

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

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)
☒ QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 29, 2025
OR

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

For the transition period from to
Commission File Number: 001-11593

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Ohio
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

31-1414921
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

14111 Scottslawn Road, Marysville, Ohio 43041
(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)
(937) 644-0011
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name, former address and former fiscal year, if changed since last report)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Shares, \$0.01 stated value	SMG	NYSE

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically every Interactive Data File required to be submitted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, a smaller reporting company, or an emerging growth company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer," "smaller reporting company" and "emerging growth company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-accelerated filer	<input type="checkbox"/>	Smaller reporting company	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emerging growth company	<input type="checkbox"/>		

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

As of May 2, 2025, there were 57,715,024 Common Shares outstanding.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
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PART I—FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations
(In millions, except per share data)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Net sales	\$ 1,421.0	\$ 1,525.4	\$ 1,837.8	\$ 1,935.8
Cost of sales	865.8	986.8	1,182.7	1,340.8
Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other	7.3	74.9	12.4	69.1
Gross margin	547.9	463.7	642.7	525.9
Operating expenses:				
Selling, general and administrative	188.3	178.7	313.1	293.5
Impairment, restructuring and other	10.7	2.1	27.2	(5.0)
Other expense, net	4.2	10.8	8.7	12.6
Income from operations	344.7	272.1	293.7	224.8
Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates	5.9	7.0	15.8	29.5
Interest expense	36.6	44.1	70.3	86.8
Other non-operating expense, net	1.3	1.2	2.6	2.9
Income before income taxes	300.9	219.8	205.0	105.6
Income tax expense	83.4	62.3	57.0	28.6
Net income	<u>\$ 217.5</u>	<u>\$ 157.5</u>	<u>\$ 148.0</u>	<u>\$ 77.0</u>
Basic net income per common share	\$ 3.78	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.57	\$ 1.36
Diluted net income per common share	\$ 3.72	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.53	\$ 1.34
Weighted-average common shares outstanding during the period	57.6	56.8	57.5	56.7
Weighted-average common shares outstanding during the period plus dilutive potential common shares	58.4	57.4	58.6	57.3

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)
(In millions)
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Net income	\$ 217.5	\$ 157.5	\$ 148.0	\$ 77.0
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Net foreign currency translation adjustment	1.0	(2.6)	(4.9)	0.5
Net unrealized gain (loss) on derivative instruments, net of tax	(1.4)	6.1	4.3	(2.1)
Reclassification of net unrealized gain on derivative instruments to net income, net of tax	(2.2)	(0.9)	(3.8)	(2.4)
Net unrealized loss on securities, net of tax	—	(0.6)	—	(1.5)
Pension and other post-retirement benefit adjustments, net of tax	(1.4)	1.0	2.9	(0.4)
Total other comprehensive income (loss)	(4.0)	3.0	(1.5)	(5.9)
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 213.5</u>	<u>\$ 160.5</u>	<u>\$ 146.5</u>	<u>\$ 71.1</u>

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(In millions)
(Unaudited)

	Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net income	\$ 148.0	\$ 77.0
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash used in operating activities:		
Impairment, restructuring and other	16.0	5.6
Share-based compensation expense	38.1	44.6
Depreciation	31.6	32.3
Amortization	6.3	7.9
Deferred taxes	39.8	18.8
Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates	15.8	29.5
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of acquisitions:		
Accounts receivable	(624.3)	(572.5)
Inventories	(189.4)	56.6
Prepaid and other current assets	(7.9)	(6.7)
Accounts payable	153.8	190.8
Other current liabilities	123.6	84.3
Other non-current items	(7.3)	(8.0)
Other, net	(1.3)	0.8
Net cash used in operating activities	(257.2)	(39.0)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Investments in property, plant and equipment	(37.6)	(54.2)
Investments in unconsolidated affiliates	—	(21.4)
Other investing, net	2.9	4.5
Net cash used in investing activities	(34.7)	(71.1)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Borrowings under revolving and bank lines of credit and term loans	641.9	519.3
Repayments under revolving and bank lines of credit and term loans	(320.7)	(314.3)
Dividends paid	(78.0)	(76.2)
Purchase of Common Shares	(18.3)	(4.9)
Cash received from exercise of stock options	10.0	1.7
Other financing, net	3.0	17.2
Net cash provided by financing activities	237.9	142.8
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(0.7)	0.5
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(54.7)	33.2
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	71.6	31.9
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 16.9	\$ 65.1

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets
(In millions, except per share data)
(Unaudited)

	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 16.9	\$ 65.1	\$ 71.6
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$22.6, \$18.2 and \$9.6, respectively	799.3	876.9	176.8
Inventories	773.2	824.3	587.5
Prepaid and other current assets	139.2	168.8	144.5
Total current assets	1,728.6	1,935.1	980.4
Investment in unconsolidated affiliates	40.6	83.8	45.2
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$827.5, \$791.4 and \$805.4, respectively	602.5	608.2	609.5
Goodwill	243.9	243.9	243.9
Intangible assets, net	412.0	428.9	418.8
Other assets	509.1	624.3	574.1
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,536.7</u>	<u>\$ 3,924.2</u>	<u>\$ 2,871.9</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY (DEFICIT)			
Current liabilities:			
Current portion of debt	\$ 54.6	\$ 57.8	\$ 52.6
Accounts payable	396.3	440.4	254.7
Other current liabilities	561.6	562.1	443.0
Total current liabilities	1,012.5	1,060.3	750.3
Long-term debt	2,493.2	2,760.5	2,174.2
Other liabilities	321.1	354.3	338.0
Total liabilities	3,826.8	4,175.1	3,262.5
Commitments and contingencies (Note 10)			
Equity (deficit):			
Common shares and capital in excess of \$0.01 stated value per share; shares outstanding of 57.7, 56.8 and 57.1, respectively	343.4	353.7	362.0
Retained earnings	373.7	491.8	303.8
Treasury shares, at cost; 10.5, 11.4 and 11.0 shares, respectively	(898.4)	(977.8)	(949.1)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(108.8)	(118.6)	(107.3)
Total equity (deficit)	(290.1)	(250.9)	(390.6)
Total liabilities and equity (deficit)	<u>\$ 3,536.7</u>	<u>\$ 3,924.2</u>	<u>\$ 2,871.9</u>

See Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Nature of Operations

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company (“Scotts Miracle-Gro”) and its subsidiaries (collectively, with Scotts Miracle-Gro, the “Company”) are engaged in the manufacturing, marketing and sale of products for lawn and garden care and indoor and hydroponic gardening. The Company’s products are sold in North America, Europe and Asia.

The Company’s North America consumer lawn and garden business is highly seasonal, with more than 75% of its annual net sales occurring in the second and third fiscal quarters. The Company’s Hawthorne segment is also impacted by seasonal sales patterns for certain product categories due to the timing of growing patterns in North America during the second and third fiscal quarters, and the timing of certain controlled agricultural lighting project sales during the third and fourth fiscal quarters.

Organization and Basis of Presentation

The Company’s unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 are presented in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”). The condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Scotts Miracle-Gro and its consolidated subsidiaries. All intercompany transactions and accounts have been eliminated in consolidation. The Company consolidates all majority-owned subsidiaries and variable interest entities where the Company has been determined to be the primary beneficiary. The results of businesses acquired or disposed of are included in the condensed consolidated financial statements from the date of each acquisition or up to the date of disposal, respectively. In the opinion of management, interim results reflect all normal and recurring adjustments and are not necessarily indicative of results for a full year.

On March 14, 2025, the Company sold all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of its formerly wholly-owned subsidiary The Hawthorne Collective, Inc. (“THC”) to Bad Dog Holdings LLC (“BDH”) in exchange for a promissory note with a principal amount of \$39.0. BDH is a newly formed legal entity owned and controlled by a strategic partner of the Company that is intended to hold and manage the investments held by THC. THC was created during fiscal 2021 as a vehicle to invest in areas of the cannabis industry that are not pursued by the Company’s Hawthorne segment. At the time of the sale, THC held non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent Corp. (formerly Consortium Inc.) (“Fluent”) (CSE: FNT.U) (OTCQB: CNTMF), a vertically-integrated, multi-state cannabis company, and other minority non-equity investments with a total book value of \$39.0. BDH granted the Company a call option that enables the Company to reacquire all of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of THC in exchange for canceling the principal amount of the promissory note and making an additional payment to BDH equal to 5% of any appreciation in the fair value of THC. The Company may exercise the call option in its sole and absolute discretion, until the earlier of (i) March 14, 2035 and (ii) the date of the consummation of a merger, change in control or consolidation of BDH; or a sale, lease, transfer, exclusive license or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of BDH. The Company also granted BDH a put option providing BDH with the right to cause the Company to reacquire all the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of THC in exchange for canceling the principal amount of the promissory note. The Company has determined that it has a variable interest in BDH, primarily due to the put and call options, and that BDH is a variable interest entity. Additionally, based on its assessment of the characteristics of its variable interest in BDH, including the involvement of its de facto agents, the Company has determined it is the primary beneficiary of BDH and, as a result, is required to consolidate BDH in its condensed consolidated financial statements. As of March 29, 2025, BDH had assets of \$10.7 and \$28.3 recorded in the “Investment in unconsolidated affiliates” and “Other assets” lines in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, respectively, and total liabilities of \$39.0 associated with the promissory note due to the Company, which is eliminated in consolidation.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been omitted or condensed pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”). Accordingly, this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarter ended March 29, 2025 (this “Form 10-Q”) should be read in conjunction with Scotts Miracle-Gro’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 (the “2024 Annual Report”), which includes a complete set of footnote disclosures, including the Company’s significant accounting policies.

The Company’s Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet at September 30, 2024 has been derived from the Company’s audited Consolidated Balance Sheet at that date, but does not include all of the information and footnotes required by GAAP for complete financial statements.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

Accounts Receivable

On October 27, 2023, the Company entered into the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement, under which the Company could sell up to \$600.0 of available and eligible outstanding customer accounts receivable generated by sales to four specified customers. On September 1, 2024, the Company amended the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement to permit the Company to sell up to \$750.0 of available and eligible outstanding customer accounts receivable generated by sales to five specified customers. The agreement is uncommitted and expires on September 1, 2025. The receivable sales are non-recourse to the Company, other than with respect to (i) repurchase obligations and indemnification obligations for any violations by the Company of its respective representations or obligations as seller or servicer and (ii) certain repurchase and payment obligations arising from any dilution of, or dispute with respect to, any purchased receivables that arise after the sale of such purchased receivables to the purchaser not contemplated in the applicable purchase price of such purchased receivable. The recourse obligations of the Company that may arise from time to time are supported by standby letters of credit of \$75.0. Transactions under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement are accounted for as sales of accounts receivable, and the receivables sold are removed from the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at the time of the sales transaction. Proceeds received from the sales of accounts receivable are classified as operating cash flows and collections of previously sold accounts receivable not yet submitted to the buyer are classified as financing cash flows in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. The Company records the discount on sales in the “Other expense, net” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. At March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, net receivables derecognized were \$598.2, \$582.8 and \$186.6, respectively. During the three months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, proceeds from the sale of receivables under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement totaled \$748.2 and \$758.2, respectively, and the total discount recorded on sales was \$7.9 and \$10.7, respectively. During the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, proceeds from the sale of receivables under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement totaled \$1,022.2 and \$955.5, respectively, and the total discount recorded on sales was \$11.2 and \$12.9, respectively.

Supplier Finance Program

The Company has an agreement to provide a supplier finance program which facilitates participating suppliers’ ability to finance payment obligations of the Company with a designated third-party financial institution. Participating suppliers may, at their sole discretion, elect to finance payment obligations of the Company prior to their scheduled due dates at a discounted price to the participating financial institution. The Company’s obligations to its suppliers, including amounts due and scheduled payment dates, are not impacted by suppliers’ decisions to finance amounts under this arrangement. The payment terms that the Company negotiates with its suppliers are consistent, regardless of whether a supplier participates in the program. The Company’s current payment terms with a majority of its suppliers generally range from 30 to 60 days, which the Company deems to be commercially reasonable. The Company’s outstanding payment obligations under its supplier finance program were \$32.5, \$38.5 and \$12.5 at March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, respectively, and are recorded within accounts payable in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. The associated payments were \$155.4 and \$153.0 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively, and are classified as operating activities in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Long-Lived Assets

The Company had non-cash investing activities of \$6.2 and \$10.1 during the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively, representing unpaid liabilities to acquire property, plant and equipment.

Statements of Cash Flows

Supplemental cash flow information was as follows:

	Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Interest paid	\$ 68.1	\$ 83.6
Income taxes paid (refunded), net	(4.2)	—

During the six months ended March 30, 2024, the Company acquired an additional equity interest in Bonnie Plants, LLC for \$21.4, which was classified as an investing activity in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In November 2023, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) No. 2023-07, “Segment Reporting (Topic 280): Improvements to Reportable Segment Disclosures.” This ASU requires enhanced disclosures about significant segment expenses regularly provided to the chief operating decision maker that are included within each reported measure of segment profit or loss, and also requires all annual disclosures currently required by Topic 280 to be included in interim periods. ASU No. 2023-07 is to be applied retrospectively for all periods presented in the financial statements and is effective for the Company’s fiscal year beginning October 1, 2024, and for interim periods within the Company’s fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of this guidance will have on the Company’s disclosures.

In December 2023, the FASB issued ASU No. 2023-09, “Income Taxes (Topic 740): Improvements to Income Tax Disclosures.” This ASU primarily requires enhanced disclosures and disaggregation of income tax information by jurisdiction in the annual income tax reconciliation and quantitative and qualitative disclosures regarding income taxes paid. ASU No. 2023-09 is to be applied prospectively, with the option to apply the standard retrospectively, effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2024. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of this guidance will have on the Company’s disclosures.

In November 2024, the FASB issued ASU No. 2024-03, “Income Statement — Reporting Comprehensive Income — Expense Disaggregation Disclosures (Subtopic 220-40): Disaggregation of Income Statement Expenses.” This ASU requires disaggregated disclosures on an annual and interim basis, in the notes to the financial statements, of certain categories of expenses that are included in expense line items on the face of the statement of operations. ASU No. 2024-03 is to be applied prospectively, with the option to apply the standard retrospectively, effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2026, and interim periods within fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2027. The Company is currently evaluating the impact that the adoption of this guidance will have on the Company’s disclosures.

NOTE 2. INVESTMENT IN UNCONSOLIDATED AFFILIATES

Bonnie Plants

The Company holds a 50% equity interest in Bonnie Plants, LLC, a joint venture with Alabama Farmers Cooperative, Inc. (“AFC”) focused on planting, growing, developing, distributing, marketing and selling live plants. During the three months ended December 31, 2022, the Company and AFC amended the joint venture agreement to allow AFC to make an additional equity contribution to Bonnie Plants, LLC, and, as a result of this contribution by AFC, the Company’s equity interest in Bonnie Plants, LLC was reduced to 45%. On November 7, 2023, the Company purchased an additional 5% equity interest in Bonnie Plants, LLC from AFC for \$21.4, which restored its total equity interest back to 50%. The Company’s interest is accounted for using the equity method of accounting, with the Company’s proportionate share of Bonnie Plants, LLC earnings reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

During the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, the Company recorded equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates associated with Bonnie Plants, LLC of \$5.9 and \$15.8, respectively, compared to \$7.0 and \$29.5 during the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, respectively. During the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, the Company recorded a pre-tax impairment charge of \$0.0 and \$10.4, respectively, associated with its investment in Bonnie Plants, LLC in the “Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations.

Fluent

On December 19, 2024, Fluent acquired all of the issued and outstanding common shares of RIV Capital Inc. (“RIV Capital”) in exchange for Fluent shares (the “Transaction”). In connection with the Transaction, Fluent and THC entered into an exchange and protection agreement on December 18, 2024, pursuant to which THC exchanged its existing convertible debt investment in RIV Capital for 153.1 million non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent. These exchangeable shares are convertible, at THC’s discretion, into approximately 23% of the common shares of Fluent. The exchange and protection agreement prohibits THC from converting the exchangeable shares into common shares above a defined 19.99% threshold unless and until Fluent has received the shareholder approval required by the Canadian Stock Exchange. THC and Fluent also entered into an investor rights agreement which allows THC to nominate up to two members to the Fluent board of directors, and provides THC with certain participation rights in order to maintain its pro rata investment position in Fluent in connection with any offering of Fluent shares.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

THC's convertible debt investment in RIV Capital, which was previously recorded in the "Other assets" line in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, had a carrying value of \$17.7 on December 18, 2024. The exchange of the RIV Capital convertible debt investment for non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent, a non-cash investing and financing activity, resulted in a loss of \$7.0 that was recorded in the "Impairment, restructuring and other" line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three months ended December 28, 2024.

THC's interest in Fluent had an initial fair value of \$10.7 and is recorded in the "Investment in unconsolidated affiliates" line in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. The estimated fair value of the non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent was determined based upon the quoted market price of Fluent common shares as of the date of the exchange and represents a Level 2 nonrecurring fair value measurement. This investment is accounted for using the equity method of accounting, with THC's proportionate share of Fluent earnings subsequent to December 18, 2024 reflected in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations on a one quarter lag.

Refer to "NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES" for further details related to the Company's sale of THC to BDH on March 14, 2025. BDH is a variable interest entity that is consolidated by the Company.

