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SCOTTS COMPANY  
Form 11-K  
June 28, 2001

1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 11-K

(MARK ONE)

ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

COMMISSION FILE NUMBER 33-47073

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if  
different from that of the issuer named below:

THE SCOTTS COMPANY  
RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the  
plan and the address of its principal executive office:

The Scotts Company  
41 South High Street  
Suite 3500  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

2

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

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	PAGE
Report of Independent Accountants	1
Financial Statements:	
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2000 and 1999	2
Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Years Ended December 31, 2000 and 1999	3

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Notes to Financial Statements

4

3

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Participants and Administrative Committee of  
The Scotts Company  
Retirement Savings Plan

In our opinion, the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of The Scotts Company Retirement Savings Plan (the "Plan") as of December 31, 2000 and 1999, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management; our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Columbus, Ohio  
April 20, 2001

4

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

	2000	1999
Net assets available for benefits:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ 77,808
Investments		
Mutual funds, at fair value	-	120,732,789
Common trust fund, at fair value	-	12,858,898
The Scotts Company Common Shares, at fair value	-	7,401,532
Loans to participants, at cost	-	2,415,972
Investment in master trust	144,078,513	-
Employer contribution receivable	1,564,861	1,307,312
Employee contribution receivable	1,156,191	940,022
Receivable from broker	-	63,857
	-----	-----
Total net assets available for benefits	\$146,799,565	\$145,798,190
	=====	=====

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The accompanying notes are an integral part  
of the financial statements.

- 2 -

5

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

STATEMENTS OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

	2000	1999
Increases:		
Interest and dividends	\$ -	\$ 7,194,049
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	-	10,479,748
Employer contributions	8,396,112	8,572,712
Participant contributions	9,812,290	9,377,515
Total increases	18,208,402	35,624,024
Decreases:		
Net loss from master trust	4,041,545	-
Benefits paid to participants	13,165,482	11,503,900
Administrative expenses	-	16,366
Total decreases	17,207,027	11,520,266
Net increase in net assets available for benefits	1,001,375	24,103,758
Net assets available for benefits, beginning of year	145,798,190	121,694,432
Net assets available for benefits, end of year	\$146,799,565	\$145,798,190

The accompanying notes are an integral part  
of the financial statements.

- 3 -

6

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

1. PLAN DESCRIPTION

The plan is a contributory defined contribution benefit plan sponsored by

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The Scotts Company. The following brief description of The Scotts Company (the Company) Retirement Savings Plan (the Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan document for a more complete description of Plan provisions, such as eligibility, vesting, allocation and funding.

### ELIGIBILITY

Regular domestic employees of the Company are eligible to participate in the Plan on the first day of the month immediately following or coincident with their date of employment. Regular employees of Scotts Lawn Service, a subsidiary of the Company, are eligible to receive base retirement contributions on the first day of the month after completing one year of eligibility service and are eligible to make contributions and receive matching contributions on the first day of the month after completing 90 days of service prior to January 1, 2001 (60 days of service after January 1, 2001). Temporary employees are eligible to participate on the January 1 or July 1 subsequent to completing one year of eligibility service and attaining age 21.

### EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTIONS

The Plan provides for participants to make pre-tax or after-tax contributions up to 15% of eligible wages, not to exceed the annual Internal Revenue Service (IRS) maximum deferral amount.

### EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS

The Plan provides a base retirement contribution for all eligible employees. Generally, eligible employees receive an allocation equal to 2% of monthly compensation. This percentage increases to 4% when employees' year-to-date compensation exceeds 50% of the social security taxable wage base. The Company also matches participant pre-tax contributions dollar for dollar for the first 3% of pay, and matches \$0.50 on the dollar for the next 2% of participant pre-tax contributions. Additionally, the Company remits transition contributions to certain participants who were also participants of certain retirement plans previously sponsored by The Scotts Company or its subsidiaries.

### VESTING

Participants are immediately vested in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Matching contributions made by the Company vest immediately. However, base and transitional contributions made by the Company vest after three years of service, or upon attaining age 65 prior to terminating employment.

### FORFEITURES

The nonvested portions of participant account balances are forfeitable and used to reduce employer contributions to the Plan. Plan forfeitures totaled \$579,486 for the year ended December 31, 2000.

