

SANDERSON FARMS INC  
 Form 4  
 April 04, 2011

**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 \*  
**COCKRELL D MICHAEL**

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

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

(Last) (First) (Middle)  
**127 FLYNT ROAD**  
 (Street)

3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)  
**03/31/2011**

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)  
**Treasurer & CFO**

**LAUREL, MS 39443**

(City) (State) (Zip)

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

**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                    | 03/31/2011                           |  | A                              |   | 130   | A  | \$ 45.92  | 64,729               | D |  |
| Common Stock                    | 03/31/2011                           |  | A                              |   | 32  | A  | \$ 0 <sup>(1)</sup>                                   | 64,761               | D |  |
| Common Stock                    | 03/31/2011                           |  | F                              |   | 62  | D  | \$ 45.92  | 64,699               | D |  |
| Common Stock                    |                                      |  |                                |   |   |  |   | 4,170 <sup>(2)</sup> | I | Allocated to Reporting Person's Account in |

Issuer  
ESOP.

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

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(9-02)

**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) | 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 of Derivative Security (Instr. 5) | 9. Number of Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Transaction (Instr. 6) |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|
|  |  |                                      |  | Code                           | V (A) (D)   | Date Exercisable   | Expiration Date   | Title                                      | Amount or Number of Shares   |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address                           | Relationships |           |                 |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-----------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer         | Other |
| COCKRELL D MICHAEL<br>127 FLYNT ROAD<br>LAUREL, MS 39443 | X             |           | Treasurer & CFO |       |

## Signatures

/s/ Michael D. Cockrell 04/04/2011

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person Date

/s/ Michael D. Cockrell 04/04/2011

\*\*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 reported transaction was a grant of restricted stock for no consideration. Thus, there was no price.
- (2) Reflects allocations made to the Reporting Person's account 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.

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