NOTE 3. IMPAIRMENT, RESTRUCTURING AND OTHER

Activity described herein is classified within the "Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other" and "Impairment, restructuring and other" lines in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. The following table details impairment, restructuring and other charges (recoveries) for each of the periods presented:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other:				
Restructuring and other charges, net	\$ 3.6	\$ 70.1	\$ 5.4	\$ 64.0
Right-of-use asset impairments	2.8	0.7	4.5	0.9
Property, plant and equipment impairments	0.9	4.1	2.5	4.2
Operating expenses—impairment, restructuring and other:				
Restructuring and other charges (recoveries), net	10.7	2.1	20.2	(5.0)
Loss on exchange of convertible debt investment	—	—	7.0	—
Total impairment, restructuring and other charges, net	<u>\$ 18.0</u>	<u>\$ 77.0</u>	<u>\$ 39.6</u>	<u>\$ 64.1</u>

The following table summarizes the activity related to liabilities associated with restructuring activities during the six months ended March 29, 2025:

Amounts accrued at September 30, 2024	\$ 18.9
Restructuring charges	24.2
Payments	(18.0)
Amounts accrued at March 29, 2025	<u>\$ 25.1</u>

As of March 29, 2025, restructuring accruals include \$4.9 that is classified as long-term.

During the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, the Company incurred employee and executive severance charges of \$3.6 in the "Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other" line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and \$5.4 and \$14.9, respectively, in the "Impairment, restructuring and other" line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. The Company incurred charges of \$3.0 in its U.S. Consumer segment and \$0.6 in its Hawthorne segment in the "Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other" line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 29, 2025. The Company incurred charges of \$3.3 in its U.S. Consumer segment and \$2.1 and \$11.6 at Corporate in the "Impairment, restructuring and other" line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, respectively.

During the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, the Company incurred a non-cash loss of \$0.0 and \$7.0, respectively, in the "Impairment, restructuring and other" line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations related to the exchange of its convertible debt investment in RIV Capital for non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent. Refer to "NOTE 2. INVESTMENT IN UNCONSOLIDATED AFFILIATES" for further details.

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During fiscal 2022, the Company began implementing a series of Company-wide organizational changes and initiatives intended to create operational and management-level efficiencies. As part of this restructuring initiative, the Company reduced the size of its supply chain network, reduced staffing levels and implemented other cost-reduction initiatives. The Company also accelerated the reduction of certain Hawthorne inventory, primarily lighting, growing environments and hardware products, to reduce on hand inventory to align with the reduced network capacity. The Company incurred costs of \$2.3 and \$3.7 in its U.S. Consumer segment and \$1.4 and \$5.1 in its Hawthorne segment associated with this restructuring initiative in the “Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, respectively. During the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, the Company incurred costs of \$77.0 and \$73.2, respectively, associated with this restructuring initiative primarily related to inventory write-down charges, employee termination benefits, facility closure costs and impairment of right-of-use assets and property, plant and equipment. The Company recorded recoveries of \$0.5 and incurred costs of \$1.4 in its U.S. Consumer segment and incurred costs of \$75.4 and \$67.8 in its Hawthorne segment in the “Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, respectively. The Company recorded recoveries of \$0.1 and \$0.9 in its U.S. Consumer segment and incurred costs of \$1.9 and \$2.3 in its Hawthorne segment and \$0.0 and \$2.4 at Corporate in the “Impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, respectively. Costs incurred since the inception of this restructuring initiative through March 29, 2025 were \$302.3 for the Hawthorne segment, \$62.0 for the U.S. Consumer segment, \$2.9 for the Other segment and \$25.1 for Corporate.

During the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, the Company recorded a gain of \$0.0 and \$12.1, respectively, in the “Impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations associated with a payment received in resolution of a dispute with the former ownership group of a business that was acquired in fiscal 2022. This payment was classified as an operating activity in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

NOTE 4. INVENTORIES

Inventories consisted of the following for each of the periods presented:

	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Finished goods	\$ 455.9	\$ 480.9	\$ 246.6
Raw materials	237.9	261.3	256.8
Work-in-process	79.4	82.1	84.1
Total inventories, net	<u>\$ 773.2</u>	<u>\$ 824.3</u>	<u>\$ 587.5</u>

NOTE 5. MARKETING AGREEMENT

The Scotts Company LLC (“Scotts LLC”) is the exclusive agent of Monsanto Company, a subsidiary of Bayer AG (“Monsanto”), for the marketing and distribution of certain of Monsanto’s consumer Roundup® branded products in the United States and certain other specified countries. The annual commission payable under the Third Amended and Restated Exclusive Agency and Marketing Agreement (the “Third Restated Agreement”) is equal to 50% of the actual earnings before interest and income taxes of Monsanto’s consumer Roundup® business for each program year in the markets covered by the Third Restated Agreement (“Program EBIT”). The Third Restated Agreement also requires the Company to make annual payments of \$18.0 to Monsanto as a contribution against the overall expenses of its consumer Roundup® business, subject to reduction pursuant to the Third Restated Agreement for any program year in which the Program EBIT does not equal or exceed \$36.0.

Unless Monsanto terminates the Third Restated Agreement due to an event of default by the Company, termination rights under the Third Restated Agreement include the following:

- The Company may terminate the Third Restated Agreement upon the insolvency or bankruptcy of Monsanto;
- Monsanto may terminate the Third Restated Agreement in the event that Monsanto decides to decommission the permits, licenses and registrations needed for, and the trademarks, trade names, packages, copyrights and designs used in, the sale of the Roundup® products in the lawn and garden market (a “Brand Decommissioning Termination”); and
- Each party may terminate the Third Restated Agreement if Program EBIT falls below \$50.0 and, in such case, no termination fee would be payable to either party.

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The termination fee structure requires Monsanto to pay a termination fee to the Company in an amount equal to (i) \$375.0 upon a Brand Decommissioning Termination, and (ii) the greater of \$175.0 or four times an amount equal to the average of the Program EBIT for the three program years before the year of termination, minus \$186.4, if Monsanto or its successor terminates the Third Restated Agreement as a result of a Roundup Sale or Change of Control of Monsanto (each, as defined in the Third Restated Agreement).

The elements of the net commission and reimbursements earned under the Third Restated Agreement and included in the “Net sales” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations are as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Gross commission	\$ 41.1	\$ 40.6	\$ 51.3	\$ 49.5
Contribution expenses	(4.5)	(4.5)	(9.0)	(9.0)
Net commission	36.6	36.1	42.3	40.5
Reimbursements associated with Roundup® marketing agreement	27.1	29.0	49.1	48.1
Total net sales associated with Roundup® marketing agreement	\$ 63.7	\$ 65.1	\$ 91.4	\$ 88.6

NOTE 6. DEBT

The components of debt are as follows:

	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Credit Facilities:			
Revolving loans	\$ 345.0	\$ 314.2	\$ —
Term loans	600.0	900.0	625.0
Senior Notes due 2031 – 4.000%	500.0	500.0	500.0
Senior Notes due 2032 – 4.375%	400.0	400.0	400.0
Senior Notes due 2029 – 4.500%	450.0	450.0	450.0
Senior Notes due 2026 – 5.250%	250.0	250.0	250.0
Finance lease obligations	15.6	17.5	17.8
Other	2.5	5.5	—
Total debt	2,563.1	2,837.2	2,242.8
Less current portions	54.6	57.8	52.6
Less unamortized debt issuance costs	15.3	18.9	16.0
Long-term debt	\$ 2,493.2	\$ 2,760.5	\$ 2,174.2

Credit Facilities

On April 8, 2022, the Company entered into a sixth amended and restated credit agreement (the “Sixth A&R Credit Agreement”), providing the Company and certain of its subsidiaries with five-year senior secured loan facilities in the aggregate principal amount of \$2,500.0, comprised of a revolving credit facility of \$1,500.0 and a term loan in the original principal amount of \$1,000.0 (the “Sixth A&R Credit Facilities”). The Sixth A&R Credit Agreement will terminate on April 8, 2027. The Sixth A&R Credit Facilities are available for the issuance of letters of credit of up to \$100.0. The terms of the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement include customary representations and warranties, affirmative and negative covenants, financial covenants, and events of default.

Under the terms of the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement, loans bear interest, at the Company’s election, at a rate per annum equal to either (i) the Alternate Base Rate plus the Applicable Spread (all, as defined in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement) or (ii) the Adjusted Term SOFR Rate for the Interest Period in effect for such borrowing plus the Applicable Spread (all as defined in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement). Swingline Loans bear interest at the applicable Swingline Rate set forth in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. Interest rates for other select non-U.S. dollar borrowings, including borrowings denominated in euro, Pounds Sterling and Canadian dollars, are based on separate interest rate indices, as set forth in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement.

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On June 8, 2022, the Company entered into Amendment No. 1 to the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement (“Amendment No. 1”). Amendment No. 1 increased the maximum permitted leverage ratio for the quarterly leverage covenant until April 1, 2024. Amendment No. 1 also increased the interest rate applicable to borrowings under the revolving credit facility by 35 bps and the term loan facility by 50 bps, and increased the annual facility fee rate on the revolving credit facility by 15 bps, in each case, when the Company’s quarterly-tested leverage ratio exceeded 4.75.

On July 31, 2023, the Company entered into Amendment No. 2 to the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement (“Amendment No. 2”). Amendment No. 2 (i) reduces the revolving loan commitments by \$250.0; (ii) increases the maximum permitted leverage ratio for the quarterly leverage covenant until the earlier of (a) October 1, 2025 and (b) subject to certain conditions specified in Amendment No. 2, the termination by the Company of such adjustment (such period, the “Leverage Adjustment Period”); (iii) replaces the interest coverage covenant with a fixed charge coverage covenant; (iv) increases the interest rate applicable to borrowings under the revolving credit facility and the term loan facility by 25 bps for each existing pricing tier and adds a pricing tier applicable to periods when the leverage ratio exceeds 6.00; (v) limits the amount of certain incremental investments, loans and advances to \$25.0 during the Leverage Adjustment Period; and (vi) adds the Company’s intellectual property (subject to certain exceptions) as collateral to secure its obligations under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. Additionally, Amendment No. 2 limits the Company’s ability to declare or pay any discretionary dividends, distributions or other restricted payments during the Leverage Adjustment Period to only the payment of (i) regularly scheduled cash dividends to holders of its Common Shares in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$225.0 per fiscal year and (ii) other dividends, distributions or restricted payments in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$25.0. Amendment No. 2 also subjects the Company’s ability to make certain investments to pro forma compliance with certain leverage levels specified in Amendment No. 2. Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement is secured by (i) a perfected first priority security interest in all of the accounts receivable, inventory, equipment and intellectual property (subject to certain exceptions) of Scotts Miracle-Gro and certain of its domestic subsidiaries and (ii) the pledge of all of the capital stock of certain of Scotts Miracle-Gro’s domestic subsidiaries and a portion of the capital stock of certain of its foreign subsidiaries.

At March 29, 2025, the Company had letters of credit outstanding in the aggregate principal amount of \$83.1, and had \$821.9 of borrowing availability under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. The weighted average interest rates on average borrowings under the credit facilities, excluding the impact of interest rate swaps, were 7.8% and 8.9% for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively.

The Sixth A&R Credit Agreement contains, among other obligations, an affirmative covenant regarding the Company’s leverage ratio determined as of the end of each of its fiscal quarters calculated as average total indebtedness, divided by the Company’s earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, as adjusted pursuant to the terms of Amendment No. 2 (“Adjusted EBITDA”). Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, the maximum permitted leverage ratio is (i) 5.25 for the second quarter of fiscal 2025, (ii) 5.00 for the third quarter of fiscal 2025, (iii) 4.75 for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025 and (iv) 4.50 for the first quarter of fiscal 2026 and thereafter. The Company’s leverage ratio was 4.41 at March 29, 2025. Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement also contains an affirmative covenant regarding the Company’s fixed charge coverage ratio determined as of the end of each of its fiscal quarters, calculated as Adjusted EBITDA minus capital expenditures and expense for taxes paid in cash, divided by the sum of interest expense plus restricted payments, as described in Amendment No. 2. The minimum required fixed charge coverage ratio is 1.00. The Company’s fixed charge coverage ratio was 1.45 for the twelve months ended March 29, 2025.

As of March 29, 2025, the Company was in compliance with all applicable covenants in the agreements governing its debt. Based on the Company’s projections of its financial performance for the twelve-month period subsequent to the date of the filing of this Form 10-Q, the Company expects to remain in compliance with the financial covenants under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. However, the Company’s assessment of its ability to meet its future obligations is inherently subjective, judgment-based, and susceptible to change based on future events. A covenant violation may result in an event of default. Such a default would allow the lenders under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement to accelerate the maturity of the indebtedness thereunder and would also implicate cross-default provisions under the Senior Notes, as defined below, and cause the Senior Notes to become due and payable at that time. As of March 29, 2025, the Company’s indebtedness under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement and Senior Notes was \$2,545.0. The Company does not have sufficient cash on hand or available liquidity that can be utilized to repay these outstanding amounts in the event of default.

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As part of its contingency planning to address potential future circumstances that could result in noncompliance, the Company has contemplated alternative plans including additional restructuring activities to reduce operating expenses and certain cash management strategies that are within the Company's control. Additionally, the Company has contemplated alternative plans that are subject to market conditions and not in the Company's control, including, among others, discussions with its lenders to amend the terms of its financial covenants under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement and generating cash by completing other financing transactions, which may include issuing equity. There is no assurance that the Company will be successful in implementing these alternative plans.

Senior Notes

On December 15, 2016, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$250.0 aggregate principal amount of 5.250% Senior Notes due 2026 (the "5.250% Senior Notes"). The 5.250% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with the Company's existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 5.250% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of June 15 and December 15 of each year.

On October 22, 2019, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$450.0 aggregate principal amount of 4.500% Senior Notes due 2029 (the "4.500% Senior Notes"). The 4.500% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with the Company's existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 4.500% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of April 15 and October 15 of each year.

On March 17, 2021, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$500.0 aggregate principal amount of 4.000% Senior Notes due 2031 (the "4.000% Senior Notes"). The 4.000% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with the Company's existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 4.000% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of April 1 and October 1 of each year.

On August 13, 2021, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$400.0 aggregate principal amount of 4.375% Senior Notes due 2032 (the "4.375% Senior Notes"). The 4.375% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with the Company's existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 4.375% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of February 1 and August 1 of each year.

Substantially all of Scotts Miracle-Gro's directly and indirectly owned domestic subsidiaries serve as guarantors of the 5.250% Senior Notes, the 4.500% Senior Notes, the 4.000% Senior Notes and the 4.375% Senior Notes, (collectively, the "Senior Notes").

The Senior Notes contain an affirmative covenant regarding the Company's interest coverage ratio determined as of the end of each of its fiscal quarters, calculated as Adjusted EBITDA divided by interest expense excluding costs related to refinancings. The minimum required interest coverage ratio is 2.00. The Company's interest coverage ratio was 4.17 for the twelve months ended March 29, 2025.

Interest Rate Swap Agreements

The Company enters into interest rate swap agreements with major financial institutions that effectively convert a portion of the Company's variable-rate debt to a fixed rate. Interest payments made between the effective date and expiration date are hedged by the swap agreements. Swap agreements that were hedging interest payments as of March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024 had a maximum total U.S. dollar equivalent notional amount of \$450.0, \$700.0 and \$450.0, respectively. The notional amount, effective date, expiration date and rate of each of the swap agreements outstanding at March 29, 2025 are shown in the table below:

Notional Amount (\$)	Effective Date (a)	Expiration Date	Fixed Rate
150	6/7/2023	4/7/2027	3.37 %
50	6/7/2023	4/7/2027	3.34 %
100 ^(b)	11/20/2023	3/22/2027	4.74 %
150 ^(b)	9/20/2024	9/20/2029	4.25 %

(a) The effective date refers to the date on which interest payments are first hedged by the applicable swap agreement.

(b) Notional amount adjusts in accordance with a specified seasonal schedule. This represents the maximum notional amount at any point in time.

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Weighted Average Interest Rate

The weighted average interest rates on the Company's debt, including the impact of interest rate swaps, were 5.5% and 5.9% for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively.

NOTE 7. EQUITY (DEFICIT)

The following tables provide a summary of the changes in equity (deficit) for each of the periods indicated:

	Common Shares and Capital in Excess of Stated Value	Retained Earnings	Treasury Shares	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Equity (Deficit)
Balance at September 30, 2024	\$ 362.0	\$ 303.8	\$ (949.1)	\$ (107.3)	\$ (390.6)
Net income (loss)	—	(69.5)	—	—	(69.5)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	2.5	2.5
Share-based compensation	31.4	—	—	—	31.4
Dividends declared (\$0.66 per share)	—	(38.5)	—	—	(38.5)
Treasury share purchases	—	—	(15.6)	—	(15.6)
Treasury share issuances	(44.3)	—	45.1	—	0.8
Balance at December 28, 2024	349.1	195.8	(919.6)	(104.8)	(479.5)
Net income (loss)	—	217.5	—	—	217.5
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	(4.0)	(4.0)
Share-based compensation	8.7	—	—	—	8.7
Dividends declared (\$0.66 per share)	—	(39.6)	—	—	(39.6)
Treasury share purchases	—	—	(2.7)	—	(2.7)
Treasury share issuances	(14.5)	—	23.9	—	9.4
Balance at March 29, 2025	<u>\$ 343.4</u>	<u>\$ 373.7</u>	<u>\$ (898.4)</u>	<u>\$ (108.8)</u>	<u>\$ (290.1)</u>

The sum of the components may not equal due to rounding.

	Common Shares and Capital in Excess of Stated Value	Retained Earnings	Treasury Shares	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss	Total Equity (Deficit)
Balance at September 30, 2023	\$ 353.1	\$ 490.9	\$ (998.5)	\$ (112.8)	\$ (267.3)
Net income (loss)	—	(80.5)	—	—	(80.5)
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	(8.9)	(8.9)
Share-based compensation	11.7	—	—	—	11.7
Dividends declared (\$0.66 per share)	—	(38.0)	—	—	(38.0)
Treasury share purchases	—	—	(3.1)	—	(3.1)
Treasury share issuances	(15.2)	—	15.9	—	0.7
Balance at December 30, 2023	349.6	372.4	(985.7)	(121.7)	(385.4)
Net income (loss)	—	157.5	—	—	157.5
Other comprehensive income (loss)	—	—	—	3.0	3.0
Share-based compensation	12.4	—	—	—	12.4
Dividends declared (\$0.66 per share)	—	(38.1)	—	—	(38.1)
Treasury share purchases	—	—	(1.7)	—	(1.7)
Treasury share issuances	(8.3)	—	9.6	—	1.3
Balance at March 30, 2024	<u>\$ 353.7</u>	<u>\$ 491.8</u>	<u>\$ (977.8)</u>	<u>\$ (118.6)</u>	<u>\$ (250.9)</u>

The sum of the components may not equal due to rounding.