### INVESTMENTS

All investments are participant-directed. Participants can change their investment options on a daily basis. The following investment options are available to participants:

- 4 -

7

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

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- FIDELITY PURITAN FUND--assets are invested in high-yielding U.S. and foreign securities, common and preferred stocks, and bonds of any maturity.
- FIDELITY CONTRAFUND--assets are primarily invested in U.S. and foreign common stocks that are believed to be undervalued.
- FIDELITY BLUE CHIP FUND--assets are primarily invested in common stock of established and/or rapidly growing companies. Approximately 65% of this fund's total assets invest in common stock of blue chip companies.
- FIDELITY WORLDWIDE FUND--assets are invested in stocks and other securities of companies located around the world.
- FIDELITY FREEDOM INCOME FUND--assets are primarily invested in bond and money market funds. A smaller percentage of assets are invested in equity mutual funds.
- FIDELITY FREEDOM 2000 FUND--assets are invested in a combination of equity, fixed income and money market mutual funds. Assets are allocated among these funds according to an asset allocation strategy which becomes more conservative over time.
- FIDELITY FREEDOM 2010 FUND--assets are invested in a combination of equity, fixed income and money market mutual funds of Fidelity Investments. The asset mix becomes more conservative as year 2010 approaches.
- FIDELITY FREEDOM 2020 FUND--assets are invested in a combination of equity, fixed income and money market mutual funds of Fidelity Investments. The asset mix becomes more conservative as year 2020 approaches.
- FIDELITY FREEDOM 2030 FUND--assets are invested in a combination of equity, fixed income and money market mutual funds. The asset mix becomes more conservative as year 2030 approaches.
- FIDELITY MANAGED INCOME PORTFOLIO--assets are invested in investment contracts of major insurance companies and other approved financial institutions, and in other fixed income securities. A small percentage of assets are invested in money market funds to provide daily liquidity.
- SPARTAN U.S. EQUITY INDEX FUND--assets are invested in stocks and in approximately the same proportions as the Standard & Poor's 500 Stock Index.
- BARON ASSET FUND--assets are invested in stocks with prices perceived as low relative to the related companies' profits, assets, and other value measures.
- PIMCO TOTAL RETURN FUND--assets are invested in various types of bonds, including U.S. government, corporate, mortgage, and foreign bonds with an average portfolio duration of three to six years (approximately equal to an average maturity of five to twelve years).
- THE SCOTTS COMPANY COMMON SHARES--assets consist entirely of The Scotts Company common shares and cash equivalents.

### BENEFIT PAYMENTS

Participants are eligible to receive benefit payments upon termination, retirement, death or disability equal to the vested balance of the participant's account as of the business day the trustee processes the distribution. The Plan also provides for hardship and in-service withdrawals for active employees under certain circumstances.

### PARTICIPANT LOANS

Loans are available to participants from their individual accounts subject to the terms of the Plan.

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THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

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## 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

### BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The financial statements of the Plan have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

### INVESTMENTS

Excluding participant loans, investments are stated at quoted market prices. Participants' loans are valued at cost, which approximates fair value.

The Plan presents in the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits the net appreciation in the fair value of its investments, which consists of the realized gains or losses and the unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on those investments. Gains and losses on sales of investments are based on the average cost method.

Net appreciation in fair value for each significant class of investments for the year ended December 31, 1999 is as follows:

	1999
Mutual funds	\$ 9,949,037
The Scotts Company Common Shares	530,711
	-----
Total net appreciation	\$10,479,748
	=====

### ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The Company pays for all administrative fees except those that are participant specific, such as loan establishment and maintenance fees.

### PAYMENTS OF BENEFITS

Benefits are recorded when paid.

### USE OF ESTIMATES

The preparation of the Plan's financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Plan to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of net assets available for benefits at the date of the financial statements, changes in net assets available for benefits during the reporting period and, when applicable, disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

### RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan provides for various investment options, which are subject to various risks, such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participant account balances and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

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9

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

RECLASSIFICATIONS

Certain reclassifications have been made to the prior year's financial statements to conform to current year classifications.

