FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

|   | OMB APPROVAL             |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
|   | OMB Number:              | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | Estimated average burden |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| П | hours nor response.      | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*  MURPHY TERRY M                            |   |  |   |             |   | 2. Issuer Name <b>and</b> Ticker or Trading Symbol  QUANEX CORP [ NX ] |  |                  |   |   |                        |  | (Ch                                    | eck all applic  | ationship of Reporting<br>k all applicable)<br>Director<br>Officer (give title                                       |   | 10% Ov    | ner                                     |
|---|---|--|---|-------------|---|--|--|------------------|---|---|------------------------|--|--|---|--|---|-----------|---|
| (Last) (First) (Middle) 1900 WEST LOOP SOUTH SUITE 1500                             |   |  |   | 03          | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 03/31/2006   |  |  |                  |   |   |                        |  | Senior VP-Finance and CFO              |   |  |   |           |   |
| (Street) HOUSTON TX 77027   |   |  |   | _   4.<br>_ | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)  6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Application)  X Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person |  |  |                  |   |   |                        |  |  |   | n  |   |           |   |
| (City)  | (S  | tate)                                      | (Zip)                                       |             |   |  |  |                  |   |   |                        |  |  |   |  |   |           |   |
| Table I - Non-Deriv.  1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)  2. Transact Date (Month/Day) |   |  |   | ection      | ion 2A. Deemed Execution Date,  |  | 3. 4. Securiti   |                  | 4. Securities                                   | of, or Beneficia<br>es Acquired (A) or<br>Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5 |                        | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following                                |  | 6. Ownership<br>Form: Direct<br>(D) or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) |  | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership         |           |   |
|   |   |  |   |             |   |  |  |                  | Code  | v   | Amount                 | (A) or<br>(D)  | Price                                  | Reported<br>Transact<br>(Instr. 3 a                               | ion(s)   |   |           | (Instr. 4)                              |
| Common Stock 03/31/2  |   |  |   |             | /2006   | 006 04/03/2006   |  | J <sup>(1)</sup> |   | 8.575   | A                      | \$44.194   | 7 23,886                               | 6.8763 <sup>(2)</sup>   |  | D   |           |   |
|   |   | -  | Table II                                    |             |   |  |  |                  |   |   | oosed of,<br>convertil |  |  | Owned   |  |   |           |   |
| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3)                                 | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deer<br>Execution<br>if any<br>(Month/E |             | 4.<br>Transaction<br>Code (Instr.<br>8)   |  | 5. Number<br>of<br>Derivative<br>Securities<br>Acquired<br>(A) or<br>Disposed<br>of (D) (Instr.<br>3, 4 and 5) |                  | 6. Date Exerci<br>Expiration Da<br>(Month/Day/Y |   | ite                    | 7. Title and Amoun<br>of Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5)               | 9. Number<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction<br>(Instr. 4) | Ownersh<br>Form:<br>y Direct (D<br>or Indire<br>(I) (Instr. | Ownership | Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>t (Instr. 4) |
|   |   |  |   |             | Code  | v  | (A)  | (D)              | Date<br>Exercis                                 | able  | Expiration<br>Date     | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |  |   |           |   |
| Phantom<br>Stock<br>Units <sup>(3)</sup>  | \$0 <sup>(4)</sup>  | 03/31/2006                                 |   |             | A   |  | 29.946   |                  | (5)   |   | (5)                    | Common<br>Stock  | 29.946                                 | \$44.42   | 11,114.917   | '6 <sup>(2)</sup>   | D         |   |
| Stock<br>Options<br>(Right to<br>buy)   | \$17.6  |  |   |             |   |  |  |                  | 12/03/2   | 2004  | 12/03/2013             | Common<br>Stock  | 10,125                                 |   | 10,125   |   | D         |   |
| Stock<br>Options<br>(Right to   | \$26.3111   |  |   |             |   |  |  |                  | 12/01/2   | 2005  | 12/01/2014             | Common<br>Stock  | 21,150                                 |   | 21,150   |   | D         |   |

## **Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Acquired through Quanex Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- 2. Balances have been changed to reflect the 3 for 2 stock split effective 03/31/06.
- 3. Units that are credited to the participant's account under the Quanex Corporation Deferred Compensation Plan as a result of Dividend Reinvestment.
- 4. Conversion price is 1-for-1.

5. All units credited under the Deferred Compensation Plan are 100% vested at all times; provided, however, that if a participant receives a benefit from the Deferred Compensation Plan for any reason other than death, disability or retirement within three years after a deferral is credited to a participant's account, any matching awards made by the Company with respect to such deferral will be forfeited. Distributions under the Deferred Compensation Plan are made beginning on a specified date selected bythe participant or upon a participant's death, disability, or termination of employment.

> John J. Mannion, Power of 04/03/2006 **Attorney**

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

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

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

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

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.