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Accumulated Other Comprehensive Loss

Changes in accumulated other comprehensive loss (“AOCL”) by component were as follows for each of the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended				
	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) On Derivative Instruments	Net Unrealized Loss On Securities	Pension and Other Post-Retirement Benefit Adjustments	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)
Balance at December 28, 2024	\$ (27.1)	\$ 8.9	\$ (14.4)	\$ (72.2)	\$ (104.8)
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	1.0	(1.9)	—	—	(0.9)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive net income (loss)	—	(3.0)	—	(2.7)	(5.7)
Income tax benefit (expense)	—	1.3	—	1.3	2.6
Net current period other comprehensive income (loss)	1.0	(3.6)	—	(1.4)	(4.0)
Balance at March 29, 2025	<u>\$ (26.1)</u>	<u>\$ 5.3</u>	<u>\$ (14.4)</u>	<u>\$ (73.6)</u>	<u>\$ (108.8)</u>
Balance at December 30, 2023	\$ (18.8)	\$ 10.4	\$ (39.5)	\$ (73.8)	\$ (121.7)
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	(2.6)	8.2	(0.6)	—	5.0
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive net income (loss)	—	(1.2)	—	1.6	0.4
Income tax benefit (expense)	—	(1.8)	—	(0.6)	(2.4)
Net current period other comprehensive income (loss)	(2.6)	5.2	(0.6)	1.0	3.0
Balance at March 30, 2024	<u>\$ (21.4)</u>	<u>\$ 15.7</u>	<u>\$ (40.1)</u>	<u>\$ (72.9)</u>	<u>\$ (118.6)</u>

The sum of the components may not equal due to rounding.

	Six Months Ended				
	Foreign Currency Translation Adjustments	Net Unrealized Gain (Loss) On Derivative Instruments	Net Unrealized Loss On Securities	Pension and Other Post-Retirement Benefit Adjustments	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)
Balance at September 30, 2024	\$ (21.3)	\$ 4.9	\$ (14.4)	\$ (76.5)	\$ (107.3)
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	(4.9)	5.8	—	—	0.9
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive net income (loss)	—	(5.1)	—	5.4	0.3
Income tax benefit (expense)	—	(0.2)	—	(2.5)	(2.7)
Net current period other comprehensive income (loss)	(4.9)	0.5	—	2.9	(1.5)
Balance at March 29, 2025	<u>\$ (26.1)</u>	<u>\$ 5.3</u>	<u>\$ (14.4)</u>	<u>\$ (73.6)</u>	<u>\$ (108.8)</u>
Balance at September 30, 2023	\$ (21.9)	\$ 20.1	\$ (38.6)	\$ (72.4)	\$ (112.8)
Other comprehensive income (loss) before reclassifications	0.5	(2.8)	(1.5)	—	(3.8)
Amounts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive net income (loss)	—	(3.2)	—	(0.5)	(3.7)
Income tax benefit (expense)	—	1.5	—	0.1	1.6
Net current period other comprehensive income (loss)	0.5	(4.5)	(1.5)	(0.4)	(5.9)
Balance at March 30, 2024	<u>\$ (21.4)</u>	<u>\$ 15.7</u>	<u>\$ (40.1)</u>	<u>\$ (72.9)</u>	<u>\$ (118.6)</u>

The sum of the components may not equal due to rounding.

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Share-Based Awards

Total share-based compensation was as follows for each of the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Share-based compensation	\$ 22.6	\$ 28.1	\$ 40.0	\$ 44.1
Related tax benefit recognized	4.2	4.6	6.8	7.2

Stock Options

Stock option activity was as follows:

	No. of Options	Wtd. Avg. Exercise Price	Wtd. Avg. Remaining Life	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Awards outstanding at September 30, 2024	2,377,672	\$ 65.03	7.5 years	
Granted	475,464	72.41		
Exercised	(153,383)	59.67		
Forfeited	(156,084)	65.98		
Awards outstanding at March 29, 2025	2,543,669	66.71	7.8 years	\$ 5.5
Exercisable	476,500	110.49	4.6 years	0.2

The weighted-average fair value per share of each option granted during the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 was \$22.20 and \$16.66, respectively. The total intrinsic value of options exercised during the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 was not material. As of March 29, 2025, there was \$10.5 of total unrecognized pre-tax compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to nonvested stock options that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.0 years. Cash received from the exercise of stock options, including amounts received from employee purchases under the employee stock purchase plan, was \$10.0 and \$1.7 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively.

The weighted average assumptions used in the estimation of fair value for awards granted during the six months ended March 29, 2025 are as follows:

Expected volatility	39.6 %
Risk-free interest rate	4.2 %
Expected dividend yield	3.3 %
Expected life	6.1 years

Restricted share-based awards

Restricted share-based award activity (including restricted stock units and deferred stock units) was as follows:

	No. of Units	Wtd. Avg. Grant Date Fair Value per Unit
Awards outstanding at September 30, 2024	766,384	\$ 68.54
Granted	317,412	74.21
Vested	(646,196)	74.72
Forfeited	(12,323)	71.13
Awards outstanding at March 29, 2025	425,277	63.31

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of restricted share-based awards granted during the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 was \$74.21 and \$49.78 per share, respectively. As of March 29, 2025, there was \$8.1 of total unrecognized pre-tax compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to nonvested restricted share-based awards that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 1.5 years. The total fair value of restricted share-based awards vested during the six months ended March 29, 2025 was \$52.2.

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For fiscal 2025, the Company is granting short-term equity incentive compensation awards to certain associates in the form of restricted share-based award units in lieu of cash-based annual incentive awards. The program is structured so the fiscal 2025 incentive grant, if any, will be made on or near the incentive payout date, subject to certain performance conditions and a service requirement. The number of restricted share-based award units that are ultimately issued to participating associates will be determined based on the incentive payout amount determined for each associate converted into a variable number of restricted share-based award units based on the fair value of the Common Shares on the grant date. The awards are classified as liability awards and, as of March 29, 2025, the Company had accrued \$9.3 in the “Other current liabilities” line in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets associated with these awards. As of March 29, 2025, there was \$11.0 of total unrecognized pre-tax compensation cost related to these nonvested restricted share-based awards that is expected to be recognized over the remainder of fiscal 2025. The units associated with these awards are excluded from the table above.

Performance-based awards

Performance-based award activity was as follows (based on target award amounts):

	No. of Units	Wtd. Avg. Grant Date Fair Value per Unit
Awards outstanding at September 30, 2024	409,430	\$ 86.61
Granted	142,163	72.01
Forfeited	(107,919)	114.25
Awards outstanding at March 29, 2025	443,674	75.63

The weighted-average grant-date fair value of performance-based award units granted during the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 was \$72.01 and \$74.95 per share, respectively. As of March 29, 2025, there was \$8.2 of total unrecognized pre-tax compensation cost, net of estimated forfeitures, related to nonvested performance-based award units that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.2 years. The total fair value of performance-based award units vested during the six months ended March 30, 2024 was \$10.6.

During the three months ended March 29, 2025, the Company granted performance-based award units with a three year vesting period that include a performance target based on the Company’s absolute total shareholder return, among other financial targets. Details of the assumptions used in the estimation of fair value for these awards are as follows:

Expected volatility	38.6 %
Risk-free interest rate	4.2 %

NOTE 8. EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE

The following table presents information necessary to calculate basic and diluted net income per common share for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Net income	\$ 217.5	\$ 157.5	\$ 148.0	\$ 77.0
Basic net income per common share				
Weighted-average common shares outstanding during the period	57.6	56.8	57.5	56.7
Basic net income per common share	\$ 3.78	\$ 2.77	\$ 2.57	\$ 1.36
Diluted net income per common share				
Weighted-average common shares outstanding during the period	57.6	56.8	57.5	56.7
Dilutive potential common shares	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.6
Weighted-average common shares outstanding during the period plus dilutive potential common shares	58.4	57.4	58.6	57.3
Diluted net income per common share	\$ 3.72	\$ 2.74	\$ 2.53	\$ 1.34
Antidilutive stock options outstanding	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.6

NOTE 9. INCOME TAXES

The effective tax rates for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 were 27.8% and 27.1%, respectively. The effective tax rate used for interim reporting purposes is based on management's best estimate of factors impacting the effective tax rate for the full fiscal year and includes the impact of discrete items recognized in the period. There can be no assurance that the effective tax rate estimated for interim financial reporting purposes will approximate the effective tax rate determined at fiscal year-end.

Scotts Miracle-Gro or one of its subsidiaries files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various state, local and foreign jurisdictions. Subject to the following exceptions, the Company is no longer subject to examination by these tax authorities for fiscal years prior to 2021. There are currently no ongoing audits with respect to the U.S. federal jurisdiction. With respect to foreign jurisdictions, a Canadian audit covering fiscal years 2020 through 2021 is in process. The Company is currently under examination by certain U.S. state and local tax authorities covering various periods from fiscal years 2018 through 2023. In addition to the aforementioned audits, certain other tax deficiency notices and refund claims for previous years remain unresolved.

The Company currently anticipates that few of its open and active audits will be resolved within the next twelve months. The Company is unable to make a reasonably reliable estimate as to when or if cash settlements with taxing authorities may occur. Although the outcomes of such examinations and the timing of any payments required upon the conclusion of such examinations are subject to significant uncertainty, the Company does not anticipate that the resolution of these tax matters or any events related thereto will result in a material change to its consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

NOTE 10. CONTINGENCIES

Management regularly evaluates the Company's contingencies, including various judicial and administrative proceedings and claims arising in the ordinary course of business, including product and general liabilities, workers' compensation, property losses and other liabilities for which the Company is self-insured or retains a high exposure limit. Self-insurance accruals are established based on actuarial loss estimates for specific individual claims plus actuarially estimated amounts for incurred but not reported claims and adverse development factors applied to existing claims. Legal costs incurred in connection with the resolution of claims, lawsuits and other contingencies generally are expensed as incurred. In the opinion of management, the assessment of contingencies is reasonable and related accruals are adequate, both individually and in the aggregate; however, there can be no assurance that final resolution of these matters will not have a material effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

Regulatory Matters

At March 29, 2025, the Company had recorded liabilities of \$2.6 for environmental actions, the majority of which are for site remediation. The Company believes that the amounts accrued are adequate to cover such known environmental exposures based on current facts and estimates of likely outcomes. Although it is reasonably possible that the costs to resolve such known environmental exposures will exceed the amounts accrued, any variation from accrued amounts is not expected to be material.

Other

The Company has been named as a defendant in a number of cases alleging injuries that the lawsuits claim resulted from exposure to asbestos-containing products, apparently based on the Company's historic use of vermiculite in certain of its products. In many of these cases, the complaints are not specific about the plaintiffs' contacts with the Company or its products. The cases vary, but complaints in these cases generally seek unspecified monetary damages (actual, compensatory, consequential and punitive) from multiple defendants. The Company believes that the claims against it are without merit and is vigorously defending against them. The Company has not recorded any accruals in its condensed consolidated financial statements as the likelihood of a loss from these cases is not probable at this time. The Company does not believe a reasonably possible loss would be material to the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. In addition, the Company does not believe the ultimate resolution of these cases will have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. There can be no assurance that future developments related to pending claims or claims filed in the future, whether as a result of adverse outcomes or as a result of significant defense costs, will not have a material effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

On June 6, 2024, a purported shareholder filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio (Case No. 2:24-cv-03132) on behalf of a proposed class of purchasers of Common Shares between November 3, 2021, and August 1, 2023. On July 26, 2024, another purported shareholder filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Ohio (Case No. 2:24-cv-03766) on behalf of a proposed class of purchasers of Common Shares between June 2, 2021, and August 1, 2023. These lawsuits, which have been consolidated by the court, assert claims under Section 10(b), Rule 10b-5 and Section 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act against the Company and certain of its current and former officers based on alleged misstatements about the Company's inventories, sales and business prospects. The actions seek, among other things, unspecified monetary damages, reasonable costs and expenses and equitable/injunctive or other relief as deemed appropriate by the Court. The Company believes that the claims asserted are without merit and intends to vigorously defend the actions.

Beginning in July 2024, purported shareholders filed a series of shareholder derivative lawsuits in state and federal courts in Ohio against certain of the Company's current and former directors and officers. The lawsuits include allegations that generally mirror those asserted in the securities lawsuits described above and assert claims for breach of fiduciary duties, unjust enrichment, abuse of control, gross mismanagement, and waste of corporate assets. The federal lawsuits also assert claims under the Securities Exchange Act. The actions seek a judgment in favor of the Company for unspecified damages, disgorgement, interest, and costs and expenses, including attorneys' and experts' fees.

The Company is involved in other lawsuits and claims which arise in the normal course of business including the initiation and defense of proceedings to protect intellectual property rights, advertising claims, securities matters and employment disputes. These claims individually and in the aggregate are not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

NOTE 11. DERIVATIVE INSTRUMENTS AND HEDGING ACTIVITIES

The Company is exposed to market risks, such as changes in interest rates, currency exchange rates and commodity prices. To manage a portion of the volatility related to these exposures, the Company enters into various financial transactions. The utilization of these financial transactions is governed by policies covering acceptable counterparty exposure, instrument types and other hedging practices. The Company does not hold or issue derivative financial instruments for speculative trading purposes.

Exchange Rate Risk Management

The Company uses currency forward contracts to manage the exchange rate risk associated with intercompany loans and certain other balances denominated in foreign currencies. Currency forward contracts are valued using observable forward rates in commonly quoted intervals for the full term of the contracts. The notional amount of outstanding currency forward contracts was \$157.3, \$114.2 and \$148.4 at March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, respectively. Contracts outstanding at March 29, 2025 will mature over the next fiscal quarter.

Interest Rate Risk Management

The Company enters into interest rate swap agreements as a means to hedge its variable interest rate risk on debt instruments. Net amounts to be received or paid under the swap agreements are reflected as adjustments to interest expense. The Company has outstanding interest rate swap agreements with major financial institutions that effectively convert a portion of the Company's variable-rate debt to a fixed rate. Interest rate swap agreements are valued based on the present value of the estimated future net cash flows using implied rates in the applicable yield curve as of the valuation date. Swap agreements that were hedging interest payments as of March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024 had a maximum total U.S. dollar equivalent notional amount of \$450.0, \$700.0 and \$450.0, respectively. Refer to "NOTE 6. DEBT" for the terms of the swap agreements outstanding at March 29, 2025. Included in the AOCL balance at March 29, 2025 was a gain of \$4.7 related to interest rate swap agreements that is expected to be reclassified to earnings during the next twelve months, consistent with the timing of the underlying hedged transactions.

Commodity Price Risk Management

The Company enters into hedging arrangements designed to fix the price of a portion of its projected future urea and diesel requirements. Commodity contracts are valued using observable commodity exchange prices in active markets. Included in the AOCL balance at March 29, 2025 was a gain of \$1.1 related to commodity hedges that is expected to be reclassified to earnings during the next twelve months, consistent with the timing of the underlying hedged transactions.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

The Company had the following outstanding commodity contracts that were entered into to hedge forecasted purchases:

Commodity	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Urea	6,000 tons	—	51,000 tons
Diesel	1,428,000 gallons	1,428,000 gallons	1,092,000 gallons
Heating Oil	798,000 gallons	756,000 gallons	42,000 gallons

Fair Values of Derivative Instruments

The fair values of the Company's derivative instruments, which represent Level 2 fair value measurements, were as follows:

Derivatives Designated as Hedging Instruments	Balance Sheet Location	Assets / (Liabilities)		
		March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Interest rate swap agreements	Prepaid and other current assets	\$ 1.1	\$ 13.6	\$ 0.9
	Other assets	0.2	9.3	—
	Other current liabilities	(0.8)	—	(0.2)
	Other liabilities	(2.1)	(0.8)	(5.1)
Commodity hedging instruments	Prepaid and other current assets	—	—	0.8
Total derivatives designated as hedging instruments		<u>\$ (1.6)</u>	<u>\$ 22.1</u>	<u>\$ (3.6)</u>
Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Balance Sheet Location			
		March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Currency forward contracts	Prepaid and other current assets	\$ 0.1	\$ 0.4	\$ 0.1
	Other current liabilities	(0.4)	—	(4.0)
Total derivatives not designated as hedging instruments		<u>(0.3)</u>	<u>0.4</u>	<u>(3.9)</u>
Total derivatives		<u>\$ (1.9)</u>	<u>\$ 22.5</u>	<u>\$ (7.5)</u>

The effect of derivative instruments on AOCL, net of tax, and the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for each of the periods presented was as follows:

Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships	Amount of Gain / (Loss) Recognized in AOCL			
	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Interest rate swap agreements	\$ (2.1)	\$ 5.8	\$ 3.3	\$ (0.6)
Commodity hedging instruments	0.7	0.3	1.0	(1.5)
Total	<u>\$ (1.4)</u>	<u>\$ 6.1</u>	<u>\$ 4.3</u>	<u>\$ (2.1)</u>

Derivatives in Cash Flow Hedging Relationships	Reclassified from AOCL into Statement of Operations	Amount of Gain / (Loss)			
		Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
		March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Interest rate swap agreements	Interest expense	\$ 1.5	\$ 4.1	\$ 3.0	\$ 6.7
Commodity hedging instruments	Cost of sales	0.7	(3.2)	0.8	(4.3)
Total		<u>\$ 2.2</u>	<u>\$ 0.9</u>	<u>\$ 3.8</u>	<u>\$ 2.4</u>

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NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
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Derivatives Not Designated as Hedging Instruments	Recognized in Statement of Operations	Amount of Gain / (Loss)			
		Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
		March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Currency forward contracts	Other income / expense, net	\$ (3.2)	\$ 1.3	\$ 6.5	\$ (3.5)
Commodity hedging instruments	Cost of sales	(0.1)	(0.1)	(0.1)	(1.4)
Total		<u>\$ (3.3)</u>	<u>\$ 1.2</u>	<u>\$ 6.4</u>	<u>\$ (4.9)</u>

NOTE 12. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The following table summarizes the fair value of the Company's assets and liabilities for which disclosure of fair value is required:

	Fair Value Hierarchy Level	March 29, 2025		March 30, 2024		September 30, 2024		
		Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Estimated Fair Value	
Assets								
Cash equivalents	Level 1	\$ 5.0	\$ 5.0	\$ 28.1	\$ 28.1	\$ 51.2	\$ 51.2	
Other								
Investment securities in non-qualified retirement plan assets	Level 1	30.4	30.4	42.3	42.3	32.4	32.4	
Convertible debt investments	Level 3	28.1	28.1	84.5	84.5	45.8	45.8	
Liabilities								
Debt instruments								
Credit facilities – revolving loans	Level 2	345.0	345.0	314.2	314.2	—	—	
Credit facilities – term loans	Level 2	600.0	600.0	900.0	900.0	625.0	625.0	
Senior Notes due 2031 – 4.000%	Level 2	500.0	440.0	500.0	427.5	500.0	456.3	
Senior Notes due 2032 – 4.375%	Level 2	400.0	353.0	400.0	344.0	400.0	370.0	
Senior Notes due 2029 – 4.500%	Level 2	450.0	420.8	450.0	405.0	450.0	432.0	
Senior Notes due 2026 – 5.250%	Level 2	250.0	247.8	250.0	245.6	250.0	248.8	
Other debt	Level 2	2.5	2.5	5.5	5.5	—	—	

Changes in the balance of Level 3 convertible debt investments carried at fair value are presented below. There were no transfers into or out of Level 3.

