

Form 5500

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

2024

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

- A This return/report is for: [] a multiemployer plan [] a multiple-employer plan... [X] a single-employer plan [] a DFE... B This return/report is: [] the first return/report [] the final return/report... C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan... D Check box if filing under: [X] Form 5558 [] automatic extension... E If this is a retroactively adopted plan...

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 001
1c Effective date of plan: 07/01/1985
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 68-0275553
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 925-948-3676
2d Business code (see instructions): 444200

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature, Date, and Name. Rows include: 1. Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature, 10/14/2025, CATHERINE MESGAR; 2. Signature of plan administrator; 3. Filed with authorized/valid electronic signature, 10/14/2025, CATHERINE MESGAR; 4. Signature of employer/plan sponsor; 5. Signature of DFE.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2024) v. 240311

3a Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	3b Administrator's EIN	
	3c Administrator's telephone number	
4 If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: a Sponsor's name c Plan Name	4b EIN	
	4d PN	
5 Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	5	6217
6 Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines 6a(1) , 6a(2) , 6b , 6c , and 6d). a(1) Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year a(2) Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year b Retired or separated participants receiving benefits..... c Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits d Subtotal. Add lines 6a(2) , 6b , and 6c e Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits. f Total. Add lines 6d and 6e g(1) Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) g(2) Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) h Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	6a(1)	4014
	6a(2)	4060
	6b	118
	6c	1876
	6d	6054
	6e	22
	6f	6076
	6g(1)	5842
6g(2)	5977	
6h	466	
7 Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item)	7	

8a If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:
2E 2F 2G 2J 2K 3H

b If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

9a Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	9b Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor

10 Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

a Pension Schedules

- (1) **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
- (2) **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (3) **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
- (4) **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached _____
- (5) **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

b General Schedules

- (1) **H** (Financial Information)
- (2) **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
- (3) **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 1
- (4) **C** (Service Provider Information)
- (5) **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
- (6) **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)

11a If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

11b Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) Yes No

11c Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2024 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2024 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code _____

<p style="text-align: center;">SCHEDULE A (Form 5500)</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</p>	<p>Insurance Information</p> <p>This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).</p> <p>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</p> <p>▶ Insurance companies are required to provide the information pursuant to ERISA section 103(a)(2).</p>	<p>OMB No. 1210-0110</p> <hr/> <p style="font-size: 24pt;">2024</p> <hr/> <p>This Form is Open to Public Inspection</p>
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

<p>A Name of plan CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH</p>	<p>B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶</p>	<p>001</p>
<p>C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY</p>	<p>D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 68-0275553</p>	

Part I Information Concerning Insurance Contract Coverage, Fees, and Commissions Provide information for each contract on a separate Schedule A. Individual contracts grouped as a unit in Parts II and III can be reported on a single Schedule A.

1 Coverage Information:

(a) Name of insurance carrier
VOYA RETIREMENT INSURANCE AND ANNUITY COMPANY

(b) EIN	(c) NAIC code	(d) Contract or identification number	(e) Approximate number of persons covered at end of policy or contract year	Policy or contract year	
				(f) From	(g) To
71-0294708	86509	YH6231	5977	01/01/2024	12/31/2024

2 Insurance fee and commission information. Enter the total fees and total commissions paid. List in line 3 the agents, brokers, and other persons in descending order of the amount paid.

(a) Total amount of commissions paid	(b) Total amount of fees paid
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3 Persons receiving commissions and fees. (Complete as many entries as needed to report all persons).

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

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(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

(a) Name and address of the agent, broker, or other person to whom commissions or fees were paid

(b) Amount of sales and base commissions paid	Fees and other commissions paid		(e) Organization code
	(c) Amount	(d) Purpose	

Part II Investment and Annuity Contract Information
 Where individual contracts are provided, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

4 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in the general account at year end	4	42855250
5 Current value of plan's interest under this contract in separate accounts at year end.....	5	

6 Contracts With Allocated Funds:

a State the basis of premium rates ▶

b Premiums paid to carrier	6b	
c Premiums due but unpaid at the end of the year	6c	
d If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, enter amount. Specify nature of costs ▶	6d	

e Type of contract: (1) individual policies (2) group deferred annuity
 (3) other (specify) ▶

f If contract purchased, in whole or in part, to distribute benefits from a terminating plan, check here ▶

7 Contracts With Unallocated Funds (Do not include portions of these contracts maintained in separate accounts)

a Type of contract: (1) deposit administration (2) immediate participation guarantee
 (3) guaranteed investment (4) other ▶ GROUP PENSION FUNDING

b Balance at the end of the previous year **7b** 53657336

c Additions: (1) Contributions deposited during the year	7c(1)	1575254
	7c(2)	0
	7c(3)	1363897
	7c(4)	1387672
	7c(5)	316455
▶ *		

(6) Total additions **7c(6)** 4643278

d Total of balance and additions (add lines **7b** and **7c(6)**) **7d** 58300614

e Deductions: (1) Disbursed from fund to pay benefits or purchase annuities during year	7e(1)	10069391
	7e(2)	11640
	7e(3)	0
	7e(4)	268662
▶ *		

(5) Total deductions **7e(5)** 10349693

f Balance at the end of the current year (subtract line **7e(5)** from line **7d**) **7f** 47950921

Part III Welfare Benefit Contract Information
 If more than one contract covers the same group of employees of the same employer(s) or members of the same employee organizations(s), the information may be combined for reporting purposes if such contracts are experience-rated as a unit. Where contracts cover individual employees, the entire group of such individual contracts with each carrier may be treated as a unit for purposes of this report.

8 Benefit and contract type (check all applicable boxes)

- a** Health (other than dental or vision)
- b** Dental
- c** Vision
- d** Life insurance
- e** Temporary disability (accident and sickness)
- f** Long-term disability
- g** Supplemental unemployment
- h** Prescription drug
- i** Stop loss (large deductible)
- j** HMO contract
- k** PPO contract
- l** Indemnity contract
- m** Other (specify) ▶

9 Experience-rated contracts:

a	Premiums: (1) Amount received	9a(1)	
	(2) Increase (decrease) in amount due but unpaid	9a(2)	
	(3) Increase (decrease) in unearned premium reserve	9a(3)	
	(4) Earned ((1) + (2) - (3))		9a(4)
b	Benefit charges (1) Claims paid	9b(1)	
	(2) Increase (decrease) in claim reserves	9b(2)	
	(3) Incurred claims (add (1) and (2))		9b(3)
	(4) Claims charged		9b(4)
c	Remainder of premium: (1) Retention charges (on an accrual basis) --		
	(A) Commissions	9c(1)(A)	
	(B) Administrative service or other fees	9c(1)(B)	
	(C) Other specific acquisition costs	9c(1)(C)	
	(D) Other expenses	9c(1)(D)	
	(E) Taxes	9c(1)(E)	
	(F) Charges for risks or other contingencies	9c(1)(F)	
	(G) Other retention charges	9c(1)(G)	
	(H) Total retention		9c(1)(H)
	(2) Dividends or retroactive rate refunds. (These amounts were <input type="checkbox"/> paid in cash, or <input type="checkbox"/> credited.)		9c(2)
d	Status of policyholder reserves at end of year: (1) Amount held to provide benefits after retirement		9d(1)
	(2) Claim reserves		9d(2)
	(3) Other reserves		9d(3)
e	Dividends or retroactive rate refunds due. (Do not include amount entered in line 9c(2).)		9e

10 Nonexperience-rated contracts:

a	Total premiums or subscription charges paid to carrier	10a	
b	If the carrier, service, or other organization incurred any specific costs in connection with the acquisition or retention of the contract or policy, other than reported in Part I, line 2 above, report amount.	10b	

Specify nature of costs.

