

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

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

(Print or Type 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) <input type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)	
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 10/11/2004		Pres./ Chief Executive Officer
1340 TREAT BLVD., SUITE 600			4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person
(Street) WALNUT CREEK, CA 94597					
(City)	(State)	(Zip)			

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock	10/11/2004		M		10,000	A (1)	\$ 13	93,148 (2)	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		400	D (3)	\$ 30.55	92,748	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		100	D	\$ 30.56	92,648	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		500	D	\$ 30.58	92,148	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		500	D	\$ 30.60	91,648	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		500	D	\$ 30.62	91,148	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		200	D	\$ 30.64	90,948	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		100	D	\$ 30.65	90,848	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		300	D	\$ 30.66	90,548	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		571	D	\$ 30.69	89,977	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		1,129	D	\$ 30.7	88,848	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		2,500	D	\$ 30.71	86,348	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		200	D	\$ 30.72	86,148	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		335	D	\$ 30.73	85,813	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		500	D	\$ 30.74	85,313	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		765	D	\$ 30.75	84,548	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		100	D	\$ 30.76	84,448	D	
Common Stock	10/11/2004		S		1,300	D	\$ 30.78	83,148	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 Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)				6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares				
Employee Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 13	10/11/2004		M			10,000	(4)	01/06/2005	Common Stock	10,000	\$ 0	25,000	D	

Reporting Owners

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

Signatures

/s/ By Nadine MacPhail, as attorney-in-fact for Glenn W. Novotny		10/11/2004
		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.