3. MASTER TRUST

Effective January 1, 2000, a master trust was established to invest certain assets of the Plan and certain assets of the Company's other defined contribution plan, The Scotts Company Union Retirement Savings Plan. Each plan's accounting is maintained separately; the respective plan's value is a percentage of the master trust. Plan activities, such as contributions and benefit payments, are recorded in the individual plan's accounting records.

Net earnings of the master trust are allocated between the plans based on a weighted average of assets related to each plan. Total net earnings for the master trust for the year ended December 31, 2000 are as follows:

	INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS	NET APPRECIATION (DEPRECIATION) IN FAIR VALUE OF SECURITIES	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES
Mutual funds	\$ 7,548,026	\$ (12,332,300)	\$ (14,347)
Common trust fund The Scotts Company	698,257	-	(2,681)
Common Shares	31,542	(179,130)	(1,451)
Loans to participants	212,344	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 8,490,169</b>	<b>\$ (12,511,430)</b>	<b>\$ (18,479)</b>

- 7 -

10

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

Total assets held in the master trust at December 31, 2000 were as follows:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 439,536
Investments	
Mutual funds, at fair value	119,120,168

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Common trust fund, at fair value	12,901,238
The Scotts Company Common Shares, at fair value	8,538,029
Loans to participants, at cost	2,938,128
	-----
Total investments	143,497,563
	-----
Receivable from broker	226,447
	-----
Total master trust net assets	144,163,546
	=====
The Scotts Company Retirement Savings Plan interest in master trust net assets	99.942%
	=====

Accounting policies discussed in Note 1 also apply to the master trust.

Cash equivalents include short-term, investments with original term to maturity of 90 days or less. Cost approximates fair value.

At December 31, 2000, the master trust had investments in the Company's common shares, as follows:

	2000	
	-----	-----
	SHARES	FAIR MARKET VALUE
	-----	-----
The Scotts Company Common Shares	231,148	\$ 8,538,029
	=====	=====

The Company's common shares are valued at quoted market prices, which were \$36.94 per share at December 31, 2000.

- 8 -

11

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

4. INVESTMENTS IN THE SCOTTS COMPANY

At December 31, 1999, the Plan had investments in the Company's common shares, as follows:

	1999	
	-----	-----
	SHARES	FAIR MARKET VALUE
	-----	-----
The Scotts Company Common Shares	183,889	\$7,401,532
	=====	=====

The Company's common shares are valued at quoted market prices, which were \$40.25 per share at December 31, 1999.



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### 5. TAX STATUS

The Plan obtained a determination letter on January 28, 1997, in which the Internal Revenue Service stated that the Plan was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. The Plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter; however, the plan administrator and the Plan's legal counsel believe that the Plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, and is therefore not subject to income taxes.

### 6. PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to terminate the Plan or its contributions subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. In the event the Plan is terminated, participants will become fully vested in their accounts.

- 9 -

12

### THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
DECEMBER 31, 2000 AND 1999

### 7. RECONCILIATION TO FORM 5500

The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999
	-----	-----
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 146,799,565	\$ 145,798,190
Amounts allocated to withdrawing participants	(50,607)	(337,505)
	-----	-----
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	\$ 146,748,958	\$ 145,460,685
	=====	=====

The following is a reconciliation of benefits paid to participants per the financial statements to the Form 5500:

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999
	-----	-----
Benefits paid to participants per the financial statements	\$ 13,165,482	\$ 11,503,900
Amounts allocated to withdrawing participants at December 31, 2000	50,607	-
Amounts allocated to withdrawing		

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participants at December 31, 1999	(337,505)	337,505
	-----	-----
Benefits paid to participants per the Form 5500	\$ 12,878,584	\$ 11,841,405
	=====	=====

- 10 -

13

SIGNATURES

THE PLAN. Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the trustees (or other persons who administer the employee benefit plan) have duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT  
SAVINGS PLAN

Date: June 28, 2001

By: /s/ Hadia Lefavre

Printed Name: Hadia Lefavre

Title: Executive Vice President,  
Human Resources Worldwide

14

THE SCOTTS COMPANY RETIREMENT SAVINGS PLAN  
ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 11-K  
FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2000

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description
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23	Consent of Independent Public Accountants