Part IV Provision of Information

11 Did the insurance company fail to provide any information necessary to complete Schedule A? Yes No

12 If the answer to line 11 is "Yes," specify the information not provided. ▶

SCHEDULE C (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Service Provider Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning **01/01/2024** and ending **12/31/2024**

A Name of plan CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 68-0275553	

Part I Service Provider Information (see instructions)

You must complete this Part, in accordance with the instructions, to report the information required for **each person** who received, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of monetary value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or the person's position with the plan during the plan year. If a person received **only** eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures, you are required to answer line 1 but are not required to include that person when completing the remainder of this Part.

1 Information on Persons Receiving Only Eligible Indirect Compensation

a Check "Yes" or "No" to indicate whether you are excluding a person from the remainder of this Part because they received only eligible indirect compensation for which the plan received the required disclosures (see instructions for definitions and conditions)..... Yes No

b If you answered line 1a "Yes," enter the name and EIN or address of each person providing the required disclosures for the service providers who received only eligible indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed (see instructions).

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

VOYA RETIREMENT INSURANCE & ANNUITY

71-0294708

(b) Enter name and EIN or address of person who provided you disclosures on eligible indirect compensation

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2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

VOYA RETIREMENT INSURANCE & ANNUITY

71-0294708

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
26	SERVICE PROVIDER	125050	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

VOYA RETIREMENT ADVISORS, LLC

02-0488491

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
26	SERVICE PROVIDER	77466	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

MOSS ADAMS

635 CAMPBELL TECHNOLOGY PARKWAY
CAMPBELL, CA 95008

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	SERVICE PROVIDER	63000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

MERCER

155 NORTH WACKER DR
SUITE 1500
CHICAGO, IL 60606

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	SERVICE PROVIDER	35948	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

POLSINELLI

1401 LAWRENCE ST
SUITE 2300
DENVER, CO 80202

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	SERVICE PROVIDER	18827	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

YULISHANA, INC.

117 BERNAL RD
SUITE 70-248
SAN JOSE, CA 95119

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
26	SERVICE PROVIDER	17000	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

2. Information on Other Service Providers Receiving Direct or Indirect Compensation. Except for those persons for whom you answered "Yes" to line 1a above, complete as many entries as needed to list each person receiving, directly or indirectly, \$5,000 or more in total compensation (i.e., money or anything else of value) in connection with services rendered to the plan or their position with the plan during the plan year. (See instructions).

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

C-BEN GROUP

P.O. BOX 937
BELMONT, CA 94002

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
10	SERVICE PROVIDER	14500	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

(a) Enter name and EIN or address (see instructions)

(b) Service Code(s)	(c) Relationship to employer, employee organization, or person known to be a party-in-interest	(d) Enter direct compensation paid by the plan. If none, enter -0-.	(e) Did service provider receive indirect compensation? (sources other than plan or plan sponsor)	(f) Did indirect compensation include eligible indirect compensation, for which the plan received the required disclosures?	(g) Enter total indirect compensation received by service provider excluding eligible indirect compensation for which you answered "Yes" to element (f). If none, enter -0-.	(h) Did the service provider give you a formula instead of an amount or estimated amount?
			Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

Part I Service Provider Information (continued)

3. If you reported on line 2 receipt of indirect compensation, other than eligible indirect compensation, by a service provider, and the service provider is a fiduciary or provides contract administrator, consulting, custodial, investment advisory, investment management, broker, or recordkeeping services, answer the following questions for (a) each source from whom the service provider received \$1,000 or more in indirect compensation and (b) each source for whom the service provider gave you a formula used to determine the indirect compensation instead of an amount or estimated amount of the indirect compensation. Complete as many entries as needed to report the required information for each source.

(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	
(a) Enter service provider name as it appears on line 2	(b) Service Codes (see instructions)	(c) Enter amount of indirect compensation
(d) Enter name and EIN (address) of source of indirect compensation	(e) Describe the indirect compensation, including any formula used to determine the service provider's eligibility for or the amount of the indirect compensation.	

Part II Service Providers Who Fail or Refuse to Provide Information

4 Provide, to the extent possible, the following information for each service provider who failed or refused to provide the information necessary to complete this Schedule.

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

(a) Enter name and EIN or address of service provider (see instructions)	(b) Nature of Service Code(s)	(c) Describe the information that the service provider failed or refused to provide

Part III Termination Information on Accountants and Enrolled Actuaries (see instructions)
(complete as many entries as needed)

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

a Name:	b EIN:
c Position:	
d Address:	e Telephone:

Explanation:

SCHEDULE H (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Financial Information This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small> 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024	
A Name of plan CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶ 001
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) 68-0275553

Part I	Asset and Liability Statement
---------------	--------------------------------------

1 Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

Assets	(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
a Total noninterest-bearing cash	1a	
b Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):		
(1) Employer contributions	1b(1)	
(2) Participant contributions	1b(2)	
(3) Other	1b(3)	
c General investments:		
(1) Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit)	1c(1)	
(2) U.S. Government securities	1c(2)	
(3) Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):		
(A) Preferred	1c(3)(A)	
(B) All other	1c(3)(B)	
(4) Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):		
(A) Preferred	1c(4)(A)	
(B) Common	1c(4)(B)	
(5) Partnership/joint venture interests	1c(5)	
(6) Real estate (other than employer real property)	1c(6)	
(7) Loans (other than to participants)	1c(7)	
(8) Participant loans	1c(8)	4188129
(9) Value of interest in common/collective trusts	1c(9)	
(10) Value of interest in pooled separate accounts	1c(10)	
(11) Value of interest in master trust investment accounts	1c(11)	
(12) Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities	1c(12)	
(13) Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	1c(13)	298234761
(14) Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts).....	1c(14)	53657336
(15) Other.....	1c(15)	5028842

1d Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities.....	1d(1)	51929335	46518028
(2) Employer real property.....	1d(2)		
e Buildings and other property used in plan operation.....	1e		
f Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e).....	1f	408009561	434625414
Liabilities			
g Benefit claims payable.....	1g		
h Operating payables.....	1h		
i Acquisition indebtedness.....	1i		
j Other liabilities.....	1j		
k Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j).....	1k	0	0
Net Assets			
l Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f).....	1l	408009561	434625414

Part II Income and Expense Statement

2 Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

Income		(a) Amount	(b) Total
a Contributions:			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: (A) Employers.....	2a(1)(A)	8213791	
(B) Participants.....	2a(1)(B)	17381193	
(C) Others (including rollovers).....	2a(1)(C)	1908750	
(2) Noncash contributions.....	2a(2)		
(3) Total contributions. Add lines 2a(1)(A) , (B) , (C) , and line 2a(2)	2a(3)		27503734
b Earnings on investments:			
(1) Interest:			
(A) Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit).....	2b(1)(A)		
(B) U.S. Government securities.....	2b(1)(B)		
(C) Corporate debt instruments.....	2b(1)(C)		
(D) Loans (other than to participants).....	2b(1)(D)		
(E) Participant loans.....	2b(1)(E)	412834	
(F) Other.....	2b(1)(F)	1363896	
(G) Total interest. Add lines 2b(1)(A) through (F)	2b(1)(G)		1776730
(2) Dividends:			
(A) Preferred stock.....	2b(2)(A)		
(B) Common stock.....	2b(2)(B)		
(C) Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds).....	2b(2)(C)	15736341	
(D) Total dividends. Add lines 2b(2)(A) , (B) , and (C)	2b(2)(D)		15736341
(3) Rents.....	2b(3)		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets:			
(A) Aggregate proceeds.....	2b(4)(A)		
(B) Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions).....	2b(4)(B)		
(C) Subtract line 2b(4)(B) from line 2b(4)(A) and enter result.....	2b(4)(C)		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets:			
(A) Real estate.....	2b(5)(A)		
(B) Other.....	2b(5)(B)	3111666	
(C) Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines 2b(5)(A) and (B)	2b(5)(C)		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts	2b(6)		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts	2b(7)		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts	2b(8)		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities	2b(9)		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds)	2b(10)		20363984
c Other income	2c		0
d Total income. Add all income amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2d		68492455