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Fair value at beginning of period	\$ 28.1	\$ 85.0	\$ 45.8	\$ 85.8
Total realized / unrealized gains (losses) included in net earnings	—	0.1	(7.0)	0.2
Total realized / unrealized losses included in OCI	—	(0.6)	—	(1.5)
Exchange for non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent	—	—	(10.7)	—
Fair value at end of period	<u>\$ 28.1</u>	<u>\$ 84.5</u>	<u>\$ 28.1</u>	<u>\$ 84.5</u>

On December 18, 2024, the Company exchanged its convertible debt investment in RIV Capital for non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent. Refer to “NOTE 2. INVESTMENT IN UNCONSOLIDATED AFFILIATES” for further details.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
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The amortized cost basis of convertible debt investments was \$44.4, \$226.0 and \$62.1 at March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, respectively. At March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, gross unrealized losses on convertible debt investments were \$16.4, \$141.4 and \$16.4, respectively, and there were no gross unrealized gains. These investments have been in a continuous unrealized loss position for greater than 12 months as of March 29, 2025. The allowance for expected credit losses was \$1.9, \$101.3 and \$1.9 at March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, respectively. At March 29, 2025, the weighted-average period until scheduled maturity of the Company's convertible debt investments was 4.5 years.

NOTE 13. LEASES

The Company leases certain property and equipment from third parties under various non-cancelable lease agreements, including industrial, commercial and office properties and equipment that support the management, manufacturing, distribution and research and development of products marketed and sold by the Company. The lease agreements generally require that the Company pay taxes, insurance and maintenance expenses related to the leased assets. At March 29, 2025, the Company had entered into operating leases that were yet to commence with a combined total expected lease liability of \$25.1. From time to time, the Company will sublease portions of its facilities, resulting in sublease income. Sublease income and the related cash flows were not material to the condensed consolidated financial statements for the three and six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024.

The Company leases certain vehicles (primarily cars and light trucks) under agreements that are cancellable after the first year, but typically continue on a month-to-month basis until canceled by the Company. The vehicle leases and certain other non-cancelable operating leases contain residual value guarantees that create a contingent obligation on the part of the Company to compensate the lessor if the leased asset cannot be sold for an amount in excess of a specified minimum value at the conclusion of the lease term. If all such vehicle leases had been canceled as of March 29, 2025, the Company's residual value guarantee would have approximated \$6.3.

Supplemental balance sheet information related to the Company's leases was as follows:

	Balance Sheet Location	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Operating leases:				
Right-of-use assets	Other assets	\$ 260.9	\$ 273.1	\$ 265.4
Current lease liabilities	Other current liabilities	75.0	75.9	75.3
Non-current lease liabilities	Other liabilities	206.6	223.7	215.8
Total operating lease liabilities		<u>\$ 281.6</u>	<u>\$ 299.6</u>	<u>\$ 291.1</u>
Finance leases:				
Right-of-use assets	Property, plant and equipment, net	\$ 12.9	\$ 15.0	\$ 15.2
Current lease liabilities	Current portion of debt	2.1	2.3	2.6
Non-current lease liabilities	Long-term debt	13.5	15.2	15.2
Total finance lease liabilities		<u>\$ 15.6</u>	<u>\$ 17.5</u>	<u>\$ 17.8</u>

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NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
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Components of lease cost were as follows:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Operating lease cost ^(a)	\$ 21.2	\$ 20.3	\$ 42.6	\$ 42.3
Variable lease cost	7.7	9.2	13.6	15.8
Finance lease cost				
Amortization of right-of-use assets	0.6	0.6	1.3	1.2
Interest on lease liabilities	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4
Total finance lease cost	<u>\$ 0.8</u>	<u>\$ 0.8</u>	<u>\$ 1.7</u>	<u>\$ 1.6</u>

- (a) Operating lease cost includes amortization of right-of-use assets of \$17.1 and \$34.3 for the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, respectively, and \$16.5 and \$34.7 for the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, respectively. Short-term lease expense is excluded from operating lease cost and is not material.

Supplemental cash flow information and non-cash activity related to the Company's leases were as follows:

	Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of lease liabilities:		
Operating cash flows from operating leases, net	\$ 47.7	\$ 49.3
Operating cash flows from finance leases	0.4	0.4
Financing cash flows from finance leases	1.2	1.0
Right-of-use assets obtained in exchange for lease obligations:		
Operating leases	\$ 30.8	\$ 41.6
Finance leases	0.4	1.7

Weighted-average remaining lease term and discount rate for the Company's leases were as follows:

	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	September 30, 2024
Weighted-average remaining lease term (in years):			
Operating leases	5.1	5.4	5.2
Finance leases	8.1	8.7	8.1
Weighted-average discount rate:			
Operating leases	6.7 %	5.6 %	5.9 %
Finance leases	4.6 %	4.6 %	4.7 %

Maturities of lease liabilities by fiscal year for the Company's leases as of March 29, 2025 were as follows:

Year	Operating Leases	Finance Leases
2025 (remainder of the year)	\$ 47.0	\$ 1.5
2026	80.8	2.6
2027	56.1	2.4
2028	46.3	2.0
2029	33.7	1.7
Thereafter	69.1	8.6
Total lease payments	333.0	18.8
Less: Imputed interest	(51.4)	(3.2)
Total lease liabilities	<u>\$ 281.6</u>	<u>\$ 15.6</u>

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

NOTE 14. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company divides its operations into three reportable segments: U.S. Consumer, Hawthorne and Other. U.S. Consumer consists of the Company's consumer lawn and garden business in the United States. Hawthorne consists of the Company's indoor and hydroponic gardening business. Other primarily consists of the Company's consumer lawn and garden business in Canada. This identification of reportable segments is consistent with how the segments report to and are managed by the chief operating decision maker of the Company. In addition, Corporate consists of general and administrative expenses and certain other income and expense items not allocated to the reportable business segments.

The performance of each reportable segment is evaluated based on several factors, including income (loss) before income taxes, amortization, impairment, restructuring and other charges ("Segment Profit (Loss)"). Senior management uses Segment Profit (Loss) to evaluate segment performance because the Company believes this measure is indicative of performance trends and the overall earnings potential of each segment.

The following tables present financial information for the Company's reportable segments for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Net Sales:				
U.S. Consumer	\$ 1,311.5	\$ 1,379.8	\$ 1,652.4	\$ 1,686.5
Hawthorne	32.7	66.4	84.7	146.6
Other	76.8	79.2	100.7	102.7
Consolidated	<u>\$ 1,421.0</u>	<u>\$ 1,525.4</u>	<u>\$ 1,837.8</u>	<u>\$ 1,935.8</u>
Segment Profit (Loss):				
U.S. Consumer	\$ 392.5	\$ 385.7	\$ 402.6	\$ 370.3
Hawthorne	(0.9)	(3.4)	0.7	(13.0)
Other	9.0	6.4	5.8	1.2
Total Segment Profit	400.6	388.7	409.1	358.5
Corporate	(34.8)	(35.7)	(69.5)	(61.7)
Intangible asset amortization	(3.1)	(3.9)	(6.3)	(7.9)
Impairment, restructuring and other	(18.0)	(77.0)	(39.6)	(64.1)
Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates	(5.9)	(7.0)	(15.8)	(29.5)
Interest expense	(36.6)	(44.1)	(70.3)	(86.8)
Other non-operating expense, net	(1.3)	(1.2)	(2.6)	(2.9)
Income before income taxes	<u>\$ 300.9</u>	<u>\$ 219.8</u>	<u>\$ 205.0</u>	<u>\$ 105.6</u>

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED) — (Continued)
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The following table presents net sales by product category for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
U.S. Consumer:				
Growing media and mulch	\$ 596.1	\$ 591.5	\$ 689.5	\$ 663.5
Lawn care	452.4	509.8	576.7	628.6
Controls	127.7	137.1	192.3	190.5
Roundup® marketing agreement	63.1	64.6	90.8	88.0
Other, primarily gardening	72.2	76.8	103.1	115.9
Hawthorne:				
Nutrients	16.2	24.6	33.7	41.2
Lighting	4.7	16.1	27.6	48.0
Growing media	5.5	10.2	10.4	21.4
Other, primarily hardware and growing environment	6.3	15.5	13.0	36.0
Other:				
Growing media	23.2	23.3	35.8	36.5
Lawn care	28.4	31.5	30.7	33.8
Other, primarily gardening and controls	25.2	24.4	34.2	32.4
Total net sales	<u>\$ 1,421.0</u>	<u>\$ 1,525.4</u>	<u>\$ 1,837.8</u>	<u>\$ 1,935.8</u>

The following table presents net sales by geographic area for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Net sales:				
United States	\$ 1,343.8	\$ 1,441.7	\$ 1,723.1	\$ 1,807.5
International	77.2	83.7	114.7	128.3
	<u>\$ 1,421.0</u>	<u>\$ 1,525.4</u>	<u>\$ 1,837.8</u>	<u>\$ 1,935.8</u>

ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The purpose of this Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (“MD&A”) is to provide an understanding of our financial condition and results of operations by focusing on changes in certain key measures from year-to-year. This MD&A includes the following sections:

- Executive summary
- Results of operations
- Segment results
- Liquidity and capital resources
- Regulatory matters
- Critical accounting estimates

This MD&A should be read in conjunction with “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” included in Scotts Miracle-Gro’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024 (the “2024 Annual Report”) and our condensed consolidated financial statements included in this Form 10-Q.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Our operations are divided into three reportable segments: U.S. Consumer, Hawthorne and Other. U.S. Consumer consists of our consumer lawn and garden business in the United States. Hawthorne consists of our indoor and hydroponic gardening business. Other primarily consists of our consumer lawn and garden business in Canada. This division of reportable segments is consistent with how the segments report to and are managed by our chief operating decision maker. In addition, Corporate consists of general and administrative expenses and certain other income and expense items not allocated to the business segments. See “SEGMENT RESULTS” below for additional information regarding our evaluation of segment performance.

Through our U.S. Consumer and Other segments, we are the leading manufacturer and marketer of branded consumer lawn and garden products in North America. Our products are marketed under some of the most recognized brand names in the industry. Our key consumer lawn and garden brands include Scotts® Turf Builder® lawn fertilizer and Scotts® grass seed products; Miracle-Gro® soil, plant food and gardening products; Ortho® herbicide and pesticide products; and Tomcat® rodent control and animal repellent products. We are the exclusive agent of Monsanto for the marketing and distribution of certain of Monsanto’s consumer Roundup® branded products within the United States and certain other specified countries. In addition, we have an equity interest in Bonnie Plants, LLC, a joint venture with AFC focused on planting, growing, developing, distributing, marketing and selling live plants.

Through our Hawthorne segment, we are a leading provider of nutrients, lighting and other materials used for indoor and hydroponic gardening in North America. Our Signature brands include General Hydroponics®, Gavita®, Botanicare®, Agrolux®, Gro Pro®, Mother Earth®, Grower’s Edge®, HydroLogic Purification System® and CYCO®.

Due to the seasonal nature of the consumer lawn and garden business, significant portions of our U.S. Consumer and Other segment net sales ship to our retail customers during our second and third fiscal quarters, as noted in the following table. Our annual net sales are further concentrated in the second and third fiscal quarters by retailers who rely on our ability to deliver products closer to when consumers buy our products. Our Hawthorne segment is also impacted by seasonal sales patterns for certain product categories due to the timing of growing patterns in North America during our second and third fiscal quarters, and the timing of certain controlled agricultural lighting project sales during our third and fourth fiscal quarters.

	Percent of Net Sales from Continuing Operations by Quarter		
	2024	2023	2022
First Quarter	11.6 %	14.8 %	14.4 %
Second Quarter	42.9 %	43.2 %	42.8 %
Third Quarter	33.8 %	31.5 %	30.2 %
Fourth Quarter	11.7 %	10.5 %	12.6 %

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

Recent Events

During the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, our Hawthorne segment continued to experience decreased sales volume. This was partially attributable to an oversupply of cannabis, which has led to a prolonged period of lower cannabis wholesale prices and reduced indoor and outdoor cannabis cultivation. The oversupply has been driven by increased licensing activity across the U.S. and significant capital investment in the cannabis production marketplace over the past several years, as well as inconsistent enforcement of regulations. We expect that the oversupply of cannabis will continue to adversely impact our Hawthorne segment. If the oversupply of cannabis persists longer, or is more significant than we expect, our results of operations could be materially and adversely impacted for a longer period and to a greater extent than we currently anticipate.

During fiscal 2024, our Hawthorne segment discontinued distribution of other companies' products in order to shift its focus solely to marketing, innovating and supporting its portfolio of Signature brands, including General Hydroponics®, Gavita®, Botanicare®, Gro Pro®, Mother Earth®, Grower's Edge®, HydroLogic Purification System® and CYCO®. The discontinuation of sales of other companies' products has resulted in lower sales volume when compared to historical periods, but has enabled continued optimization of Hawthorne's operations and improvement of its profitability.

We continue to monitor the impacts of macroeconomic conditions, including elevated interest rates and the impact of inflationary pressures on input costs and consumer behavior; as well as geopolitical uncertainty, including the duration and resolution of ongoing conflicts, potential escalation of tensions and global supply chain disruptions. We are also continuing to monitor ongoing changes to global trade policies, including the imposition of tariffs. The impact that these events and conditions will have on our operational and financial performance will depend on future developments, which are difficult to predict. For more information about factors that could impact our business, refer to "ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS" in the 2024 Annual Report.

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table sets forth the components of earnings as a percentage of net sales for the three months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024:

	March 29, 2025	% Of Net Sales	March 30, 2024	% Of Net Sales
Net sales	\$ 1,421.0	100.0 %	\$ 1,525.4	100.0 %
Cost of sales	865.8	60.9	986.8	64.7
Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other	7.3	0.5	74.9	4.9
Gross margin	547.9	38.6	463.7	30.4
Operating expenses:				
Selling, general and administrative	188.3	13.3	178.7	11.7
Impairment, restructuring and other	10.7	0.8	2.1	0.1
Other expense, net	4.2	0.3	10.8	0.7
Income from operations	344.7	24.3	272.1	17.8
Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates	5.9	0.4	7.0	0.5
Interest expense	36.6	2.6	44.1	2.9
Other non-operating expense, net	1.3	0.1	1.2	0.1
Income before income taxes	300.9	21.2	219.8	14.4
Income tax expense	83.4	5.9	62.3	4.1
Net income	\$ 217.5	15.3 %	\$ 157.5	10.3 %

The sum of the components may not equal due to rounding.

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(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

The following table sets forth the components of earnings as a percentage of net sales for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024:

	March 29, 2025	% Of Net Sales	March 30, 2024	% Of Net Sales
Net sales	\$ 1,837.8	100.0 %	\$ 1,935.8	100.0 %
Cost of sales	1,182.7	64.4	1,340.8	69.3
Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other	12.4	0.7	69.1	3.6
Gross margin	642.7	35.0	525.9	27.2
Operating expenses:				
Selling, general and administrative	313.1	17.0	293.5	15.2
Impairment, restructuring and other	27.2	1.5	(5.0)	(0.3)
Other expense, net	8.7	0.5	12.6	0.7
Income from operations	293.7	16.0	224.8	11.6
Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates	15.8	0.9	29.5	1.5
Interest expense	70.3	3.8	86.8	4.5
Other non-operating expense, net	2.6	0.1	2.9	0.1
Income before income taxes	205.0	11.2	105.6	5.5
Income tax expense	57.0	3.1	28.6	1.5
Net income	\$ 148.0	8.1 %	\$ 77.0	4.0 %

The sum of the components may not equal due to rounding.

