

Johnson Stephen L  
 Form 4  
 January 24, 2012

**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 \*  
 Johnson Stephen L

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
 SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO CO  
 [SMG]

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)

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

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

C/O THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY, 14111 SCOTTS LAWN ROAD

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

(Street)

MARYSVILLE, OH 43041

(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 Ownership (Instr. 4) |     |       |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------------------|-----|-------|
|                                 |                                      |  |                                | (A) or (D)  | Code  | V  | Amount                            | (D) | Price |

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

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SEC 1474  
 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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| 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) | 5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5) | 6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) | 8. Price or Value of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|
| Deferred Stock Units                       | (1)  | 01/20/2012                           |  | A                              | 1,994   | (2) (2)  | Common Shares   | 1,994 \$  |
| Deferred Stock Units                       | (3)  | 01/20/2012                           |  | A                              | 131   | (4) (4)  | Common Shares   | 131 \$ 47   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address  | Relationships |           |         |       |
|---|---------------|-----------|---------|-------|
|   | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer | Other |
| Johnson Stephen L<br>C/O THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY<br>14111 SCOTTS LAWN ROAD<br>MARYSVILLE, OH 43041 | X             |           |         |       |

## Signatures

Kathy L. Uttley as attorney-in-fact for Stephen L. Johnson  
Date: 01/24/2012

\_\_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) The deferred stock units were granted, together with an equal number of related dividend equivalents, under The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company Amended and Restated 2006 Long-Term Incentive Plan (the "2006 Plan"), and subject to the terms and conditions of an individual award agreement. Each whole deferred stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one common share of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company. Each dividend equivalent represents the right to receive additional deferred stock units in respect of dividends that are declared and paid during the period beginning on the grant date and ending on the settlement date with respect to the common share of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company represented by the related deferred stock unit.

(2) The deferred stock units will become 100% vested on January 20, 2015, subject to earlier vesting or forfeiture in accordance with the terms of the award agreement. Subject to the terms of the 2006 Plan, vested deferred stock units will be settled in a lump sum as soon as administratively practicable, but no later than 90 days, following the earliest to occur of: (i) the reporting person's cessation of service as a director of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company; (ii) the reporting person's death; (iii) the date the reporting person becomes totally disabled; or (iv) the third anniversary of the grant date (January 20, 2015).

(3)

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The deferred stock units were granted, together with an equal number of related dividend equivalents, in lieu of a portion of the reporting person's annual cash retainer, under the 2006 Plan, and subject to the terms and conditions of an individual award agreement. The deferred stock units equal the quarterly deferral amount divided by the closing price of a common share on the grant date (any fractional deferred stock units are rounded up to the nearest whole deferred stock unit). Each whole deferred stock unit represents a contingent right to receive one common share of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company. Each dividend equivalent represents the right to receive additional deferred stock units in respect of dividends that are declared and paid during the period beginning on the grant date and ending on the settlement date with respect to the common shares of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company represented by the related deferred stock unit.

- The deferred stock units are 100% vested upon grant and shall be distributed in shares as soon as practicable following the earliest to
- (4) occur of: (i) reporting person's cessation of service as a director of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company; (ii) reporting person's death; (iii) reporting person becomes disabled; or (iv) January 31, 2017.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure.

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