Expenses

e Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	2e(1)	45453523	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits	2e(2)		
(3) Other.....	2e(3)		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines 2e(1) through (3)	2e(4)		45453523
f Corrective distributions (see instructions)	2f		359847
g Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	2g		1235
h Interest expense.....	2h		
i Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances	2i(1)		
(2) Contract administrator fees	2i(2)	34595	
(3) Recordkeeping fees	2i(3)		
(4) IQPA audit fees	2i(4)		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees	2i(5)	77908	
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees	2i(6)		
(7) Actuarial fees	2i(7)		
(8) Legal fees	2i(8)		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees	2i(9)		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses	2i(10)		
(11) Other expenses.....	2i(11)	161822	
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines 2i(1) through (11)	2i(12)		274325
j Total expenses. Add all expense amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	2j		46088930

Net Income and Reconciliation

k Net income (loss). Subtract line 2j from line 2d	2k		22403525
l Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	2l(1)		4212328
(2) From this plan	2l(2)		

Part III Accountant's Opinion

3 Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

a The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1) Unmodified (2) Qualified (3) Disclaimer (4) Adverse

b Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1) DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2) DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3) neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

c Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: **MOSS ADAMS**

(2) EIN: **61-2261527**

d The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1) This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2) It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

Part IV Compliance Questions

4 CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
a Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	531
b Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
c Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
d Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
e Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2000000
f Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
g Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
h Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
i Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
j Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
k Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
l Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
m If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
n If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

5a Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year? Yes No
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year _____.

5b If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

5c Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) Yes No Not determined
 If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year _____.

SCHEDULE R (Form 5500) <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small> <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small> <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	Retirement Plan Information This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code). ▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.	OMB No. 1210-0110 2024 This Form is Open to Public Inspection.
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For calendar plan year 2024 or fiscal plan year beginning 01/01/2024 and ending 12/31/2024

A Name of plan <u>CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH</u>	B Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<u>001</u>
C Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <u>CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY</u>	D Employer Identification Number (EIN) <u>68-0275553</u>	

Part I	Distributions
---------------	----------------------

All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.

1 Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....

1	
---	--

2 Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits):
EIN(s): 71-0294708

Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.

3 Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year.....

3	
---	--

Part II	Funding Information (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
----------------	---

4 Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)?..... Yes No N/A
If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.

5 If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. **Date:** Month _____ Day _____ Year _____
If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.

6 a Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived)	6a	
b Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year	6b	
c Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount).....	6c	

If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.

7 Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline?..... Yes No N/A

8 If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change?..... Yes No N/A

Part III	Amendments
-----------------	-------------------

9 If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box..... Increase Decrease Both No

Part IV	ESOPs (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

10 Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan?..... Yes No

11 a Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock?..... Yes No

b If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.)..... Yes No

12 Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market?..... Yes No

Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

13 Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

a Name of contributing employer _____

b EIN _____ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer _____

d Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

e Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) _____

(2) Base unit measure: Hourly Weekly Unit of production Other (specify): _____

14 Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

a The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment).....	14a	
b The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	14b	
c The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	14c	

15 Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

a The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year	15a	
b The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year	15b	

16 Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

a Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year	16a	
b If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers.....	16b	

17 If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment

Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans

18 If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment

19 If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

a Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:
 Public Equity: _____% Private Equity: _____% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: _____%
 High-Yield Debt: _____% Real Assets: _____% Cash or Cash Equivalents: _____% Other: _____%

b Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:
 0-5 years 5-10 years 10-15 years 15 years or more

20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements. If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

a Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero? Yes No

b If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:
 Yes.
 No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.
 No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.
 No. Other. Provide explanation: _____

Part VII IRS Compliance Questions

21a Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules? Yes No

21b If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).
 Design-based safe harbor method
 "Prior year" ADP test
 "Current year" ADP test
 N/A

22 If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter 06 / 30 / 2020 (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number Q702324A.

Report of Independent Auditors and Financial Statements with Supplemental Schedules
Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan
December 31, 2024 and 2023

REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. Financial Statements and Supplemental Information

The following documents are filed as part of this report on the pages indicated:

	<u>Page No.</u>
Report of Independent Auditors	3
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023	3
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Year Ended December 31, 2024	4
Notes to Financial Statements	5
Supplemental Schedules	
Schedule H, Line 4(a)—Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions	12
Schedule H, Line 4(i)—Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)	13

Report of Independent Auditors

The CG&P Investment Growth Plan Committee, Participants, and Plan Administrator of
Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the plan, and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The Schedule H, Line 4(a) – Schedule of delinquent participant contributions for the year ended December 31, 2024, and Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying schedules is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Moss Adams LLP".

Seattle, Washington
June 13, 2025

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
December 31, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Investments at fair value	\$ 381,645,650	\$ 350,164,096
Investments at contract value	47,950,922	53,657,336
Total investments	429,596,572	403,821,432
Receivables		
Notes receivable from participants	5,028,842	4,188,129
Employers contributions receivable	1,634,502	745,547
Participants contributions receivable	—	148,832
Total receivables	6,663,344	5,082,508
Total assets	436,259,916	408,903,940
LIABILITIES		
Excess contributions payable	135,272	311,261
Total liabilities	135,272	311,261
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	\$ 436,124,644	\$ 408,592,679

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
Year Ended December 31, 2024

ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:	
Investment income	
Dividends and interest	\$ 17,100,237
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	23,475,650
Total investment income	<u>40,575,887</u>
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	<u>412,834</u>
Contributions	
Participants	17,097,089
Rollover	1,908,750
Employers	9,102,746
Total contributions	<u>28,108,585</u>
Total additions	<u>69,097,306</u>
DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:	
Benefits paid to participants	45,503,344
Administrative and investment expenses	<u>274,325</u>
Total deductions	<u>45,777,669</u>
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS PRIOR TO TRANSFER OF ASSETS TO PLAN	<u>23,319,637</u>
Transfer of assets to Plan	4,212,328
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u>27,531,965</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	
Beginning of year	<u>408,592,679</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 436,124,644</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

**CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of the Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the summary plan description or plan document, as amended, for a more complete description of plan provisions.

General – The Plan is a defined contribution plan that was established to provide benefits to eligible employees of Central Garden & Pet Company (the “Plan Sponsor”) and certain participating employers (collectively the “Company” or “Employers”), as provided in the plan document. The Plan is subject to provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). The Plan Sponsor has appointed the Plan Administrative Committee to carry out the duties of ERISA and serve as the Plan administrator.

Plan Merger – Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan was amended to add C & S Products Co. Inc. (“C & S”) as a participating employer. The C & S Products Co., Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan (“Merged Plan”) was merged into the Plan and approximately \$4,212,000 were transferred into the Plan during the year ended December 31, 2024. Employees of the Merged Plan who are employed by C & S on January 1, 2024, were credited with prior service for vesting and eligibility purposes under the Plan.

Eligibility – Effective July 1, 2024, employees of the Company are eligible to participate in the Plan upon reaching age 18. Prior to July 1, 2024, employees of the Company became eligible to participate in the Plan upon reaching age 21 and completing three months of service, as defined in the plan document.

Participant contributions – Eligible participants may make contributions starting at 1% of their eligible pre-tax or after-tax compensation (as Roth contributions) subject to the annual dollar maximum set by the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”).

The contribution limit for highly compensated employees, defined as those whose annual earnings equal at least \$155,000 in 2024, is subject to contribution limits that may vary from year to year. The Plan Sponsor has the right to further limit these contributions to conform to applicable regulations. Unless elected otherwise, eligible participants are automatically enrolled to contribute 3% of their eligible compensation as pre-tax contributions subject to the IRS limitation. Participants may make a contribution from any cash bonus but the deferral election should be made prior to the payment of such cash bonus. Participants are allowed to make rollover contributions representing distributions from other qualified plans.

