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MONSANTO CO /NEW/  
Form 8-K  
July 23, 2003

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): July 23, 2003

MONSANTO COMPANY

-----  
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Delaware

001-16167

43-1878297

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(State or Other Jurisdiction  
of Incorporation)

(Commission File Number)

(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)

800 North Lindbergh Boulevard  
St. Louis, Missouri 63167

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(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (314) 694-1000

ITEM 7. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, PRO FORMA FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND EXHIBITS.

(c) Exhibits

99.1 Press Release, dated July 23, 2003, issued by Monsanto Company,  
announcing the Company's new fiscal year end

99.2 Amended and Restated By-Laws of Monsanto Company, effective  
July 22, 2003

ITEM 8. CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR

On July 22, 2003, the Board of Directors of Monsanto Company authorized an amendment to the Company's Amended and Restated By-Laws changing the Company's

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fiscal year end from December 31 to August 31. The Company will file a transition report on Form 10-K for the eight-month period ending on August 31, 2003, with the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the filing requirements for such report.

A press release dated July 23, 2003, issued by Monsanto Company, announcing the fiscal year end change, and a copy of the Amended and Restated By-Laws of Monsanto Company effective July 22, 2003 are attached to this report as Exhibit 99.1 and Exhibit 99.2, respectively, and incorporated herein by reference.

### SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

Dated: July 23, 2003

MONSANTO COMPANY

By: /s/ Michael L. DeCamp

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Name: Michael L. DeCamp  
Assistant Secretary

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### EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number -----	Description -----
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