FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

l	OMB APPROVAL										
	OMB Number:	3235-0287									
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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 and Ticker or Trading Symbol QUANEX CORP [NX]								all app Direc	olicable)		ssuer Owner (specify		
(Last) (First) (Middle) 1900 WEST LOOP SOUTH SUITE 1500							3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 12/30/2003								belov)``	
(Street) HOUSTON TX 77027 (City) (State) (Zip)					4. If	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Indiv Line) X	-7				
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transaction Date (Month/Day)						Execution Date		Date,	Transaction Disp Code (Instr.			ecurities Acquired (A) o losed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 a			Secur Benef	icially d Following	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
						Code	v	Amount	(A) or (D) Price		•	Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)			(1130.14)				
Common	Stock	2003	.003 12		2003	J ⁽¹⁾		3.521	A	\$47	\$47.3998		396.163	D					
Common Stock 01/02/20							1/05/2	2004	J ⁽²⁾		9.795	A	\$46	\$46.9639		405.958	D		
Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)																			
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	if any	med on Date, Day/Year)	4. Transacti Code (Ins 8)				6. Date Exerc Expiration Da (Month/Day/Y		ate	7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. and 4)		Deri Sec (Inst		9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercis	sable	Expiration Date	Title	Amour or Numbe of Shares	r					

Explanation of Responses:

- 1. Acquired through Quanex Dividend Reinvestment Plan.
- ${\it 2. Shares acquired through Employee Stock Purchase Plan.}$

Terry M Murphy

01/05/2004

** 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.

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