Employers contributions – The Company makes basic matching contributions at a rate of 100% of the participant’s annual deferrals (not to exceed the IRS deferral limits), up to 3% of the participant’s eligible compensation. The basic matching contributions are paid at the end of each quarter and are subject to a true-up provision at the end of the plan year. Only those participants employed as of the last day of the quarter are eligible to receive the basic matching contributions. The basic matching contributions may be made in cash or in shares of the Plan Sponsor’s Class A Common Stock, as determined by the Plan Sponsor’s Board of Directors. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the basic matching contributions were made in shares of the Plan Sponsor’s Class A Common Stock and totaled approximately \$7,696,000, net of forfeitures.

The Company may also elect to contribute discretionary contributions on behalf of certain non-highly compensated employees, as defined in the plan document. The Company contributed approximately \$1,407,000 in discretionary contributions to a certain eligible class on non-highly compensated employees during the year ended December 31, 2024.

Participant accounts – Each participant’s account is credited with the participant’s contribution, the Company’s contributions, if any, and any income, gains, or losses attributable to the investment mix of the account. Participants may direct the investment of their account balances into various investment options offered by the Plan. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant’s vested account.

Vesting - Participants are immediately vested in their salary deferrals and voluntary contributions, plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in Company’s contributions and earnings thereon is based on years of continuous service and increases in increments of 20% per year until fully vested after five years of credited service.

Notes receivable from participants – Participants may borrow up to 50% of their vested account balance, with a minimum borrowing of \$500 and a maximum of \$50,000. Maturities on notes receivable are for a maximum of five years, unless the participant’s loan is used to acquire a primary residence, in which case the repayment period may be up to 10 years. Participants are allowed to have only one note receivable outstanding at a time. Notes receivable are secured by the participant’s vested balances and bear interest at prime plus 2% at the time of the borrowing. Loan repayments generally must be repaid from payroll deductions; however, upon termination participants may continue making loan repayments directly to the Plan, over the loan term. Notes receivable as of December 31, 2024 carry interest rates ranging from 4.25% to 10.50%, with various maturities through September 2034.

Payment of benefits – Distributions and withdrawals are payable upon retirement, termination, disability, or death. The Plan permits in-service and hardship withdrawals under certain conditions, as described in the plan document. Upon termination, if a participant's balance is equal to or less than \$1,000, the balance is distributed immediately in a lump-sum cash payment. A participant whose vested Plan accounts exceed \$1,000 may leave the funds in the Plan or elect either a distribution paid in the form of a lump-sum cash payment, a distribution in Plan Sponsor stock, a direct rollover into another qualified plan, or other distribution methods as described in the plan document.

Forfeitures – Forfeitures represent the non-vested portion of a participant's account that is lost upon termination of employment. Forfeitures are retained in the Plan and are used to pay administrative expenses and reduce the Company contributions. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited non-vested account balances totaled approximately \$461,000 and \$1,107,000, respectively. During 2024, forfeitures of approximately \$146,000 and \$1,037,000 were used to pay administrative expenses and reduce the Company contributions, respectively. Subsequent to year end, approximately \$153,000 of forfeitures were used to reduce employer matching contributions for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Excess contributions payable - Excess contributions payable represents amounts that were refunded to participants after year end to comply with regulatory contribution limitations or compliance testing.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting – The financial statements are prepared on the accrual method of accounting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").

Use of estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires Plan management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and changes therein, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment valuation – Investments are stated at fair value, except for the Voya Fixed Account and Voya Fixed Account A (collectively, the "Voya Fixed Accounts"), which are stated at contract value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Investment contracts – The Plan holds investment contracts with the Voya Fixed Accounts which are maintained under a directed trust with Voya Institutional Trust Company ("Voya"). The Voya Fixed Accounts are fully benefit-responsive investment contracts and do not have any liquidity or redemption restrictions. Investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan.

Contributions to these contracts are maintained in a general account that is credited with earnings on the underlying investment and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The contracts are included in the financial statements at contract value as reported to the Plan by Voya. Contract value represents contributions made under the contracts, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all, or a portion, of their investment at contract value. There are no reserves against contract value for credit risk.

There are no unfunded commitments. Under the terms of the contracts, the Plan Sponsor must provide a minimum of 90-days notice to Voya prior to redemption of the contracts.

The Plan's ability to receive amounts due is dependent on the issuer's ability to meet its financial obligations. The issuer's ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

Certain events might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include (1) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another plan), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the Plan Sponsor or other Plan Sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spinoffs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA, or (5) premature termination of the contract. Events that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and that would limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the participants are not probable of occurring.

In addition, certain events allow the issuer to terminate the contract with the Plan and settle at an amount different from the contract value. Such events include (1) an uncured violation of the Plan's investment guidelines, (2) a breach of material obligation under the contract, (3) a material misrepresentation, or (4) a material amendment to the agreement without the consent of the issuer.

Income recognition – Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. The net appreciation or depreciation in the fair value of investments consists of both the realized gains or losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation of those investments.

Notes receivable – Notes receivable from participants are measured at the unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent notes receivable are recorded as distributions based on the terms of the plan document. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2024 or 2023.

Payment of benefits – Participant withdrawals and termination payments are recorded when paid.

Administrative expenses – Certain expenses incurred for administering the Plan are paid by the Company, except for loan fees, distribution fees, investment consulting fees and certain Plan asset-related fees which are paid by the Plan. The Company also provides administrative services to the Plan at no charge. Administrative expenses and investment advisory fees paid by the Plan for 2024 totaled approximately \$657,000. Investment advisory fees of approximately \$383,000 are included within investment income on the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

NOTE 3 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Plan classifies its investments based upon an established fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

- Level 1:** Valuations based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Plan has the ability to access.
- Level 2:** Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active, quotes prices for similar investments in active markets or model-based valuations for which all significant assumptions are observable and can be corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3:** Valuations based on unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the overall fair value measurement. Values are determined using proprietary pricing models, discounted cash flow models that include the investment entities' own judgments and estimations or some other pricing method using unobservable inputs.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Following are descriptions of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

The fair value of the common stock of the Plan Sponsor is determined by quoted market prices. Accordingly, investments in common stock are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Shares of registered investment company funds are valued at the net asset value ("NAV") of shares held by the Plan at year-end. The NAV is a quoted price in an active market and is classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Interest-bearing cash is valued at cost plus accrued interest.

The following tables disclose, by level, the fair value hierarchy of the Plan's investments at fair value.

	December 31, 2024			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered investment companies	\$ 335,127,622	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 335,127,622
Common stock	45,235,246	—	—	45,235,246
Interest-bearing cash	1,282,782	—	—	1,282,782
Total investments at fair value	\$ 381,645,650	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 381,645,650

	December 31, 2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered investment companies	\$ 298,234,761	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 298,234,761
Common stock	49,753,303	—	—	49,753,303
Interest-bearing cash	2,176,032	—	—	2,176,032
Total investments at fair value	<u>\$ 350,164,096</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 350,164,096</u>

NOTE 4 – TAX STATUS

The Plan has adopted the Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP Pre-Approved Defined Contribution Plan Profit Sharing/401(k)/Money Purchase Pension Plan (the “Prototype Plan”). The Prototype Plan has received an opinion letter from the IRS dated June 30, 2020, stating that the written form of the underlying prototype is qualified under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”), and that any employer adopting this form of the Plan will be considered to have qualified under Section 401 of the IRC. Therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. Although the Plan has been amended since the date of the opinion letter, the Plan administrator believes the Plan is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan is qualified and the related trust is tax exempt.

GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that, more likely than not, would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions. However, there are currently no audits for any tax period in progress.