Net Sales

Net sales for the three months ended March 29, 2025 were \$1,421.0, a decrease of 6.8% from net sales of \$1,525.4 for the three months ended March 30, 2024. Net sales for the six months ended March 29, 2025 were \$1,837.8, a decrease of 5.1% from net sales of \$1,935.8 for the six months ended March 30, 2024. Factors contributing to the change in net sales are outlined in the following table:

	Three Months Ended March 29, 2025	Six Months Ended March 29, 2025
Volume and mix	(5.7)%	(4.0)%
Pricing	(0.8)	(0.8)
Foreign exchange rates	(0.3)	(0.3)
Change in net sales	(6.8)%	(5.1)%

The decrease in net sales for the three months ended March 29, 2025 as compared to the three months ended March 30, 2024 was primarily driven by:

- decreased sales volume driven by fertilizer, grass seed and controls products in our U.S. Consumer segment; and all product categories in our Hawthorne segment;
- other decreases of 1.1% included within “volume and mix” related to nonrecurring fiscal 2024 sales of bulk raw materials and AeroGarden® products in our U.S. Consumer segment and the discontinuation of sales of other companies’ products in our Hawthorne segment; and
- decreased pricing, primarily driven by additional investments in consumer activation activities in our U.S. Consumer segment.

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The decrease in net sales for the six months ended March 29, 2025 as compared to the six months ended March 30, 2024 was primarily driven by:

- decreased sales volume in our Hawthorne segment driven by all product categories;
- other decreases of 2.6% included within “volume and mix” related to nonrecurring fiscal 2024 sales of bulk raw materials and AeroGarden® products in our U.S. Consumer segment and the discontinuation of sales of other companies’ products in our Hawthorne segment; and
- decreased pricing, primarily driven by additional investments in consumer activation activities in our U.S. Consumer segment.

Cost of Sales

The following table shows the major components of cost of sales:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Materials	\$ 447.9	\$ 549.3	\$ 593.7	\$ 725.6
Manufacturing labor and overhead	222.4	230.6	293.4	306.0
Distribution and warehousing	168.4	177.9	246.5	261.1
Costs associated with Roundup® marketing agreement	27.1	29.0	49.1	48.1
Cost of sales	865.8	986.8	1,182.7	1,340.8
Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other	7.3	74.9	12.4	69.1
	<u>\$ 873.1</u>	<u>\$ 1,061.7</u>	<u>\$ 1,195.1</u>	<u>\$ 1,409.9</u>

Factors contributing to the change in cost of sales are outlined in the following table:

	Three Months Ended	Six Months Ended
	March 29, 2025	March 29, 2025
Volume, mix and other	\$ (82.2)	\$ (108.2)
Material cost changes	(33.6)	(47.0)
Foreign exchange rates	(3.3)	(3.9)
Costs associated with Roundup® marketing agreement	(1.9)	1.0
	(121.0)	(158.1)
Impairment, restructuring and other	(67.6)	(56.7)
Change in cost of sales	<u>\$ (188.6)</u>	<u>\$ (214.8)</u>

The decrease in cost of sales for the three months ended March 29, 2025 as compared to the three months ended March 30, 2024 was primarily driven by:

- lower material costs in our U.S. Consumer segment;
- lower sales volume in our U.S. Consumer and Hawthorne segments;
- nonrecurring fiscal 2024 sales of bulk raw materials and AeroGarden® products in our U.S. Consumer segment and the discontinuation of sales of other companies’ products in our Hawthorne segment;
- lower warehousing and transportation costs included within “volume, mix and other” in our U.S. Consumer and Hawthorne segments;
- lower manufacturing costs included within “volume, mix and other” in our U.S. Consumer, Hawthorne and Other segments; and
- a decrease in impairment, restructuring and other charges.

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The decrease in cost of sales for the six months ended March 29, 2025 as compared to the six months ended March 30, 2024 was primarily driven by:

- lower material costs in our U.S. Consumer segment;
- lower sales volume in our Hawthorne segment;
- nonrecurring fiscal 2024 sales of bulk raw materials and AeroGarden® products in our U.S. Consumer segment and the discontinuation of sales of other companies' products in our Hawthorne segment;
- lower warehousing and transportation costs included within "volume, mix and other" in our U.S. Consumer and Hawthorne segments;
- lower manufacturing costs included within "volume, mix and other" in our U.S. Consumer, Hawthorne and Other segments; and
- a decrease in impairment, restructuring and other charges.

Gross Margin

As a percentage of net sales, our gross margin rate was 38.6% and 30.4% for the three months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively, and was 35.0% and 27.2% for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively. Factors contributing to the change in gross margin rate are outlined in the following table:

	Three Months Ended March 29, 2025	Six Months Ended March 29, 2025
Volume, mix and other	2.1 %	3.0 %
Material costs	2.3	2.5
Pricing	(0.6)	(0.6)
	3.8 %	4.9 %
Impairment, restructuring and other	4.4	2.9
Change in gross margin rate	8.2 %	7.8 %

The increase in gross margin rate for the three and six months ended March 29, 2025 as compared to the three and six months ended March 30, 2024 was primarily driven by:

- lower material costs in our U.S. Consumer segment;
- favorable mix associated with our U.S. Consumer and Hawthorne segments;
- lower manufacturing costs included within "volume, mix and other" in our U.S. Consumer, Hawthorne and Other segments;
- lower warehousing and transportation costs included within "volume, mix and other" in our U.S. Consumer and Hawthorne segments; and
- a decrease in impairment, restructuring and other charges;
- partially offset by decreased pricing, primarily driven by additional investments in consumer activation activities in our U.S. Consumer segment; and
- unfavorable leverage of fixed costs, included within "volume, mix and other" driven by lower sales volume.

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Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

The following table sets forth the components of selling, general and administrative expenses (“SG&A”):

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Advertising	\$ 62.2	\$ 61.9	\$ 79.9	\$ 79.3
Share-based compensation	13.5	18.2	26.1	31.7
Research and development	9.1	8.2	16.7	16.6
Amortization of intangibles	3.0	3.5	5.9	7.0
Other selling, general and administrative	100.5	86.9	184.5	158.9
	<u>\$ 188.3</u>	<u>\$ 178.7</u>	<u>\$ 313.1</u>	<u>\$ 293.5</u>

SG&A increased \$9.6, or 5.4%, during the three months ended March 29, 2025 compared to the three months ended March 30, 2024. Share-based compensation expense, which excludes certain advertising expenses paid for in Common Shares, decreased \$4.7, or 25.8%, primarily due to lower long-term incentive compensation expense. Other SG&A increased \$13.6, or 15.7%, driven by higher short-term variable cash incentive compensation expense and other associate-related costs.

SG&A increased \$19.6, or 6.7%, during the six months ended March 29, 2025 compared to the six months ended March 30, 2024. Share-based compensation expense, which excludes certain advertising expenses paid for in Common Shares, decreased \$5.6, or 17.7%, primarily due to lower long-term incentive compensation expense. Other SG&A increased \$25.6, or 16.1%, driven by higher short-term variable cash incentive compensation expense and other associate-related costs.

Impairment, Restructuring and Other

Activity described herein is classified within the “Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other” and “Impairment, restructuring and other” lines in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. The following table details impairment, restructuring and other charges (recoveries) for each of the periods presented:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other:				
Restructuring and other charges, net	\$ 3.6	\$ 70.1	\$ 5.4	\$ 64.0
Right-of-use asset impairments	2.8	0.7	4.5	0.9
Property, plant and equipment impairments	0.9	4.1	2.5	4.2
Operating expenses—impairment, restructuring and other:				
Restructuring and other charges (recoveries), net	10.7	2.1	20.2	(5.0)
Loss on exchange of convertible debt investment	—	—	7.0	—
Total impairment, restructuring and other charges, net	<u>\$ 18.0</u>	<u>\$ 77.0</u>	<u>\$ 39.6</u>	<u>\$ 64.1</u>

During the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, we incurred employee and executive severance charges of \$3.6 in the “Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations and \$5.4 and \$14.9, respectively, in the “Impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. We incurred charges of \$3.0 in our U.S. Consumer segment and \$0.6 in our Hawthorne segment in the “Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 29, 2025. We incurred charges of \$3.3 in our U.S. Consumer segment and \$2.1 and \$11.6 at Corporate in the “Impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, respectively.

During the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, we incurred a non-cash loss of \$0.0 and \$7.0, respectively, in the “Impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations related to the exchange of our convertible debt investment in RIV Capital for non-voting exchangeable shares of Fluent. Refer to “NOTE 2. INVESTMENT IN UNCONSOLIDATED AFFILIATES” for further details.

During fiscal 2022, we began implementing a series of Company-wide organizational changes and initiatives intended to create operational and management-level efficiencies. As part of this restructuring initiative, we reduced the size of our supply chain network, reduced staffing levels and implemented other cost-reduction initiatives. We also accelerated the reduction of certain Hawthorne inventory, primarily lighting, growing environments and hardware products, to reduce on hand inventory to align with the reduced network capacity. We incurred costs of \$2.3 and \$3.7 in our U.S. Consumer segment and \$1.4 and \$5.1 in our Hawthorne segment associated with this restructuring initiative in the “Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, respectively. During the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, we incurred costs of \$77.0 and \$73.2, respectively, associated with this restructuring initiative primarily related to inventory write-down charges, employee termination benefits, facility closure costs and impairment of right-of-use assets and property, plant and equipment. We recorded recoveries of \$0.5 and incurred costs of \$1.4 in our U.S. Consumer segment and incurred costs of \$75.4 and \$67.8 in our Hawthorne segment in the “Cost of sales—impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, respectively. We recorded recoveries of \$0.1 and \$0.9 in our U.S. Consumer segment and incurred costs of \$1.9 and \$2.3 in our Hawthorne segment and \$0.0 and \$2.4 at Corporate in the “Impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations during the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, respectively. Costs incurred since the inception of this restructuring initiative through March 29, 2025 were \$302.3 for our Hawthorne segment, \$62.0 for our U.S. Consumer segment, \$2.9 for our Other segment and \$25.1 for Corporate.

During the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, we recorded a gain of \$0.0 and \$12.1, respectively, in the “Impairment, restructuring and other” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations associated with a payment received in resolution of a dispute with the former ownership group of a business that was acquired in fiscal 2022. This payment was classified as an operating activity in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Other Expense, net

Other expense is comprised of activities such as the discount on sales of accounts receivable under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement, royalty income from the licensing of certain of our brand names and foreign exchange transaction gains and losses. Other expense was \$4.2 and \$10.8 for the three months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively; and was \$8.7 and \$12.6 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively. The decrease in expense was primarily due to lower discount on sales of accounts receivable under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement.

Income from Operations

Income from operations was \$344.7 for the three months ended March 29, 2025, an increase of 26.7% compared to \$272.1 for the three months ended March 30, 2024; and was \$293.7 for the six months ended March 29, 2025, an increase of 30.6% compared to \$224.8 for the six months ended March 30, 2024. For the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, the increase was primarily driven by a higher gross margin rate, lower impairment, restructuring and other charges and lower other expense, partially offset by lower net sales and higher SG&A.

Equity in Loss of Unconsolidated Affiliates

Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates was \$5.9 and \$7.0 for the three months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively; and was \$15.8 and \$29.5 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively. We anticipated a net loss for Bonnie Plants, LLC for the three and six months ended March 29, 2025 due to the seasonal nature of its business, in which sales are heavily weighted to the spring and summer selling periods during our third fiscal quarter. During the three and six months ended March 30, 2024, equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates also included a pre-tax impairment charge of \$0.0 and \$10.4, respectively, associated with our investment in Bonnie Plants, LLC.

Interest Expense

Interest expense was \$36.6 for the three months ended March 29, 2025, a decrease of 17.0% compared to \$44.1 for the three months ended March 30, 2024; and was \$70.3 for the six months ended March 29, 2025, a decrease of 19.0% compared to \$86.8 for the six months ended March 30, 2024. For the three months ended March 29, 2025, the decrease was driven by lower average borrowings of \$346.4 and a decrease in our weighted average interest rate, net of the impact of interest rate swaps, of 40 basis points. For the six months ended March 29, 2025, the decrease was driven by lower average borrowings of \$367.8 and a decrease in our weighted average interest rate, net of the impact of interest rate swaps, of 40 basis points. The decrease in average borrowings was driven by our focus on using available cash flow to reduce our debt. The decrease in our weighted average interest rate was primarily driven by lower borrowing rates under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement.

Income Tax Expense

The effective tax rates for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 were 27.8% and 27.1%, respectively. The effective tax rate used for interim purposes is based on our best estimate of factors impacting the effective tax rate for the full fiscal year. Factors affecting the estimated effective tax rate include assumptions as to income by jurisdiction (domestic and foreign), the availability and utilization of tax credits and the existence of elements of income and expense that may not be taxable or deductible. The estimated effective tax rate is subject to revision in later interim periods and at fiscal year-end as facts and circumstances change during the course of the fiscal year. There can be no assurance that the effective tax rate estimated for interim financial reporting purposes will approximate the effective tax rate determined at fiscal year-end.

Net Income

Net income was \$217.5, or \$3.72 per diluted share, for the three months ended March 29, 2025 compared to \$157.5, or \$2.74 per diluted share, for the three months ended March 30, 2024. The increase was driven by a higher gross margin rate, lower impairment, restructuring and other charges, lower other expense and lower interest expense, partially offset by lower net sales, higher SG&A and higher income tax expense.

Diluted average Common Shares used in the diluted net income per common share calculation for the three months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 were 58.4 million and 57.4 million, respectively, which included dilutive potential Common Shares of 0.8 million and 0.6 million, respectively. The increase in diluted average Common Shares was primarily the result of the exercise and issuance of share-based compensation awards.

Net income was \$148.0, or \$2.53 per diluted share, for the six months ended March 29, 2025 compared to \$77.0, or \$1.34 per diluted share, for the six months ended March 30, 2024. The increase was driven by a higher gross margin rate, lower impairment, restructuring and other charges, lower equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates, lower other expense and lower interest expense, partially offset by lower net sales, higher SG&A and higher income tax expense.

Diluted average Common Shares used in the diluted net income per common share calculation for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 were 58.6 million and 57.3 million, respectively, which included dilutive potential Common Shares of 1.1 million and 0.6 million, respectively. The increase in diluted average Common Shares was primarily the result of the exercise and issuance of share-based compensation awards.

SEGMENT RESULTS

The performance of each reportable segment is evaluated based on several factors, including income (loss) before income taxes, amortization, impairment, restructuring and other charges ("Segment Profit (Loss)"), which is a non-GAAP financial measure. Senior management uses Segment Profit (Loss) to evaluate segment performance because they believe this measure is indicative of performance trends and the overall earnings potential of each segment.

The following table sets forth net sales by segment:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
U.S. Consumer	\$ 1,311.5	\$ 1,379.8	\$ 1,652.4	\$ 1,686.5
Hawthorne	32.7	66.4	84.7	146.6
Other	76.8	79.2	100.7	102.7
Consolidated	<u>\$ 1,421.0</u>	<u>\$ 1,525.4</u>	<u>\$ 1,837.8</u>	<u>\$ 1,935.8</u>

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The following table sets forth Segment Profit (Loss) as well as a reconciliation to income before income taxes, the most directly comparable GAAP measure:

	Three Months Ended		Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
U.S. Consumer	\$ 392.5	\$ 385.7	\$ 402.6	\$ 370.3
Hawthorne	(0.9)	(3.4)	0.7	(13.0)
Other	9.0	6.4	5.8	1.2
Total Segment Profit (Non-GAAP)	400.6	388.7	409.1	358.5
Corporate	(34.8)	(35.7)	(69.5)	(61.7)
Intangible asset amortization	(3.1)	(3.9)	(6.3)	(7.9)
Impairment, restructuring and other	(18.0)	(77.0)	(39.6)	(64.1)
Equity in loss of unconsolidated affiliates	(5.9)	(7.0)	(15.8)	(29.5)
Interest expense	(36.6)	(44.1)	(70.3)	(86.8)
Other non-operating expense, net	(1.3)	(1.2)	(2.6)	(2.9)
Income before income taxes (GAAP)	<u>\$ 300.9</u>	<u>\$ 219.8</u>	<u>\$ 205.0</u>	<u>\$ 105.6</u>

U.S. Consumer

U.S. Consumer segment net sales were \$1,311.5 in the second quarter of fiscal 2025, a decrease of 4.9% from second quarter of fiscal 2024 net sales of \$1,379.8; and were \$1,652.4 for the first six months of fiscal 2025, a decrease of 2.0% from the first six months of fiscal 2024 net sales of \$1,686.5. For the second quarter of fiscal 2025, the decrease was driven by lower sales volume of 3.4%, decreased pricing of 0.9% and a decrease of 0.6% due to nonrecurring fiscal 2024 sales of bulk raw materials and AeroGarden® products. For the six months ended March 29, 2025, the decrease was driven by nonrecurring fiscal 2024 sales of bulk raw materials and AeroGarden® products of 1.5% and decreased pricing of 0.8%, partially offset by higher sales volume of 0.3%. The decrease in sales volume for the second quarter of fiscal 2025 was driven by fertilizer, grass seed and controls products. Decreased pricing for the three and six months ended March 29, 2025 was due to additional investments in consumer activation activities.

U.S. Consumer Segment Profit was \$392.5 in the second quarter of fiscal 2025, an increase of 1.8% from second quarter of fiscal 2024 Segment Profit of \$385.7; and U.S. Consumer Segment Profit was \$402.6 for the first six months of fiscal 2025, an increase of 8.7% from the first six months of fiscal 2024 Segment Profit of \$370.3. For the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, the increase was primarily due to a higher gross margin rate and lower other expense, partially offset by lower net sales and higher SG&A.

