , ,
			Table II -			rities Acqu warrants,					Owned				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	Conversion	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		4. 5. Nif Transaction of D Securar) (Instr. 8) Acquired or D of (I		Number Derivative curities equired (A) Disposed (D) astr. 3, 4,	6. Date Expira (Montl	e Exercisable and		7. Tit of Un Secur	le and Amount iderlying ities . 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s)	Owners Form o Derivat Security Direct (or Indir	Ownersl (Instr. 4) D) ect
				Code	V (A) (D)	Date Exerci	Exp sable Da	oiration se	Title	Amount or Number of Shares		(Instr. 4)	(Instr. 4	

Emp	oloyee													l
Stoc	ck								Common					l
Opti		\$ 13	12/13/2004	M		15,000	<u>(4)</u>	01/06/2005	Stock	15,000	\$ 0	0	D	l
(rigl									Stock					l
buy))													l

Reporting Owners

	Relationships								
Reporting Owner Name / Address	Director	Director 10% Owner Officer		Other					
NOVOTNY GLENN W 1340 TREAT BLVD., SUITE 600	Х		Pres./ Chief Executive Officer						
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597									

Signatures

/s/ By Nadine MacPhail, as Attorney-in-Fact for Glenn W. Novotny	12/14/2004	
**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) Options exercised through sales plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (2) This total number and all totals reflected in this Column 5 of Table I include 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) Sale (and all sales reported in this table) effected under sales plan pursuant to Rule 10b5-1(c)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (4) The options vested in five equal annual installments beginning on January 6, 2000.

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.