NOTE 5 – RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The participants invest in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as market, interest rate and credit risk. It is reasonably possible that given the level of risk associated with investment securities, changes in the near term could materially affect a participant’s account balance and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

NOTE 6 – PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Plan investments include shares of registered investment company funds and investment contracts managed by Voya Financial Inc., an affiliate of Voya. Any purchases and sales of these funds are performed in the open market at fair value. As Voya is the custodian and trustee of the Plan, transactions with this entity qualify as exempt party-in-interest transactions.

In addition, participants may elect to invest their salary deferral contributions and employer matching contributions in the Plan Sponsor’s common stock, as allowed by the Plan. The aggregate investment in the Plan Sponsor’s common stock was as follows:

	December 31, 2024		December 31, 2023	
	Number of Shares	Fair Value	Number of Shares	Fair Value
Central Garden & Pet Company				
Class A Common Stock	1,349,249	\$ 44,592,679	1,112,692	\$ 49,002,956
Central Garden & Pet Company				
Common Stock	16,561	642,567	14,974	750,347
		<u>\$ 45,235,246</u>		<u>\$ 49,753,303</u>

Plan investments include shares of registered investment company funds managed by Voya Financial Inc., an affiliate of Voya. Any purchases and sales of these funds are performed in the open market at fair value. As Voya is the custodian and trustee of the Plan, transactions with this entity qualify as exempt party-in-interest transactions.

NOTE 7 – PLAN TERMINATIONS

Although it has not expressed any intention to do so, the Company has the right to terminate the Plan and discontinue its contributions at any time. If the Plan is terminated, amounts allocated to a participant’s account become fully vested.

NOTE 8 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Effective January 1, 2025, the Plan was amended as follows:

- Unless elected otherwise by the participant following his or her termination of employment, if a participant’s vested account balance is greater than \$1,000 and up to \$7,000, the balance may be automatically rolled over into an individual retirement account, preselected by the Plan administrator.
- Employees who became employees of the Plan Sponsor as a result of a merger or acquisition and who participate in a SIMPLE IRA, are excluded from participating in the Plan.
- Employees who were acquired as a result of the Plan Sponsor’s acquisition of Leading Edge Associates Inc. and Leading Edge Aerial Technologies Inc. (“Acquired Companies”), are credited for prior service with the Acquired Companies, for vesting and eligibility purposes under the Plan.

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through June 13, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 9 – RECONCILIATION TO FORM 5500

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, while the Form 5500 is prepared on the cash basis of accounting. The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500 as of December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	2024	2023
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 436,124,644	\$ 408,592,679
Less contributions receivable, end of year		
Employers	(1,634,502)	(745,547)
Participants	—	(148,832)
Add contributions payable, end of year		
Participants	135,272	311,261
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	<u>\$ 434,625,414</u>	<u>\$ 408,009,561</u>

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The following is a reconciliation of the net increase in net assets available for benefits prior to transfer of assets to the Plan per the financial statements to the net income per the Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2024:

Net increase in net assets available for benefits prior to transfer of assets to the Plan per the financial statements	23,319,637
Add contributions receivable, beginning of year	
Employers	745,547
Participants	148,832
Less contributions receivable, end of year	
Employers	<u>(1,634,502)</u>
Less contributions payable, beginning of year	
Participants	(311,261)
Add contributions payable, end of year	
Participants	<u>135,272</u>
Net income per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 22,403,525</u>

The Form 5500 has certain items that differ from amounts shown on the accompanying financial statements. These differences relate to classification only and have no effect upon net assets available for benefits for either period.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES

**CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
 SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(a)—SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS
 DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Employer identification number: 68-0275553

Plan number: 001

Schedule H, Line 4(a)

Participant Contributions Transferred Late to Plan	Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
Check here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are Included	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ —	\$ 531	\$ —	\$ —

**CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(i)—SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Employer identification number: 68-0275553

Plan number: 001

Schedule H, Line 4(i)

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(e) Current value
Investments at fair value:			
Registered Investment Companies			
	American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund R5	Registered investment company	\$ 18,376,406
	Cohen & Steers Real Estate Securities Fund, Inc. Class Institutional	Registered investment company	1,599,506
	JPMorgan Small-Cap Value Fund R6	Registered investment company	8,428,024
	Lord Abbett Income Fund F	Registered investment company	8,491,901
	Massachusetts Investors Growth Stock Fund R4	Registered investment company	36,821,729
	Principal Mid-Cap S&P 400 Institutional Fund R5	Registered investment company	10,132,236
	Putnam Large Cap Value Fund Class Y	Registered investment company	19,995,077
	T.Rowe Price Dividend Growth Fund	Registered investment company	10,621,752
	T.Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	8,537,076
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Balanced Fund	Registered investment company	3,240,620
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2010 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	1,152,246
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2015 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	238,140
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2020 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	1,988,766
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2025 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,674,701
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2030 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	5,472,812
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2035 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	6,870,790
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2040 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,883,638
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2045 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	4,242,921
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2050 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,986,834
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2055 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,305,845
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2060 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	547,905
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2065 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	248,618
	Vanguard Institutional Index Fund	Registered investment company	63,964,745
	Vanguard Short-Term Treasury Index Fund Admiral	Registered investment company	1,934,816
	Vanguard Small-Cap Index Fund Admiral	Registered investment company	14,505,311
	Fidelity Advisor International Small-Cap Fund	Registered investment company	2,217,638
*	Voya GNMA Income Fund A Registered	Registered investment company	9,352,287
*	Voya Government Money Market Fund	Registered investment company	478,066
*	Voya T.Rowe Price Capital Appreciation Portfolio - Institutional Class	Registered investment company	84,817,216
			<u>335,127,622</u>
*	Central Garden & Pet Company Stock Fund A:		
	Central Garden & Pet Class A Common Stock	Class A Common Stock	44,592,679
	Interest-bearing cash	Interest-bearing cash	1,264,451
	Total Central Garden & Pet Stock Fund A		<u>45,857,130</u>
*	Central Garden & Pet Company Stock Fund:		
	Central Garden & Pet Company Stock	Common Stock	642,567
	Interest-bearing cash	Interest-bearing cash	18,331
	Total Central Garden & Pet Stock Fund		<u>660,898</u>
Investments at contract value:			
*	Voya Fixed Account	Guaranteed investment contract	21,144,904
*	Voya Fixed Account A	Guaranteed investment contract	26,806,018
			<u>47,950,922</u>
*	Participant loans	Interest rates between 4.25% and 10.50%, maturing through September 2034	5,028,842
			<u>\$ 434,625,414</u>

* Indicates party-in-interest as defined by ERISA
Column (d) information was omitted as all investments are participant directed



Attachment to 2024 Form 5500

Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets

(Held at End of Year)

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN

EIN#68-0275553

Plan# 776231

As of December 31, 2024

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of investments including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity date	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
	American Funds EuroPacific R5	Registered Investment Company		\$18,376,405.58
	CG & P Stock Fund A	Corp Stock:Common		\$45,857,129.63
	CG & P Stock Fund Common	Corp Stock:Common		\$660,898.33
	Cohen&Steers Real Est S Fd I	Registered Investment Company		\$1,599,505.49
	Fidelity Adv Intl Sm Cap Fnd I	Registered Investment Company		\$2,217,638.28
	JPMorgan SmCp Value Fund R6	Registered Investment Company		\$8,428,023.90
	Lord Abbett Income Fund I	Registered Investment Company		\$8,491,900.54
	Mass Investors Grw Stk Fnd R4	Registered Investment Company		\$36,821,728.73
	Principal MCp S&P 400 In F R5	Registered Investment Company		\$10,132,235.71
	Putnam Lrg Cp Val Fd - CI Y	Registered Investment Company		\$19,995,076.78
	TRwPr Dividend Growth Fund	Registered Investment Company		\$10,621,751.72
	TRwPr Mid-Cap Growth Fund Adv	Registered Investment Company		\$8,537,075.80
	TRwPr Retirement 2065 Fund Inv	Registered Investment Company		\$248,617.66
	TRwPr Retirement Bal Fund	Registered Investment Company		\$3,240,619.54
	TRwPr Retrmt 2010 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$1,152,246.43
	TRwPr Retrmt 2015 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$238,140.46
	TRwPr Retrmt 2020 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$1,988,766.13
	TRwPr Retrmt 2025 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$2,674,700.85
	TRwPr Retrmt 2030 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$5,472,812.23
	TRwPr Retrmt 2035 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$6,870,789.96
	TRwPr Retrmt 2040 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$2,883,638.25
	TRwPr Retrmt 2045 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$4,242,921.47