Hawthorne

Hawthorne segment net sales were \$32.7 in the second quarter of fiscal 2025, a decrease of 50.8% from second quarter of fiscal 2024 net sales of \$66.4; and were \$84.7 for the first six months of fiscal 2025, a decrease of 42.2% from the first six months of fiscal 2024 net sales of \$146.6. For the second quarter of fiscal 2025, the decrease was driven by lower sales volume of 36.2%, the discontinuation of sales of other companies' products of 13.8% and decreased pricing of 0.5%. For the six months ended March 29, 2025, the decrease was driven by lower sales volume of 25.6%, the discontinuation of sales of other companies' products of 15.7% and decreased pricing of 0.9%.

Hawthorne Segment Loss was \$0.9 in the second quarter of fiscal 2025 compared to Segment Loss of \$3.4 for the second quarter of fiscal 2024; and Hawthorne Segment Profit was \$0.7 for the first six months of fiscal 2025 compared to Segment Loss of \$13.0 for the first six months of fiscal 2024. For the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, the improvement was driven by a higher gross margin rate and lower SG&A, partially offset by lower net sales.

Other

Other segment net sales were \$76.8 in the second quarter of fiscal 2025, a decrease of 3.0% from second quarter of fiscal 2024 net sales of \$79.2; and were \$100.7 for the first six months of fiscal 2025, a decrease of 1.9% from the first six months of fiscal 2024 net sales of \$102.7. For the second quarter of fiscal 2025, the decrease was driven by unfavorable foreign exchange rates of 5.2%, partially offset by higher sales volume of 2.0% and increased pricing of 0.2%. For the six months ended March 29, 2025, the decrease was driven by unfavorable foreign exchange rates of 4.7%, partially offset by higher sales volume of 2.5% and increased pricing of 0.3%.

Other Segment Profit was \$9.0 in the second quarter of fiscal 2025, an increase of 40.6% from second quarter of fiscal 2024 Segment Profit of \$6.4; and Other Segment Profit was \$5.8 for the first six months of fiscal 2025 compared to Segment Profit of \$1.2 for the first six months of fiscal 2024. For the three and six months ended March 29, 2025, the increase was driven by a higher gross margin rate.

Corporate

Corporate expenses were \$34.8 in the second quarter of fiscal 2025 as compared to \$35.7 for the second quarter of fiscal 2024; and were \$69.5 for the first six months of fiscal 2025, an increase of 12.6% from the first six months of fiscal 2024 expenses of \$61.7. For the six months ended March 29, 2025, the increase was primarily driven by higher short-term variable incentive compensation expense and other associate-related costs.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

The following table summarizes cash activities:

	Six Months Ended	
	March 29, 2025	March 30, 2024
Net cash used in operating activities	\$ (257.2)	\$ (39.0)
Net cash used in investing activities	(34.7)	(71.1)
Net cash provided by financing activities	237.9	142.8

Operating Activities

Cash used in operating activities totaled \$257.2 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 compared to \$39.0 for the six months ended March 30, 2024. This increase was driven by higher inventory production, the timing of accounts receivable sales, higher short-term variable cash incentive compensation payments and higher SG&A, partially offset by higher gross margin and lower interest payments. Accounts receivable sale timing is driven by the entry into the Master Receivable Purchasing Agreement during the six months ended March 30, 2024.

Investing Activities

Cash used in investing activities totaled \$34.7 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 compared to \$71.1 for the six months ended March 30, 2024. Cash used for investments in property, plant and equipment during the first six months of fiscal 2025 and 2024 was \$37.6 and \$54.2, respectively, driven by the timing of spending on capital projects. During the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, we had other investing cash inflows of \$2.9 and \$4.5, respectively, primarily associated with currency forward contracts. During the six months ended March 30, 2024, we acquired an additional equity interest in Bonnie Plants, LLC for \$21.4.

Financing Activities

Cash provided by financing activities totaled \$237.9 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 compared to \$142.8 for the six months ended March 30, 2024. During the six months ended March 29, 2025, we had net borrowings under our credit facilities of \$321.2 due to our seasonal working capital build, paid dividends of \$78.0 and received cash from the exercise of stock options of \$10.0 (which also includes amounts received from employee purchases under the employee stock purchase plan). During the six months ended March 30, 2024, we had net borrowings under our credit facilities of \$205.0 and paid dividends of \$76.2. During the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, we repurchased Common Shares for \$18.3 and \$4.9, respectively (which includes cash paid to tax authorities to satisfy statutory income tax withholding obligations related to share-based compensation). In addition, during the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024 we had other financing cash inflows of \$3.0 and \$17.2, respectively, primarily related to collections of previously sold accounts receivable not yet submitted to the buyer.

Accounts Receivable Sales

On October 27, 2023, we entered into the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement, under which we could sell up to \$600.0 of available and eligible outstanding customer accounts receivable generated by sales to four specified customers. On September 1, 2024, we amended the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement to permit us to sell up to \$750.0 of available and eligible outstanding customer accounts receivable generated by sales to five specified customers. The agreement is uncommitted and expires on September 1, 2025. Transactions under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement are accounted for as sales of accounts receivable, and the receivables sold are removed from the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at the time of the sales transaction. Proceeds received from the sales of accounts receivable are classified as operating cash flows and collections of previously sold accounts receivable not yet submitted to the buyer are classified as financing cash flows in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows. We record the discount on sales in the “Other expense, net” line in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations. At March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, net receivables derecognized were \$598.2, \$582.8 and \$186.6, respectively. During the three months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, proceeds from the sale of receivables under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement totaled \$748.2 and \$758.2, respectively, and the total discount recorded on sales was \$7.9 and \$10.7, respectively. During the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, proceeds from the sale of receivables under the Master Receivables Purchase Agreement totaled \$1,022.2 and \$955.5, respectively, and the total discount recorded on sales was \$11.2 and \$12.9, respectively.

Supplier Finance Program

We have an agreement to provide a supplier finance program which facilitates participating suppliers’ ability to finance our payment obligations with a designated third-party financial institution. Participating suppliers may, at their sole discretion, elect to finance our payment obligations prior to their scheduled due dates at a discounted price to the participating financial institution. Our obligations to our suppliers, including amounts due and scheduled payment dates, are not impacted by suppliers’ decisions to finance amounts under this arrangement. The payment terms that we negotiate with our suppliers are consistent, regardless of whether a supplier participates in the program. Our current payment terms with a majority of our suppliers generally range from 30 to 60 days, which we deem to be commercially reasonable. Our outstanding payment obligations under our supplier finance program were \$32.5, \$38.5 and \$12.5 at March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, respectively, and are recorded within accounts payable in the Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets. The associated payments were \$155.4 and \$153.0 for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively, and are classified as operating activities in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Our cash and cash equivalents were held in cash depository accounts with major financial institutions around the world or invested in high-quality, short-term liquid investments having original maturities of three months or less. The cash and cash equivalents balances of \$16.9, \$65.1 and \$71.6 as of March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024, respectively, included \$9.4, \$7.9 and \$15.9, respectively, held by controlled foreign corporations. As of March 29, 2025, we maintain our assertion of indefinite reinvestment of the earnings of all material foreign subsidiaries.

Borrowing Agreements

Credit Facilities

Our primary sources of liquidity are cash generated by operations and borrowings under our credit facilities, which are guaranteed by substantially all of Scotts Miracle-Gro’s domestic subsidiaries. On April 8, 2022, we entered into the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement, providing the Company and certain of its subsidiaries with five-year senior secured loan facilities in the aggregate principal amount of \$2,500.0, comprised of a revolving credit facility of \$1,500.0 and a term loan in the original principal amount of \$1,000.0. The Sixth A&R Credit Agreement will terminate on April 8, 2027. The Sixth A&R Credit Facilities are available for the issuance of letters of credit of up to \$100.0. The terms of the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement include customary representations and warranties, affirmative and negative covenants, financial covenants, and events of default.

Under the terms of the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement, loans bear interest, at our election, at a rate per annum equal to either (i) the Alternate Base Rate plus the Applicable Spread (all, as defined in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement) or (ii) the Adjusted Term SOFR Rate for the Interest Period in effect for such borrowing plus the Applicable Spread (all as defined in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement). Swingline Loans bear interest at the applicable Swingline Rate set forth in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. Interest rates for other select non-U.S. dollar borrowings, including borrowings denominated in euro, Pounds Sterling and Canadian dollars, are based on separate interest rate indices, as set forth in the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement.

On June 8, 2022, we entered into Amendment No. 1 to the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. Amendment No. 1 increased the maximum permitted leverage ratio for the quarterly leverage covenant until April 1, 2024. Amendment No. 1 also increased the interest rate applicable to borrowings under the revolving credit facility by 35 bps and the term loan facility by 50 bps, and increased the annual facility fee rate on the revolving credit facility by 15 bps, in each case, when our quarterly-tested leverage ratio exceeded 4.75.

On July 31, 2023, we entered into Amendment No. 2 to the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. Amendment No. 2 (i) reduces the revolving loan commitments by \$250.0; (ii) increases the maximum permitted leverage ratio for the quarterly leverage covenant during the Leverage Adjustment Period; (iii) replaces the interest coverage covenant with a fixed charge coverage covenant; (iv) increases the interest rate applicable to borrowings under the revolving credit facility and the term loan facility by 25 bps for each existing pricing tier and adds a pricing tier applicable to periods when the leverage ratio exceeds 6.00; (v) limits the amount of certain incremental investments, loans and advances to \$25.0 during the Leverage Adjustment Period; and (vi) adds our intellectual property (subject to certain exceptions) as collateral to secure our obligations under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. Additionally, Amendment No. 2 limits our ability to declare or pay any discretionary dividends, distributions or other restricted payments during the Leverage Adjustment Period to only the payment of (i) regularly scheduled cash dividends to holders of our Common Shares in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$225.0 per fiscal year and (ii) other dividends, distributions or restricted payments in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$25.0. Amendment No. 2 also subjects our ability to make certain investments to pro forma compliance with certain leverage levels specified in Amendment No. 2. Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement is secured by (i) a perfected first priority security interest in all of the accounts receivable, inventory, equipment and intellectual property (subject to certain exceptions) of Scotts Miracle-Gro and certain of its domestic subsidiaries and (ii) the pledge of all of the capital stock of certain of Scotts Miracle-Gro's domestic subsidiaries and a portion of the capital stock of certain of its foreign subsidiaries.

At March 29, 2025, we had letters of credit outstanding in the aggregate principal amount of \$83.1, and had \$821.9 of borrowing availability under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. The weighted average interest rates on average borrowings under the credit facilities, excluding the impact of interest rate swaps, were 7.8% and 8.9% for the six months ended March 29, 2025 and March 30, 2024, respectively.

The Sixth A&R Credit Agreement contains, among other obligations, an affirmative covenant regarding our leverage ratio determined as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters calculated as average total indebtedness, divided by our Adjusted EBITDA. Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, the maximum permitted leverage ratio is (i) 5.25 for the second quarter of fiscal 2025, (ii) 5.00 for the third quarter of fiscal 2025, (iii) 4.75 for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2025 and (iv) 4.50 for the first quarter of fiscal 2026 and thereafter. Our leverage ratio was 4.41 at March 29, 2025. Pursuant to Amendment No. 2, the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement also contains an affirmative covenant regarding our fixed charge coverage ratio determined as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters, calculated as Adjusted EBITDA minus capital expenditures and expense for taxes paid in cash, divided by the sum of interest expense plus restricted payments, as described in Amendment No. 2. The minimum required fixed charge coverage ratio is 1.00. Our fixed charge coverage ratio was 1.45 for the twelve months ended March 29, 2025.

As of March 29, 2025, we were in compliance with all applicable covenants in the agreements governing our debt. Based on our projections of financial performance for the twelve-month period subsequent to the date of the filing of this Form 10-Q, we expect to remain in compliance with the financial covenants under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement. However, our assessment of our ability to meet our future obligations is inherently subjective, judgment-based, and susceptible to change based on future events. A covenant violation may result in an event of default. Such a default would allow the lenders under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement to accelerate the maturity of the indebtedness thereunder and would also implicate cross-default provisions under the Senior Notes and cause the Senior Notes to become due and payable at that time. As of March 29, 2025, our indebtedness under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement and Senior Notes was \$2,545.0. We do not have sufficient cash on hand or available liquidity that can be utilized to repay these outstanding amounts in the event of default.

As part of our contingency planning to address potential future circumstances that could result in noncompliance, we have contemplated alternative plans including additional restructuring activities to reduce operating expenses and certain cash management strategies that are within our control. Additionally, we have contemplated alternative plans that are subject to market conditions and not in our control, including, among others, discussions with our lenders to amend the terms of our financial covenants under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement and generating cash by completing other financing transactions, which may include issuing equity. There is no assurance that we will be successful in implementing these alternative plans.

Senior Notes

On December 15, 2016, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$250.0 aggregate principal amount of 5.250% Senior Notes due 2026. The 5.250% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with our existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 5.250% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of June 15 and December 15 of each year.

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On October 22, 2019, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$450.0 aggregate principal amount of 4.500% Senior Notes due 2029. The 4.500% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with our existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 4.500% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of April 15 and October 15 of each year.

On March 17, 2021, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$500.0 aggregate principal amount of 4.000% Senior Notes due 2031. The 4.000% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with our existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 4.000% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of April 1 and October 1 of each year.

On August 13, 2021, Scotts Miracle-Gro issued \$400.0 aggregate principal amount of 4.375% Senior Notes due 2032. The 4.375% Senior Notes represent general unsecured senior obligations and rank equal in right of payment with our existing and future unsecured senior debt. The 4.375% Senior Notes have interest payment dates of February 1 and August 1 of each year.

Substantially all of Scotts Miracle-Gro's directly and indirectly owned domestic subsidiaries serve as guarantors of the 5.250% Senior Notes, the 4.500% Senior Notes, the 4.000% Senior Notes and the 4.375% Senior Notes.

The Senior Notes contain an affirmative covenant regarding our interest coverage ratio determined as of the end of each of our fiscal quarters, calculated as Adjusted EBITDA divided by interest expense excluding costs related to refinancings. The minimum required interest coverage ratio is 2.00. Our interest coverage ratio was 4.17 for the twelve months ended March 29, 2025.

Interest Rate Swap Agreements

We enter into interest rate swap agreements with major financial institutions that effectively convert a portion of our variable-rate debt to a fixed rate. Interest payments made between the effective date and expiration date are hedged by the swap agreements. Swap agreements that were hedging interest payments as of March 29, 2025, March 30, 2024 and September 30, 2024 had a maximum total U.S. dollar equivalent notional amount of \$450.0, \$700.0 and \$450.0, respectively. The notional amount, effective date, expiration date and rate of each of the swap agreements outstanding at March 29, 2025 are shown in the table below:

Notional Amount (\$)	Effective Date (a)	Expiration Date	Fixed Rate
150	6/7/2023	4/7/2027	3.37 %
50	6/7/2023	4/7/2027	3.34 %
100 ^(b)	11/20/2023	3/22/2027	4.74 %
150 ^(b)	9/20/2024	9/20/2029	4.25 %

(a) The effective date refers to the date on which interest payments are first hedged by the applicable swap agreement.

(b) Notional amount adjusts in accordance with a specified seasonal schedule. This represents the maximum notional amount at any point in time.

Availability and Use of Cash

We believe that our cash flows from operations and borrowings under our agreements described herein will be sufficient to meet debt service, capital expenditures and working capital needs for the foreseeable future. However, we cannot ensure that our business will generate sufficient cash flow from operations or that future borrowings will be available under our borrowing agreements in amounts sufficient to pay indebtedness or fund other liquidity needs. Actual results of operations will depend on numerous factors, many of which are beyond our control as further discussed in the 2024 Annual Report, under "ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS — Risks Related to Our M&A, Lending and Financing Activities — Our indebtedness could limit our flexibility and adversely affect our financial condition."

Financial Disclosures About Guarantors and Issuers of Guaranteed Securities

The 5.250% Senior Notes, 4.500% Senior Notes, 4.000% Senior Notes and 4.375% Senior Notes were issued by Scotts Miracle-Gro on December 15, 2016, October 22, 2019, March 17, 2021 and August 13, 2021, respectively. The Senior Notes are guaranteed by certain consolidated domestic subsidiaries of Scotts Miracle-Gro (collectively, the “Guarantors”) and, therefore, we report summarized financial information in accordance with SEC Regulation S-X, Rule 13-01, “Guarantors and Issuers of Guaranteed Securities Registered or Being Registered.”

The guarantees are “full and unconditional,” as those terms are used in Regulation S-X, Rule 3-10(b)(3), except that a Guarantor’s guarantee will be released in certain circumstances set forth in the indentures governing the Senior Notes, such as: (i) upon any sale or other disposition of all or substantially all of the assets of the Guarantor (including by way of merger or consolidation) to any person other than Scotts Miracle-Gro or any “restricted subsidiary” under the applicable indenture; (ii) if the Guarantor merges with and into Scotts Miracle-Gro, with Scotts Miracle-Gro surviving such merger; (iii) if the Guarantor is designated an “unrestricted subsidiary” in accordance with the applicable indenture or otherwise ceases to be a “restricted subsidiary” (including by way of liquidation or dissolution) in a transaction permitted by such indenture; (iv) upon legal or covenant defeasance; (v) at the election of Scotts Miracle-Gro following the Guarantor’s release as a guarantor under the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement, except a release by or as a result of the repayment of the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement; or (vi) if the Guarantor ceases to be a “restricted subsidiary” and the Guarantor is not otherwise required to provide a guarantee of the Senior Notes pursuant to the applicable indenture.

Our foreign subsidiaries and certain of our domestic subsidiaries are not guarantors (collectively, the “Non-Guarantors”) of the Senior Notes. Payments on the Senior Notes are only required to be made by Scotts Miracle-Gro and the Guarantors. As a result, no payments are required to be made from the assets of the Non-Guarantors, unless those assets are transferred by dividend or otherwise to Scotts Miracle-Gro or a Guarantor. In the event of a bankruptcy, insolvency, liquidation or reorganization of any of the Non-Guarantors, holders of their indebtedness, including their trade creditors and other obligations, will be entitled to payment of their claims from the assets of the Non-Guarantors before any assets are made available for distribution to Scotts Miracle-Gro or the Guarantors. As a result, the Senior Notes are effectively subordinated to all the liabilities of the Non-Guarantors.

