

SANDERSON JOE F JR  
 Form 4  
 December 28, 2006

**FORM 4** UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL  
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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).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

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

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
 SANDERSON JOE F JR

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 SANDERSON FARMS INC  
 [SAFM]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer  
 (Check all applicable)  
 Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
 CEO, Chairman of Board

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
 225 N. 13TH AVENUE, P.O. BOX 988  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
 12/18/2006

LAUREL, MS 39440

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 (Instr. 3) | 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Transaction Code |   | 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                    | 08/22/2006                           |  | W                   |   | 28,225<br>(1)   | D          | \$ 0<br>(2)   | 0  | I   | As co-executor for Estate of Joe Frank Sanderson |
| Common Stock                    | 08/22/2006                           |  | W                   |   | 7,057   | A          | \$ 0<br>(2)   | 1,098,161  | D   |  |
| Common Stock                    | 12/18/2006                           |  | G                   | V | 9,633   | D          | \$ 0<br>(3)   | 1,088,528  | D   |  |
| Common Stock                    | 12/20/2006                           |  | G                   | V | 5,809   | D          | \$ 0  | 1,082,719  | D   |  |



## 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) The Reporting Person disclaims beneficial ownership of these shares.
- (2) The reported transaction reflects the distribution of shares from the Estate of Joe Frank Sanderson to its heirs. Consequently, there was no price. This transaction is exempt from Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act pursuant to Rule 16b-5.
- (3) The reported transaction consisted of gifts of common stock. Thus, there is no price.
- (4) Reflects allocations made in 2006 and not previously reported.

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.