Attachment to 2024 Form 5500

Schedule H, line 4i - Schedule of Assets

(Held at End of Year)

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN

EIN#68-0275553

Plan# 776231

	TRwPr Retrmt 2050 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$2,986,834.32
	TRwPr Retrmt 2055 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$2,305,844.82
	TRwPr Retrmt 2060 Fd - Inv Cl	Registered Investment Company		\$547,904.60
*	VY TRwPr Cap Apprec Port Ins	Registered Investment Company		\$84,817,215.38
	Vangrd Instit Index Fnd Ins	Registered Investment Company		\$63,964,745.30
	Vangrd S-Tm Tr In Fd Adm	Registered Investment Company		\$1,934,815.91
	Vangrd Small-Cap Index Fnd Adm	Registered Investment Company		\$14,505,311.17
*	Voya Fixed Account	Insurance Company General Account		\$21,144,903.86
*	Voya Fixed Account A	Insurance Company General Account		\$26,806,018.56
*	Voya GNMA Income Fund A	Registered Investment Company		\$9,352,287.62
*	Voya Gov Money Market Fund A	Registered Investment Company		\$478,066.45
	LOAN FUND	Participant Loans - Rates 9.75% to 10.50%		\$5,028,842.00
	TOTAL			\$434,625,413.46

* denotes party-in-interest

Column (d) is not required as the Plan investments are totally participant directed.

Report of Independent Auditors and Financial Statements with Supplemental Schedules
Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan
December 31, 2024 and 2023

REQUIRED INFORMATION

1. Financial Statements and Supplemental Information

The following documents are filed as part of this report on the pages indicated:

	<u>Page No.</u>
Report of Independent Auditors	3
Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023	3
Statement of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits for the Year Ended December 31, 2024	4
Notes to Financial Statements	5
Supplemental Schedules	
Schedule H, Line 4(a)—Schedule of Delinquent Participant Contributions	12
Schedule H, Line 4(i)—Schedule of Assets (Held At End of Year)	13

Report of Independent Auditors

The CG&P Investment Growth Plan Committee, Participants, and Plan Administrator of
Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan as of December 31, 2024 and 2023, and the changes in its net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2024, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan's ability to continue as a going concern within one year after the date that the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the plan, and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements as a whole. The Schedule H, Line 4(a) – Schedule of delinquent participant contributions for the year ended December 31, 2024, and Schedule H, Line 4(i) - Schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2024, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audits of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion, the information in the accompanying schedules is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statements as a whole, and the form and content are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Moss Adams LLP".

Seattle, Washington
June 13, 2025

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
December 31, 2024 and 2023

	2024	2023
ASSETS		
Investments at fair value	\$ 381,645,650	\$ 350,164,096
Investments at contract value	47,950,922	53,657,336
Total investments	429,596,572	403,821,432
Receivables		
Notes receivable from participants	5,028,842	4,188,129
Employers contributions receivable	1,634,502	745,547
Participants contributions receivable	—	148,832
Total receivables	6,663,344	5,082,508
Total assets	436,259,916	408,903,940
LIABILITIES		
Excess contributions payable	135,272	311,261
Total liabilities	135,272	311,261
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	\$ 436,124,644	\$ 408,592,679

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
Year Ended December 31, 2024

ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:	
Investment income	
Dividends and interest	\$ 17,100,237
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	23,475,650
Total investment income	<u>40,575,887</u>
Interest income on notes receivable from participants	<u>412,834</u>
Contributions	
Participants	17,097,089
Rollover	1,908,750
Employers	9,102,746
Total contributions	<u>28,108,585</u>
Total additions	<u>69,097,306</u>
DEDUCTIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:	
Benefits paid to participants	45,503,344
Administrative and investment expenses	<u>274,325</u>
Total deductions	<u>45,777,669</u>
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS PRIOR TO TRANSFER OF ASSETS TO PLAN	<u>23,319,637</u>
Transfer of assets to Plan	4,212,328
NET INCREASE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	<u>27,531,965</u>
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	
Beginning of year	<u>408,592,679</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 436,124,644</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements

**CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2024 AND 2023**

NOTE 1 – DESCRIPTION OF PLAN

The following description of the Central Garden & Pet Company Investment Growth Plan (the “Plan”) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the summary plan description or plan document, as amended, for a more complete description of plan provisions.

General – The Plan is a defined contribution plan that was established to provide benefits to eligible employees of Central Garden & Pet Company (the “Plan Sponsor”) and certain participating employers (collectively the “Company” or “Employers”), as provided in the plan document. The Plan is subject to provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). The Plan Sponsor has appointed the Plan Administrative Committee to carry out the duties of ERISA and serve as the Plan administrator.

Plan Merger – Effective January 1, 2024, the Plan was amended to add C & S Products Co. Inc. (“C & S”) as a participating employer. The C & S Products Co., Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan (“Merged Plan”) was merged into the Plan and approximately \$4,212,000 were transferred into the Plan during the year ended December 31, 2024. Employees of the Merged Plan who are employed by C & S on January 1, 2024, were credited with prior service for vesting and eligibility purposes under the Plan.

Eligibility – Effective July 1, 2024, employees of the Company are eligible to participate in the Plan upon reaching age 18. Prior to July 1, 2024, employees of the Company became eligible to participate in the Plan upon reaching age 21 and completing three months of service, as defined in the plan document.

Participant contributions – Eligible participants may make contributions starting at 1% of their eligible pre-tax or after-tax compensation (as Roth contributions) subject to the annual dollar maximum set by the Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”).

The contribution limit for highly compensated employees, defined as those whose annual earnings equal at least \$155,000 in 2024, is subject to contribution limits that may vary from year to year. The Plan Sponsor has the right to further limit these contributions to conform to applicable regulations. Unless elected otherwise, eligible participants are automatically enrolled to contribute 3% of their eligible compensation as pre-tax contributions subject to the IRS limitation. Participants may make a contribution from any cash bonus but the deferral election should be made prior to the payment of such cash bonus. Participants are allowed to make rollover contributions representing distributions from other qualified plans.

Employers contributions – The Company makes basic matching contributions at a rate of 100% of the participant’s annual deferrals (not to exceed the IRS deferral limits), up to 3% of the participant’s eligible compensation. The basic matching contributions are paid at the end of each quarter and are subject to a true-up provision at the end of the plan year. Only those participants employed as of the last day of the quarter are eligible to receive the basic matching contributions. The basic matching contributions may be made in cash or in shares of the Plan Sponsor’s Class A Common Stock, as determined by the Plan Sponsor’s Board of Directors. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the basic matching contributions were made in shares of the Plan Sponsor’s Class A Common Stock and totaled approximately \$7,696,000, net of forfeitures.

The Company may also elect to contribute discretionary contributions on behalf of certain non-highly compensated employees, as defined in the plan document. The Company contributed approximately \$1,407,000 in discretionary contributions to a certain eligible class on non-highly compensated employees during the year ended December 31, 2024.

Participant accounts – Each participant’s account is credited with the participant’s contribution, the Company’s contributions, if any, and any income, gains, or losses attributable to the investment mix of the account. Participants may direct the investment of their account balances into various investment options offered by the Plan. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant’s vested account.