The guarantees may be subject to review under federal bankruptcy laws or relevant state fraudulent conveyance or fraudulent transfer laws. In certain circumstances, the court could void the guarantee, subordinate the amounts owing under the guarantee, or take other actions detrimental to the holders of the Senior Notes.

As a general matter, value is given for a transfer or an obligation if, in exchange for the transfer or obligation, property is transferred or a valid antecedent debt is satisfied. A court would likely find that a Guarantor did not receive reasonably equivalent value or fair consideration for its guarantee to the extent such Guarantor did not obtain a reasonably equivalent benefit from the issuance of the Senior Notes.

The measure of insolvency varies depending upon the law of the jurisdiction that is being applied. Regardless of the measure being applied, a court could determine that a Guarantor was insolvent on the date the guarantee was issued, so that payments to the holders of the Senior Notes would constitute a preference, fraudulent transfer or conveyances on other grounds. If a guarantee is voided as a fraudulent conveyance or is found to be unenforceable for any other reason, the holders of the Senior Notes will not have a claim against the Guarantor.

Each guarantee contains a provision intended to limit the Guarantor’s liability to the maximum amount that it could incur without causing the incurrence of obligations under its guarantee to be a fraudulent conveyance. However, there can be no assurance as to what standard a court will apply in making a determination of the maximum liability of each Guarantor. Moreover, this provision may not be effective to protect the guarantees from being voided under fraudulent conveyance laws. There is a possibility that the entire guarantee may be set aside, in which case the entire liability may be extinguished.

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(Dollars in millions, except per share data)

The following tables present summarized financial information on a combined basis for Scotts Miracle-Gro and the Guarantors. Transactions between Scotts Miracle-Gro and the Guarantors have been eliminated and the summarized financial information does not reflect investments of the Scotts Miracle-Gro and the Guarantors in the Non-Guarantor subsidiaries.

	March 29, 2025	September 30, 2024
Current assets	\$ 1,524.1	\$ 838.4
Non-current assets ^(a)	1,762.5	1,805.1
Current liabilities	933.9	667.3
Non-current liabilities	2,774.2	2,471.6

(a) Includes amounts due from Non-Guarantor subsidiaries of \$82.2 and \$49.5, respectively.

	Six Months Ended March 29, 2025	Year Ended September 30, 2024
Net sales	\$ 1,723.0	\$ 3,248.6
Gross margin	622.6	809.5
Net income (loss) ^(a)	151.9	(16.1)

(a) Includes intercompany income from Non-Guarantor subsidiaries of \$4.0 and \$12.5, respectively.

Judicial and Administrative Proceedings

We are party to various pending judicial and administrative proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business, including, among others, proceedings based on accidents or product liability claims and alleged violations of environmental laws. We have reviewed these pending judicial and administrative proceedings, including the probable outcomes, reasonably anticipated costs and expenses, and the availability and limits of our insurance coverage, and have established what we believe to be appropriate accruals. We believe that our assessment of contingencies is reasonable and that the related accruals, in the aggregate, are adequate; however, there can be no assurance that future quarterly or annual operating results will not be materially affected by these proceedings, whether as a result of adverse outcomes or as a result of significant defense costs.

REGULATORY MATTERS

We are subject to local, state, federal and foreign environmental protection laws and regulations with respect to our business operations and believe we are operating in substantial compliance, or taking actions aimed at ensuring compliance, with such laws and regulations. We are involved in several legal actions with various governmental agencies related to environmental matters. While it is difficult to quantify the potential financial impact of actions involving these environmental matters, particularly remediation costs at waste disposal sites and future capital expenditures for environmental control equipment, in the opinion of management, the ultimate liability arising from such environmental matters, taking into account established accruals, is not expected to have a material effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows. However, there can be no assurance that the resolution of these matters will not materially affect our future quarterly or annual results of operations, financial condition or cash flows. Additional information on environmental matters affecting us is provided in the 2024 Annual Report, under “ITEM 1. BUSINESS — Regulatory Considerations” and “ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.”

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. The preparation of financial statements and related disclosures in accordance with GAAP requires management to use judgment and make estimates that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses and related disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. We evaluate our estimates on an ongoing basis. By their nature, these judgments are subject to uncertainty. We base our estimates on historical experience, current trends and other factors that we believe to be relevant under the circumstances at the time the estimate was made. Certain accounting estimates are particularly significant, including those related to revenue recognition and promotional allowances, income taxes and goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets.

We believe that our estimates, assumptions, and judgments are reasonable in that they were based on information available when the estimates, assumptions and judgments were made. However, because future events and their effects cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could differ materially from those implied by our assumptions and estimates.

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Scotts Miracle-Gro reviews our critical accounting estimates on an ongoing basis, including those related to revenue recognition and promotional allowances, income taxes and goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets. Our critical accounting estimates have not changed materially from those disclosed in the 2024 Annual Report.

ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risks have not changed materially from those disclosed in the 2024 Annual Report.

ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company (the “Registrant”) maintains “disclosure controls and procedures,” as such term is defined under Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e), that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the Registrant’s Securities Exchange Act reports is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Registrant’s management, including its principal executive officer and its principal financial officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

With the participation of the principal executive officer and the principal financial officer of the Registrant, the Registrant’s management has evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant’s disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934), as of the end of the fiscal quarter covered by this Form 10-Q. Based upon that evaluation, the Registrant’s principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that the Registrant’s disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 29, 2025.

Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

No changes in the Registrant’s internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) occurred during the Registrant’s fiscal quarter ended March 29, 2025 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, the Registrant’s internal control over financial reporting.

PART II—OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Reference is made to the legal proceedings that have been previously disclosed in Part I, Item 3 of the 2024 Annual Report. There have been no material developments to the pending legal proceedings set forth therein.

We are involved in other lawsuits and claims which arise in the normal course of our business including the initiation and defense of proceedings to protect intellectual property rights, advertising claims, securities matters and employment disputes. In our opinion, these claims individually and in the aggregate are not expected to have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or cash flows.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

The Company's risk factors, as of March 29, 2025, have not materially changed from those described in Part I, Item 1A of the 2024 Annual Report.

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This Form 10-Q, including the exhibits hereto and the information incorporated by reference herein, contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act, which are subject to risks and uncertainties. Information regarding activities, events and developments that we expect or anticipate will or may occur in the future, including, but not limited to, information relating to our future growth and profitability targets and strategies designed to increase total shareholder value, are forward-looking statements based on management's estimates, assumptions and projections. Forward-looking statements also include, but are not limited to, statements regarding our future economic and financial condition and results of operations, the plans and objectives of management and our assumptions regarding our performance and such plans and objectives, as well as the amount and timing of dividends and repurchases of our Common Shares or other uses of cash flows. Forward-looking statements generally can be identified through the use of words such as "guidance," "outlook," "projected," "believe," "target," "predict," "estimate," "forecast," "strategy," "may," "goal," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "plan," "foresee," "likely," "will," "should" and other similar words and variations.

Forward-looking statements in this Form 10-Q are predictions only and actual results could differ materially from management's expectations due to a variety of factors, including those described in "ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS" in the 2024 Annual Report. All forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons working on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by such risk factors and other cautionary statements that we make from time to time in our other SEC filings and public communications.

You should evaluate forward-looking statements in the context of these risks and uncertainties and are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such statements. These factors may not contain all of the factors that are important to you. We cannot assure you that we will realize the results or developments we expect or anticipate or, even if substantially realized, that they will result in the consequences or affect us or our operations in the way we expect. The forward-looking statements that we make in this Form 10-Q are based on management's current views and assumptions regarding future events and speak only as of their dates. We disclaim any obligation to update developments of these risk factors or to announce publicly any revisions to any of the forward-looking statements that we make, or to make corrections to reflect future events or developments, except as required by law.

ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

The payment of future dividends, if any, on the Common Shares will be determined by the Board of Directors in light of conditions then existing, including the Company's earnings, financial condition and capital requirements, restrictions in financing agreements, business conditions and other factors. Amendment No. 2 to the Sixth A&R Credit Agreement limits the Company's ability to declare or pay any discretionary dividends, distributions or other restricted payments to only the payment of (i) regularly scheduled cash dividends to holders of its Common Shares in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$225.0 million per fiscal year and (ii) other dividends, distributions or restricted payments in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$25.0 million.

The following table shows the purchases of Common Shares made by or on behalf of Scotts Miracle-Gro or any "affiliated purchaser" (as defined in Rule 10b-18(a)(3) under the Securities Exchange Act) of Scotts Miracle-Gro for each of the three fiscal months in the quarter ended March 29, 2025:

Period	Total Number of Common Shares Purchased (1)	Average Price Paid per Common Share (2)	Total Number of Common Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (3)	Approximate Dollar Value of Common Shares That May Yet be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs (3)
December 29, 2024 through January 25, 2025	—	\$ —	—	N/A
January 26, 2025 through February 22, 2025	2,483	\$ 68.03	—	N/A
February 23, 2025 through March 29, 2025	2,623	\$ 56.88	—	N/A
Total	5,106	\$ 62.30	—	

- (1) All of the Common Shares purchased during the second quarter of fiscal 2025 were purchased in open market transactions. The Common Shares purchased during the quarter consisted of 5,106 Common Shares purchased by the trustee of the rabbi trust established by the Company as permitted pursuant to the terms of The Scotts Company LLC Executive Retirement Plan.
- (2) The average price paid per Common Share is calculated on a settlement basis and includes commissions.
- (3) The Company does not have an active repurchase program.

ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

None.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not Applicable.

ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION

On March 6, 2025, the Hagedorn Partnership, L.P., on behalf of Katherine Littlefield, a member of our board of directors, terminated a Rule 10b5-1 trading arrangement (as defined in Item 408(a) of Regulation S-K). This trading arrangement (originally adopted on March 15, 2024) provided for the sale of up to 250,000 Common Shares if certain price targets were met. No transactions were completed under the trading arrangement prior to its early termination.

ITEM 6. EXHIBITS

See Index to Exhibits at page 45 for a list of the exhibits included herewith.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY
QUARTERLY REPORT ON FORM 10-Q
FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED MARCH 29, 2025

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No.	Description	Incorporated by Reference			Filed Herewith
		Form	Exhibit	Filing Date	
10	<u>Consulting Agreement, dated February 4, 2025, between The Scotts Company LLC and Hanft Ideas LLC</u>				X
19	<u>Insider Trading Policy of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company & Subsidiaries</u>				X
21	<u>Subsidiaries of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company</u>				X
22	<u>Guarantor Subsidiaries</u>				X
31.1	<u>Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications (Principal Executive Officer)</u>				X
31.2	<u>Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications (Principal Financial Officer)</u>				X
32	<u>Section 1350 Certifications (Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer)</u>				X
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema				X
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase				X
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase				X
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase				X
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase				X
104	Cover Page Interactive Data File (formatted as Inline XBRL and contained in Exhibit 101)				X

SIGNATURES

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, thereunto duly authorized.

THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY

Date: May 7, 2025

/s/ MARK J. SCHEIWER

Printed Name: Mark J. Scheiwer

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Chief
Accounting Officer



February 4, 2025

Mr. Adam Hanft
Chief Executive Officer
Hanft Ideas LLC
50 Astor Lane
Sands Point, New York 11050
adam@hanftideas.com

Dear Adam:

This letter sets forth our agreement (the "Agreement") regarding a consulting engagement between Hanft Ideas and The Scotts Company LLC ("Scotts" or the "Company"). For the purposes of this Agreement, the term "Contractor" means Hanft Ideas, its primary designee/employee Adam Hanft, and any other designee or employee of Hanft Ideas. These consulting services are separate and distinct from the services you are and will be providing as a member of the Scotts Miracle-Gro Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") or any Board Committees or other Committees on which you may serve.

I. Scope of Services

Contractor agrees to provide the consulting services to Scotts described below. It is anticipated that Contractor will generally undertake the following work and activities pursuant to this Agreement:

1. Provide insights and expertise to help inspire and develop a culture of creativity, with emphasis on: Shaping and assisting with the development of the overall marketing, creative and content strategies in conjunction with the CEO, COO, CCO and BU Leaders; inspiring innovation; and building Scotts' brands and consumer loyalty;
2. Consult with and provide recommendations to the CEO, COO and CCO on an as-needed basis on issues of marketing strategy, including new product development; and
3. Participate in marketing meetings to support the successful execution of the anticipated marketing initiatives of the Company, including on-going support of core brands, the Company's direct-to-consumer business, live goods, the efforts of Hawthorne Gardening Company, and any other special projects as assigned.
4. Support the Company's business unit leaders through participating in the development and production of creative advertising and content for use across multiple media channels, including the Company's owned channels.

Contractor and the Company may agree to modifications of these work activities from time to time as necessary to achieve the purpose of this Agreement. When such modifications are necessary, Contractor and the Company will execute an amendment to this agreement reflecting the agreed upon modifications, which may include, by way of non-limiting examples, modifications regarding the work activities, the hours of consulting services provided, and/or the consulting fees and expenses paid to Contractor.

14111 Scottslawn Road Marysville, Ohio 43041
937-644-0011
www.scotts.com

In providing consulting services to Scotts under this Agreement, Contractor will be an independent contractor and will not be an employee, agent, partner, or joint venturer of Scotts or of any of Scotts' affiliates, or of any of its or their respective officers, directors or employees. Except as provided as a member of the Board, if applicable, and except as otherwise expressly stated herein, you and any other designee or employee of Contractor will not participate in or receive benefits under any of Scotts' employee fringe benefit programs or receive any other fringe benefits from Scotts, including, without limitation, the health, disability, life insurance, retirement, equity awards, pension and profit sharing benefits on account of the consulting services provided to Scotts under this Agreement.

II. Length of Agreement

The term of this Agreement will commence on December 1, 2024 and will end on September 30, 2025 (the "Termination Date"), unless terminated earlier under Section V.1. The term of this Agreement may be extended only by written agreement, signed by both parties and setting forth expressly the terms related to the consulting fee.

III. Authority

In providing consulting services to Scotts under this Agreement, Contractor will have no authority at any time to assume or create any obligation or liability, express or implied, on Scotts' behalf or in Scotts' name or to bind Scotts in any manner whatsoever.

IV. Consulting Fees and Expenses

1. In exchange for providing the consulting services hereunder, during the term of this Agreement, Scotts shall pay Contractor a consulting fee of \$25,000.00 per month for each month during the term irrespective of whether Scotts requests that Contractor provides consulting services hereunder. The consulting fee shall be paid as a retainer according to the following schedule:

- \$75,000.00 payable on or around February 1, 2025 or upon execution of this Agreement, whichever is later, for work performed in December 2024, January 2025 and February 2025;
- \$75,000.00 payable on or around March 1, 2025 for work performed in March, April and May 2025; and
- \$100,000.00 payable on or around June 1, 2025 for work performed in June, July, August and September 2025.

Contractor shall be required to submit monthly invoices with brief descriptions of the services provided.

2. Scotts also will pay or reimburse Contractor for all reasonable expenses incurred by Contractor in connection with providing consulting services to Scotts as contemplated herein, including, without limitation, all reasonable (a) telephone and fax expenses, and (b) travel expenses, including, without limitation, transportation, food and lodging, incurred in connection with attending Scotts approved meetings pursuant to this consulting agreement. Contractor must incur and account for expenses in accordance with the policies and procedures established by Scotts as a precondition to Scotts' obligation to pay or reimburse Contractor for such expenses pursuant to the terms of the preceding sentence. This includes describing expenses in reasonable detail on invoices. Scotts will provide private transportation when practical and economically reasonable.

3. Contractor agrees to provide, at its own expense, all equipment necessary to provide the consulting services contemplated herein and to be responsible for its own overhead costs and expenses except for those expenses that Scotts has expressly agreed to pay pursuant to the terms of the preceding paragraph.

V. Termination

This Agreement shall naturally expire according to its terms on the Termination Date. However:

1. Scotts shall be permitted to terminate this Agreement and its consulting relationship with Contractor prior to the Termination Date under any of the following circumstances: (a) upon Scotts' 60 days advance written notice to Contractor, (b) Mr. Hanft's death or disability, or Contractor ceasing operations, (c) Contractor's material breach of its obligations to Scotts if such breach is not cured within 30 days after receiving notice thereof, (d) Contractor's and/or Mr. Hanft's indictment for a felony or serious misdemeanor, (e) Contractor's and/or Mr. Hanft's commission of an act of fraud or bad faith toward Scotts, or (f) Contractor's and/or Mr. Hanft's misappropriation of any funds, property or rights of Scotts. Contractor shall be permitted to terminate this Agreement and its consulting relationship with Scotts upon Contractor's 30 day advance written notice to Scotts.
2. In the event that Scotts terminates this Agreement for any reason other than those listed in Section V.1(b)-(f), Scotts will pay Contractor the total value of this Agreement, less any amounts already paid pursuant to this Agreement, as well as any expenses Contractor has incurred pursuant to the terms of this Agreement prior to the date of such termination.
3. In the event that Contractor terminates this Agreement and its consulting relationship with Scotts or Scotts terminates this Agreement and its consulting relationship with Contractor for any reason listed in Section V.1(b)-(f) of this Agreement, such termination shall not affect Scotts' obligation to pay Contractor for the cash fees Contractor has earned prior to the date of such termination or reimburse Contractor for the expenses Contractor has incurred pursuant to the terms of this Agreement prior to the date of such termination.

