SANDERSON JOE F JR

Form 4

January 12, 2005

FORM 4

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

OMB Number: 3235-0287

burden hours per

response...

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to

(Check all applicable)

Issuer

OMB APPROVAL

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Expires: January 31, 2005
Estimated average

0.5

Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading

SANDERSON FARMS INC

Symbol

1(b).

(Print or Type Responses)

SANDERSON JOE F JR

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person *

				[SAFM]					(Check an apprecion)				
(Last) (First) (Middle) 225 N. 13TH AVENUE, P.O. BOX 988				3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 01/10/2005					_X_ Director 10% Owner X Officer (give title Other (specify below) below) President, CEO, Chairman of Bd				
(Street)				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				
	LAUREL,	MS 39440						Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City) (State) (Zip) Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Own									ially Owned				
	1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)		Date, if	3. Transactic Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securit or(A) or Dis (Instr. 3, 4	sposed	of (D)	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)		
	Common Stock	01/10/2005			S	26,000 (1)	D	\$ 41.95	188,225 (1)	I	As co-executor of Estate of Joe Frank Sanderson		
	Common Stock								78,761	I	Allocated to Reporting Persons account in Issuer ESOP		
									9,808 (1)	I	By Spouse		

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Common Stock

Common Stock 954,854 D

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

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.

9. Nu Deriv Secur Bene Own Follo Repo Trans (Instr

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)	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transa Code (Instr.	8)	5. DiNumber of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)		ate	Secur	unt of rlying	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)
			Code	v	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares	

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Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Kelationships						
r	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other			
SANDERSON JOE F JR 225 N. 13TH AVENUE P.O. BOX 988 LAUREL, MS 39440	X		President, CEO, Chairman of Bd				

Signatures

/s/ Joe F.
Sanderson, Jr.

**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).

Reporting Owners 2

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(1) The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.

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.