Vesting - Participants are immediately vested in their salary deferrals and voluntary contributions, plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in Company’s contributions and earnings thereon is based on years of continuous service and increases in increments of 20% per year until fully vested after five years of credited service.

Notes receivable from participants – Participants may borrow up to 50% of their vested account balance, with a minimum borrowing of \$500 and a maximum of \$50,000. Maturities on notes receivable are for a maximum of five years, unless the participant’s loan is used to acquire a primary residence, in which case the repayment period may be up to 10 years. Participants are allowed to have only one note receivable outstanding at a time. Notes receivable are secured by the participant’s vested balances and bear interest at prime plus 2% at the time of the borrowing. Loan repayments generally must be repaid from payroll deductions; however, upon termination participants may continue making loan repayments directly to the Plan, over the loan term. Notes receivable as of December 31, 2024 carry interest rates ranging from 4.25% to 10.50%, with various maturities through September 2034.

Payment of benefits – Distributions and withdrawals are payable upon retirement, termination, disability, or death. The Plan permits in-service and hardship withdrawals under certain conditions, as described in the plan document. Upon termination, if a participant's balance is equal to or less than \$1,000, the balance is distributed immediately in a lump-sum cash payment. A participant whose vested Plan accounts exceed \$1,000 may leave the funds in the Plan or elect either a distribution paid in the form of a lump-sum cash payment, a distribution in Plan Sponsor stock, a direct rollover into another qualified plan, or other distribution methods as described in the plan document.

Forfeitures – Forfeitures represent the non-vested portion of a participant's account that is lost upon termination of employment. Forfeitures are retained in the Plan and are used to pay administrative expenses and reduce the Company contributions. As of December 31, 2024 and 2023, forfeited non-vested account balances totaled approximately \$461,000 and \$1,107,000, respectively. During 2024, forfeitures of approximately \$146,000 and \$1,037,000 were used to pay administrative expenses and reduce the Company contributions, respectively. Subsequent to year end, approximately \$153,000 of forfeitures were used to reduce employer matching contributions for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Excess contributions payable - Excess contributions payable represents amounts that were refunded to participants after year end to comply with regulatory contribution limitations or compliance testing.

NOTE 2 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of accounting – The financial statements are prepared on the accrual method of accounting in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP").

Use of estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires Plan management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and changes therein, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Investment valuation – Investments are stated at fair value, except for the Voya Fixed Account and Voya Fixed Account A (collectively, the "Voya Fixed Accounts"), which are stated at contract value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability (i.e., the "exit price") in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. See Note 3 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Investment contracts – The Plan holds investment contracts with the Voya Fixed Accounts which are maintained under a directed trust with Voya Institutional Trust Company ("Voya"). The Voya Fixed Accounts are fully benefit-responsive investment contracts and do not have any liquidity or redemption restrictions. Investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan are required to be reported at contract value. Contract value is the relevant measurement attribute for that portion of the net assets available for benefits of a defined contribution plan attributable to fully benefit-responsive investment contracts because contract value is the amount participants would receive if they were to initiate permitted transactions under the terms of the Plan.

Contributions to these contracts are maintained in a general account that is credited with earnings on the underlying investment and charged for participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. The contracts are included in the financial statements at contract value as reported to the Plan by Voya. Contract value represents contributions made under the contracts, plus earnings, less participant withdrawals and administrative expenses. Participants may ordinarily direct the withdrawal or transfer of all, or a portion, of their investment at contract value. There are no reserves against contract value for credit risk.

There are no unfunded commitments. Under the terms of the contracts, the Plan Sponsor must provide a minimum of 90-days notice to Voya prior to redemption of the contracts.

The Plan's ability to receive amounts due is dependent on the issuer's ability to meet its financial obligations. The issuer's ability to meet its contractual obligations may be affected by future economic and regulatory developments.

Certain events might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the issuer. Such events include (1) amendments to the Plan documents (including complete or partial Plan termination or merger with another plan), (2) changes to the Plan's prohibition on competing investment options or deletion of equity wash provisions, (3) bankruptcy of the Plan Sponsor or other Plan Sponsor events (for example, divestitures or spinoffs of a subsidiary) that cause a significant withdrawal from the Plan, (4) the failure of the trust to qualify for exemption from federal income taxes or any required prohibited transaction exemption under ERISA, or (5) premature termination of the contract. Events that might limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the contract issuers and that would limit the ability of the Plan to transact at contract value with the participants are not probable of occurring.

In addition, certain events allow the issuer to terminate the contract with the Plan and settle at an amount different from the contract value. Such events include (1) an uncured violation of the Plan's investment guidelines, (2) a breach of material obligation under the contract, (3) a material misrepresentation, or (4) a material amendment to the agreement without the consent of the issuer.

Income recognition – Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. The net appreciation or depreciation in the fair value of investments consists of both the realized gains or losses and unrealized appreciation or depreciation of those investments.

Notes receivable – Notes receivable from participants are measured at the unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent notes receivable are recorded as distributions based on the terms of the plan document. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2024 or 2023.

Payment of benefits – Participant withdrawals and termination payments are recorded when paid.

Administrative expenses – Certain expenses incurred for administering the Plan are paid by the Company, except for loan fees, distribution fees, investment consulting fees and certain Plan asset-related fees which are paid by the Plan. The Company also provides administrative services to the Plan at no charge. Administrative expenses and investment advisory fees paid by the Plan for 2024 totaled approximately \$657,000. Investment advisory fees of approximately \$383,000 are included within investment income on the statement of changes in net assets available for benefits.

NOTE 3 – FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The Plan classifies its investments based upon an established fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurement) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

- Level 1:** Valuations based on quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Plan has the ability to access.
- Level 2:** Valuations based on quoted prices in markets that are not active, quotes prices for similar investments in active markets or model-based valuations for which all significant assumptions are observable and can be corroborated by observable market data.
- Level 3:** Valuations based on unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the overall fair value measurement. Values are determined using proprietary pricing models, discounted cash flow models that include the investment entities' own judgments and estimations or some other pricing method using unobservable inputs.

A financial instrument's level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

Following are descriptions of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2024 and 2023.

The fair value of the common stock of the Plan Sponsor is determined by quoted market prices. Accordingly, investments in common stock are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Shares of registered investment company funds are valued at the net asset value ("NAV") of shares held by the Plan at year-end. The NAV is a quoted price in an active market and is classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy.

Interest-bearing cash is valued at cost plus accrued interest.

The following tables disclose, by level, the fair value hierarchy of the Plan's investments at fair value.

	December 31, 2024			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered investment companies	\$ 335,127,622	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 335,127,622
Common stock	45,235,246	—	—	45,235,246
Interest-bearing cash	1,282,782	—	—	1,282,782
Total investments at fair value	\$ 381,645,650	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 381,645,650

	December 31, 2023			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Registered investment companies	\$ 298,234,761	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 298,234,761
Common stock	49,753,303	—	—	49,753,303
Interest-bearing cash	2,176,032	—	—	2,176,032
Total investments at fair value	<u>\$ 350,164,096</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 350,164,096</u>

NOTE 4 – TAX STATUS

The Plan has adopted the Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP Pre-Approved Defined Contribution Plan Profit Sharing/401(k)/Money Purchase Pension Plan (the “Prototype Plan”). The Prototype Plan has received an opinion letter from the IRS dated June 30, 2020, stating that the written form of the underlying prototype is qualified under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code (“IRC”), and that any employer adopting this form of the Plan will be considered to have qualified under Section 401 of the IRC. Therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Once qualified, the Plan is required to operate in conformity with the IRC to maintain its qualification. Although the Plan has been amended since the date of the opinion letter, the Plan administrator believes the Plan is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC and, therefore, believes that the Plan is qualified and the related trust is tax exempt.

