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

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INITIAL STATEMENT OF 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

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* SCOPIA MANAGEMENT INC | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 03/28/2008 | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol CENTRAL GARDEN \& PET CO [CENT] |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 450 SEVENTH AVENUE, 43RD FLOOR |  |  |  |  | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year) |
| NEW YORK, NY 10123 |  |  |  |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check } \\ & \text { Applicable Line) } \\ & \overline{\text { Form filed by One Reporting Person }} \\ & \overline{\text { X_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person }} \end{aligned}$ |
| (City) (State) (Zip) | Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned |  |  |  |  |
| 1.Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) |  | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |  |
| Central Garden \& Pet Co Common Stock | 2,295,562 |  | I | See Footnote ${ }^{(1)}$ |  |
| Central Garden \& Pet Co Class A | 4,176,117 |  | I | See Footnote ${ }^{(1)}$ |  |
| Total | 6,471,679 |  | I | See Footnote ${ }^{(1)}$ |  |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.
SEC 1473 (7-02)
Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) |  | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) |  | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership <br> Form of <br> Derivative <br> Security: Direct <br> (D) or Indirect <br> (I) <br> (Instr. 5) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Date <br> Exercisable | Expiration Date | Title | Amount or Number of Shares |  |  |  |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address | Relationships |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Director | $10 \%$ <br> Owner | Officer | Other |
| SCOPIA MANAGEMENT INC <br> 450 SEVENTH AVENUE <br> 43RD FLOOR <br> NEW YORK, NY 10123 |  |  |  |  |
| MINDICH JEREMY <br> C/O SCOPIA MANAGEMENT INC <br> 450 SEVENTH AVENUE, 43RD FLOOR <br> NEW YORK, NY 10123 |  | X |  |  |
| SIROVICH MATTHEW <br> C/O SCOPIA MANAGEMENT INC <br> 450 SEVENTH AVENUE, 43RD FLOOR <br> NEW YORK, NY 10123 |  |  |  |  |

## Signatures

Scopia Management Inc. By: /s/ Jeremy Mindich, President

| ${ }^{* *}$ Signature of Reporting Person | Date |
| :---: | :---: |
| /s/ Matt Sirovich | 04/01/2008 |
| ${ }^{* *}$ Signature of Reporting Person | Date |

## Explanation of Responses:

* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. $78 \mathrm{ff}(\mathrm{a})$.
These securities are held in the accounts of several investment funds and managed accounts (the "Investment Vehicles") for which Scopia Management Inc. ("Scopia
(1) Management") serves as the investment manager. Matthew Sirovich and Jeremy Mindich are the control persons of Scopia Management. Scopia Management and Messrs. Sirovich and Mindich may be deemed to beneficially own the securities held by the Investment Vehicles and Messrs. Sirovich and Mindich's status as the control persons of Scopia Management.

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.