GAAP requires Plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain position that, more likely than not, would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2024, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions. However, there are currently no audits for any tax period in progress.

NOTE 5 – RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The participants invest in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks, such as market, interest rate and credit risk. It is reasonably possible that given the level of risk associated with investment securities, changes in the near term could materially affect a participant’s account balance and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

NOTE 6 – PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Plan investments include shares of registered investment company funds and investment contracts managed by Voya Financial Inc., an affiliate of Voya. Any purchases and sales of these funds are performed in the open market at fair value. As Voya is the custodian and trustee of the Plan, transactions with this entity qualify as exempt party-in-interest transactions.

In addition, participants may elect to invest their salary deferral contributions and employer matching contributions in the Plan Sponsor’s common stock, as allowed by the Plan. The aggregate investment in the Plan Sponsor’s common stock was as follows:

	December 31, 2024		December 31, 2023	
	Number of Shares	Fair Value	Number of Shares	Fair Value
Central Garden & Pet Company				
Class A Common Stock	1,349,249	\$ 44,592,679	1,112,692	\$ 49,002,956
Central Garden & Pet Company				
Common Stock	16,561	642,567	14,974	750,347
		<u>\$ 45,235,246</u>		<u>\$ 49,753,303</u>

Plan investments include shares of registered investment company funds managed by Voya Financial Inc., an affiliate of Voya. Any purchases and sales of these funds are performed in the open market at fair value. As Voya is the custodian and trustee of the Plan, transactions with this entity qualify as exempt party-in-interest transactions.

NOTE 7 – PLAN TERMINATIONS

Although it has not expressed any intention to do so, the Company has the right to terminate the Plan and discontinue its contributions at any time. If the Plan is terminated, amounts allocated to a participant’s account become fully vested.

NOTE 8 – SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Effective January 1, 2025, the Plan was amended as follows:

- Unless elected otherwise by the participant following his or her termination of employment, if a participant’s vested account balance is greater than \$1,000 and up to \$7,000, the balance may be automatically rolled over into an individual retirement account, preselected by the Plan administrator.
- Employees who became employees of the Plan Sponsor as a result of a merger or acquisition and who participate in a SIMPLE IRA, are excluded from participating in the Plan.
- Employees who were acquired as a result of the Plan Sponsor’s acquisition of Leading Edge Associates Inc. and Leading Edge Aerial Technologies Inc. (“Acquired Companies”), are credited for prior service with the Acquired Companies, for vesting and eligibility purposes under the Plan.

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through June 13, 2025, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 9 – RECONCILIATION TO FORM 5500

The financial statements are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, while the Form 5500 is prepared on the cash basis of accounting. The following is a reconciliation of net assets available for benefits per the financial statements to the Form 5500 as of December 31, 2024 and 2023:

	2024	2023
Net assets available for benefits per the financial statements	\$ 436,124,644	\$ 408,592,679
Less contributions receivable, end of year		
Employers	(1,634,502)	(745,547)
Participants	—	(148,832)
Add contributions payable, end of year		
Participants	135,272	311,261
Net assets available for benefits per Form 5500	<u>\$ 434,625,414</u>	<u>\$ 408,009,561</u>

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The following is a reconciliation of the net increase in net assets available for benefits prior to transfer of assets to the Plan per the financial statements to the net income per the Form 5500 for the year ended December 31, 2024:

Net increase in net assets available for benefits prior to transfer of assets to the Plan per the financial statements	23,319,637
Add contributions receivable, beginning of year	
Employers	745,547
Participants	148,832
Less contributions receivable, end of year	
Employers	<u>(1,634,502)</u>
Less contributions payable, beginning of year	
Participants	(311,261)
Add contributions payable, end of year	
Participants	<u>135,272</u>
Net income per the Form 5500	<u>\$ 22,403,525</u>

The Form 5500 has certain items that differ from amounts shown on the accompanying financial statements. These differences relate to classification only and have no effect upon net assets available for benefits for either period.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES

CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(a)—SCHEDULE OF DELINQUENT PARTICIPANT CONTRIBUTIONS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

Employer identification number: 68-0275553

Plan number: 001

Schedule H, Line 4(a)

Participant Contributions Transferred Late to Plan	Total that Constitute Nonexempt Prohibited Transactions			Total Fully Corrected Under VFCP and PTE 2002-51
Check here if Late Participant Loan Repayments are Included	Contributions Not Corrected	Contributions Corrected Outside VFCP	Contributions Pending Correction in VFCP	
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$ —	\$ 531	\$ —	\$ —

**CENTRAL GARDEN & PET COMPANY INVESTMENT GROWTH PLAN
SCHEDULE H, LINE 4(i)—SCHEDULE OF ASSETS (HELD AT END OF YEAR)
DECEMBER 31, 2024**

Employer identification number: 68-0275553

Plan number: 001

Schedule H, Line 4(i)

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor or similar party	(c) Description of investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par or maturity value	(e) Current value
Investments at fair value:			
Registered Investment Companies			
	American Funds EuroPacific Growth Fund R5	Registered investment company	\$ 18,376,406
	Cohen & Steers Real Estate Securities Fund, Inc. Class Institutional	Registered investment company	1,599,506
	JPMorgan Small-Cap Value Fund R6	Registered investment company	8,428,024
	Lord Abbett Income Fund F	Registered investment company	8,491,901
	Massachusetts Investors Growth Stock Fund R4	Registered investment company	36,821,729
	Principal Mid-Cap S&P 400 Institutional Fund R5	Registered investment company	10,132,236
	Putnam Large Cap Value Fund Class Y	Registered investment company	19,995,077
	T.Rowe Price Dividend Growth Fund	Registered investment company	10,621,752
	T.Rowe Price Mid-Cap Growth Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	8,537,076
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Balanced Fund	Registered investment company	3,240,620
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2010 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	1,152,246
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2015 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	238,140
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2020 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	1,988,766
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2025 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,674,701
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2030 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	5,472,812
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2035 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	6,870,790
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2040 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,883,638
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2045 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	4,242,921
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2050 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,986,834
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2055 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	2,305,845
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2060 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	547,905
	T.Rowe Price Retirement Income 2065 Fund Advisor	Registered investment company	248,618
	Vanguard Institutional Index Fund	Registered investment company	63,964,745
	Vanguard Short-Term Treasury Index Fund Admiral	Registered investment company	1,934,816
	Vanguard Small-Cap Index Fund Admiral	Registered investment company	14,505,311
	Fidelity Advisor International Small-Cap Fund	Registered investment company	2,217,638
*	Voya GNMA Income Fund A Registered	Registered investment company	9,352,287
*	Voya Government Money Market Fund	Registered investment company	478,066
*	Voya T.Rowe Price Capital Appreciation Portfolio - Institutional Class	Registered investment company	84,817,216
			<u>335,127,622</u>
*	Central Garden & Pet Company Stock Fund A:		
	Central Garden & Pet Class A Common Stock	Class A Common Stock	44,592,679
	Interest-bearing cash	Interest-bearing cash	1,264,451
	Total Central Garden & Pet Stock Fund A		<u>45,857,130</u>
*	Central Garden & Pet Company Stock Fund:		
	Central Garden & Pet Company Stock	Common Stock	642,567
	Interest-bearing cash	Interest-bearing cash	18,331
	Total Central Garden & Pet Stock Fund		<u>660,898</u>
Investments at contract value:			
*	Voya Fixed Account	Guaranteed investment contract	21,144,904
*	Voya Fixed Account A	Guaranteed investment contract	26,806,018
			<u>47,950,922</u>
*	Participant loans	Interest rates between 4.25% and 10.50%, maturing through September 2034	5,028,842
			<u>\$ 434,625,414</u>

* Indicates party-in-interest as defined by ERISA
Column (d) information was omitted as all investments are participant directed