VI. Confidential Information and Insider Trading

1. In providing the consulting services contemplated herein, Contractor will receive Confidential Information about Scotts and its affiliates. Maintaining the confidential nature of this information is very important to Scotts. As used in this Agreement, "Confidential Information" is any information about Scotts, or its affiliates, to which Contractor gains access in connection with its provision of consulting or other services to Scotts, including Mr. Hanft's service as a member of the Board. Confidential Information does not include information Contractor can show (a) was already in Contractor's possession prior to the time Contractor received such information as a consultant to Scotts, or (b) is publicly available or otherwise in the public domain by means other than Contractor's violation of the terms of this Agreement.
2. Contractor agrees to not at any time hereafter, without the prior written consent of Scotts, disclose, directly or indirectly, any Confidential Information or use any Confidential Information for any purpose other than providing consulting services to Scotts as contemplated herein.
3. In an effort to avoid the appearance of impropriety, Contractor agrees to follow all laws and regulations concerning insider trading, as well as the Scotts Insider Trading policy

(attached), during the term of this Agreement. Further, Contractor agrees that Contractor will not engage in any transaction of Scotts securities during the term of this Agreement except while the Scotts trading window is open and only after having obtained pre-clearance of the transaction per the procedure described in the Scotts Insider Trading policy. Following the termination of this Agreement, you agree that you remains subject to the Scotts Insider Trading policy if you are still serving as a member of the Board; if not, you agree that you remain subject to the Scotts Insider Trading policy until the next scheduled open trading window period and will not engage in any transaction of Scotts securities until then, and then only if you are not in possession of material, non-public information.

4. Contractor agrees to promptly return to Scotts, upon Scotts' request, all electronic or tangible documents that contain any Confidential Information and to retain no copies.
5. These confidentiality obligations are in addition to, and not in place of, any and all confidentiality obligations arising as a result of your membership on the Board and applicable Board Committees.

VII. Conflicts of Interest

While Contractor is not restricted from having other clients during the term of this Agreement, it is important to the Company that Contractor avoids actual or potential conflicts of interest. As such, Contractor agrees that Contractor has no business, professional, personal or other interest, including but not limited to representation of other clients, that conflicts in any manner or degree with the performance of Contractor's obligations under this Agreement. If any such actual or potential conflict of interest arises under this Agreement, Contractor shall immediately inform the Company in writing of such conflict.

If, in the reasonable judgment of the Company, such conflict poses a material conflict to and with the performance of Contractor's obligations under this Agreement, then the Company may terminate this Agreement for Cause in accordance with Section V above.

VIII. Cooperation with Litigation

Contractor agrees to cooperate fully with Scotts in its defense of any lawsuit filed over matters that occurred while Contractor was or is a consultant to Scotts. Contractor agrees to provide full and accurate information with respect to the same. Contractor further agrees not to assist any party in maintaining any lawsuit against Scotts or any of its employees, officers or agents, and that Contractor will not provide any information to anyone concerning Scotts or its employees, directors, officers or agents, unless compelled to do so by valid subpoena or other court order, and in such case only after first notifying Scotts sufficiently in advance of such subpoena or court order to reasonably allow Scotts an opportunity to object to same. In the event that Contractor's cooperation is necessary under this paragraph, Contractor and Scotts shall agree on a reasonable rate for Contractor's time in providing that cooperation.

IX. Other

1. **No Obligation.** Contractor understands and agrees that this Agreement does not obligate Scotts to utilize Contractor's consulting services, but it is intended to set forth the terms pursuant to which Scotts may utilize Contractor's consulting services.
2. **Notice.** All notices pursuant to this Agreement will be in writing, addressed as stated below (or to such other address that may be designated by the receiving party in accordance with this Section), and will be deemed given when: (a) delivered by hand

(with written confirmation of receipt); (b) when received by the addressee if sent by a nationally recognized overnight carrier (receipt requested); (c) on the date sent by e-mail of a PDF document (with confirmation of transmission if sent during normal business hours of the recipient, and on the next business day if sent after normal business hours of the receiving party; or (d) on the third day after the date mailed, by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.

If to Contractor:

Mr. Adam Hanft
Chief Executive Officer
Hanft Ideas LLC
50 Astor Lane
Sands Point, New York 11050
Email: adam@hanftideas.com

If to Scotts:

The Scotts Company LLC
14111 Scottslawn Rd.
Marysville, OH 43041
Attention: Chief Human Resources Officer

With a copy to:

The Scotts Company LLC
14111 Scottslawn Rd.
Marysville, OH 43041
Attention: Legal Department
Email: contractnotice@scotts.com

3. **Governing Law; Venue; Jurisdiction.** This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of New York, without giving effect to any conflict-of-law principle that would result in the laws of any other jurisdiction governing this Agreement. Any action or proceeding arising out of this Agreement will be litigated in state or federal courts located in New York. Each of Scotts, LRC and Contractor consents and submits to the jurisdiction of any state or federal court located in New York County, New York.
4. **Severability.** If a provision of this Agreement is determined to be unenforceable in any respect, the enforceability of the provision in any other respect and of the remaining provisions of this Agreement will not be impaired.
5. **Survival.** Termination or expiration of this Agreement shall not release either Party from obligations that, either expressly or by their nature, survive such termination or expiration.
6. **Waiver.** The waiver by either party of a breach of any provision of this Agreement shall not operate, or be construed, as a waiver of any subsequent breach.
7. **Entire Agreement; Amendment.** This Agreement contains the entire agreement between the parties about its subject matter. Contractor and Scotts agree that if any term in this Agreement conflicts with previously agreed-upon terms, the terms of this Agreement control and supersede the previously agreed-upon terms. This Agreement

may not be modified or altered except by a written instrument duly executed by both parties.

8. **Assignment.** Contractor acknowledges that the Services are in the character of a personal services contract and Contractor hereby represents and warrants that neither Contractor nor you will engage others to assist in providing the consulting services agreed upon in this Agreement without the prior written consent of Scotts. Contractor is not permitted to assign, sell or otherwise transfer any of Contractor's rights or obligations hereunder.
9. Contractor acknowledges that neither Scotts nor any representatives of Scotts have made any representations or promises about the tax implications of this Agreement. Nothing in this Agreement may be construed as tax advice from Scotts to Contractor. Contractor has been encouraged to discuss the tax implications of this Agreement with his own tax and financial counsel.

[Signature Page Follows]

THE SCOTTS COMPANY LLC

By: /S/ AMANDA RICO

Amanda Rico
Interim Chief Human Resources Officer

ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED:

/S/ ADAM HANFT

Adam Hanft, Chief Executive Officer
Hanft Ideas LLC



THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY & SUBSIDIARIES

CORPORATE POLICY W-LG-1

INSIDER TRADING POLICY

To: All Scotts Associates Date: May 1, 2025
 From: Mark J. Scheiwer, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Chief Accounting Officer
 Dimiter Todorov, Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer & Corporate Secretary

ScottsMiracle-Gro's Principle

The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company is committed to full compliance with the U.S. Federal and State securities laws and regulations. The securities laws dealing with trading in securities are intended to ensure the maintenance of fair and honest stock markets. Conduct that violates the securities laws can subject individuals, as well as the Company, to civil and criminal penalties and is contrary to the values of the Company and its subsidiaries.

GENERAL POLICY

In the course of business operations, associates and members of the Board of Directors of the Company ("Directors") may become aware of material, non-public "inside" information about the Company or about another public company, whether favorable or unfavorable. It is particularly important that all associates and Directors (and others who may become involved in these matters such as consultants and independent contractors) recognize the sensitivity of confidential business information and conduct themselves accordingly. The misuse of material, non-public information can have serious, undesirable consequences. In the case of trading in securities based on inside information or providing such information to other persons who may trade on the basis of that information, such consequences may include termination of employment, other adverse employment consequences, and criminal and civil penalties.

COVERAGE

Unlawful insider trading occurs when a person uses material non-public information obtained through their employment or other involvement with the Company to make decisions to purchase, sell or otherwise engage in transactions in that Company's securities or to provide that information to others outside the Company. The prohibitions against insider trading apply to trading or otherwise transacting in the Company's securities, tipping and making recommendations to engage in

transactions by virtually any person, including all persons associated with the Company, if the information involved is “material” and “non-public.” These terms are defined below.

This Policy applies to: (1) all Directors; (2) all associates of the Company and the Company’s direct and indirect subsidiaries (wherever located); (3) all Family Members (as defined below) of Directors and associates; (4) all corporations, partnerships, trusts or other entities controlled by any of the above persons (or controlled by a group comprising two or more of any of the above persons); and (5) any other person or entity as designated from time to time by the Chief Legal Officer. This Policy shall continue to apply to a Director or associate, such individual’s Family Members and all corporations, partnerships, trusts or other entities controlled by such individual even after such Director’s or associate’s separation from service to the Company. If a Director or associate is in possession of material nonpublic information when his or her service terminates, that individual, such individual’s Family Members and all corporations, partnerships, trusts or other entities controlled by such individual may not trade in Company securities until that information has become public or is no longer material. The pre-clearance procedures specified for Designated Persons (as described below) will cease to apply to transactions in Company securities upon the expiration of any blackout period applicable at the time of the separation of such Director’s or associate’s service as a Director or associate of the Company.

This Policy does not apply to a partnership of which any of the persons identified in clauses (1), (2) or (3) is a non-controlling general or limited partner, it being understood that transactions in Company securities by such partnership that are for the account of such non-controlling general or limited partner identified in clauses (1), (2) or (3) shall be deemed for purposes of this Policy to be transactions directly by that person (and not the partnership) and as such covered by this Policy.

The term “Family Members” includes (1) a person’s family members who share the same address as, or who are financially dependent upon, that person; (2) any unrelated person who shares the same address as the person (other than employees or tenants); and (3) any family members who do not live with the covered person but whose transactions in the Company’s securities are directed by the covered person or subject to that person’s influence or control. You are responsible for the transactions of your Family Members and, therefore, should make them aware of the need to confer with you before they trade in Company securities, and you should treat all such transactions for the purposes of this Policy and applicable securities laws as if the transactions were for your own account. This Policy does not, however, apply to personal securities transactions by Family Members where the purchase or sale decision is made by a third party not controlled by, influenced by or related to you or your Family Members (e.g., transactions pursuant to a trading plan compliant with Rule 10b5-1 or a trust operated and controlled by a third party not controlled by, influenced or related to you or your Family Members).

In all cases, the duty to comply or cause compliance with this Policy resides in the Director or associate.

SPECIFIC GUIDANCE

• Materiality/Confidentiality and When Information is Considered Public

1. All material, non-public information about the Company, whether favorable or unfavorable, is to be kept confidential until publicly disclosed by the Company. Similarly, all material, non-public information about other companies with which the Company does business, whether favorable or unfavorable, is to be kept confidential until publicly disclosed.

2. In general, information is considered material if a “reasonable” person would attach importance to the information in determining whether to purchase or sell a company’s securities. Any information that could be expected to affect the Company’s stock price, whether positive or negative, should be considered material. There is no bright-line standard for assessing materiality; rather, materiality is based on an assessment of all of the facts and circumstances, and is often evaluated by enforcement authorities with the benefit of hindsight. Without attempting to list all types of material information, such information includes:

- a. Company earnings, possible dividend increases or decreases, and other financial information;
- b. Significant positive or negative variances to plan in consumer purchase activity, as measured by retailer point of sale, in peak lawn and garden season months;
- c. Any technological or similar “break through” which, when made public, could affect a company’s stock price;
- d. The fact that an acquisition candidate of material importance or a material divestiture is being evaluated or considered, that discussions or negotiations are in progress, and any information relating to such matters;
- e. Changes in senior management; and
- f. Entry into, or termination of, a significant contract.

3. Confidential information concerning such matters is to be restricted to those associates and agents who have a “need to know” for the proper performance of their respective functions.

4. Management and each associate should exercise due care in protecting the confidentiality of such matters. In particular,

- a. casual conversations in public areas are to be avoided; and
- b. files containing material, non-public information should be stored in “secured” places.

5. Information that has not been disclosed to the public is generally considered to be non-public information. In order to establish that information has been disclosed to the public, it may be necessary to demonstrate that the information has been widely disseminated. Once information has been widely disseminated to the public, it is still necessary to afford the investing public with sufficient time to absorb the information. As a general rule, information should not be considered fully absorbed by the marketplace until one complete trading day has concluded after the information is released. If the information is released once a trading day has commenced, the information is not considered absorbed until the conclusion of the next trading day.

A “trading day” is any day on which the New York Stock Exchange is open for trading.

• **Restrictions on Trading in Securities**

1. Trading in Company Securities. No person subject to this Policy may buy, sell or make *bona fide* gifts of securities of the Company while aware of material, non-public or “inside” information concerning the Company. Designated Persons are subject to additional procedures specified below. It is the responsibility of each person subject to this policy to determine whether they are aware of material, non-public or “inside” information concerning the Company and, if so, to abstain from trading in Company securities.

2. Trading in the Securities of Other Companies. No person subject to this Policy who knows of a possible acquisition should make any trades in the securities of the acquisition candidate regardless of whether the acquisition is considered material to The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company or its subsidiaries. Similarly, no person subject to this Policy who becomes aware of material, non-public information relating to another company with which the Company transacts business or competes should make any trades in the securities of such company.

3. Prohibition on Short Sales. No person subject to this Policy may engage in short sales of Company securities. A short sale is the sale of a security that the seller does not own at the time of the trade; the sale is often accomplished using a security borrowed from a broker, and the seller is required to purchase the security at some time in the future to “cover” the sale.

4. Prohibition on Options Transactions. No person subject to this Policy may engage in transactions in puts, calls or other derivatives that relate to or involve Company securities. A put or call option gives the holder of the option the right to sell (put) or purchase (call) securities within a certain time period at a specified price. Such transactions are, in effect, bets on the short-term movement of the Company’s stock and, therefore, create the appearance that trading is based on non-public information.

5. Prohibition on Hedging Company Securities. Certain transactions, such as forward sale or purchase contracts, equity swaps, collars and exchange funds, allow an individual to hedge against decreases in the market value of Company securities held by or granted to such individual. These transactions allow the individual to continue to own the covered securities, but without the full risks and rewards of ownership. When that occurs, the individual may no longer have the same objectives as the Company’s other shareholders. Accordingly, persons subject to this Policy are prohibited from engaging in hedging transactions involving Company securities.

6. Prohibition on Tipping. Communication of “inside” information to another person who may trade or advise others to trade on the basis of the information is considered “tipping.” Tipping is illegal and could subject both the tipper and the tippee to severe civil and criminal penalties, as well as termination of employment by the Company.

7. Exceptions. These trading restrictions do not apply to:

(a) Stock Option Exercises and Restricted Stock Awards. Exercises of stock options or other equity awards or the surrender or withholding of shares to the Company in payment of the exercise price or in satisfaction of any tax withholding obligations, in each case in a manner permitted by the applicable equity award agreement; provided, however, that the securities so acquired may not be sold (either outright or in connection with a “cashless” exercise transaction through a broker) other than to the Company as provided in clause (d) of this Section 5 while the associate or Director is aware of material, non-public information or, if the associate or Director is a Designated Person, while the trading window is closed;

(b) 401(k) Plan or DSPP. Acquisitions or dispositions of Company stock under the Company’s 401(k) plan, the Company’s Discounted Stock Purchase Plan (“DSPP”) or other individual account plan which, subject to clause (c), are made pursuant to standing instructions not entered into or modified while the associate or Director is aware of material, non-public information or, if the associate or Director is a Designated Person, while the trading window is closed. This exception does not apply, however, to certain elections you may make under the 401(k) plan or DSPP, including, as applicable: (i) an election to increase or decrease the percentage of your elective deferrals that will be allocated to the Company stock fund; (ii) an election to initiate, increase or decrease contributions with respect to the DSPP; (iii) an election to make an intra-plan transfer of an existing account balance into or out of the Company stock fund; (iv) an election to borrow money against your 401(k) plan account if the loan will result in a liquidation of some or all of your Company stock fund balance; and (v) an election to pre-pay a plan loan if the pre-payment will result in allocation of loan proceeds to the Company stock fund;

(c) Other Purchases from or Sales to the Company. Other purchases of securities from the Company or sales of securities to the Company; and

(d) Rule 10b5-1 Trading Plans. Purchases or sales made pursuant to a binding contract, written plan or specific instruction (as discussed in more detail below, a “trading plan”) which is adopted and operated in compliance with Rule 10b5-1 and this Policy. This exception applies only to Section 1. Trading in Company Securities. All restrictions set forth in Sections 2 through 6 above shall apply.

• **Determination of Materiality**

Determining what information about the Company or any other company is material may be difficult. If there is any doubt or the question is close, then the answer should be not to trade while aware of such information. If an associate has a question, he or she should raise it with the Chief Financial Officer or the Chief Legal Officer.

- **Penalties**

Persons who trade in a company's securities while aware of inside information are subject to severe sanctions, including (i) termination or suspension of employment by the Company, (ii) ineligibility for future participation in the Company's equity incentive programs, (iii) compensation freezing, (iv) disgorgement of gains or avoided losses from transactions that violate this Policy, (v) reimbursement of the Company's costs in responding to a violation of this Policy, as well as (vi) civil and criminal penalties, which could include monetary fines, liability for damages and prison time.

- **Additional Restrictions and Procedures for Designated Persons**

1. Designated Persons. "Designated Persons" are persons that are otherwise covered by this Policy as set forth in "Coverage" above but who also come within one of the following four categories: (a) all Directors and executive officers of the Company (the "Section 16 Insiders"); (b) any associate of the Company who is specifically notified that he or she is a Designated Person; (c) Family Members of Section 16 Insiders or Family Members of specifically notified associates as specified in clause (b); and (d) all corporations, partnerships, trusts or other entities controlled by any of the above persons.

2. Pre-clearance of Trades. To help prevent inadvertent violations of this Policy and to avoid even the appearance of improper transactions, the Company has implemented the following procedures for pre-clearance of all trades (including gifts) in the securities of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company by Designated Persons.

A Designated Person wishing to trade in Company securities must first notify the Chief Legal Officer's office when they or any Family Member plans to enter into a transaction in the securities of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company. This notification must be in writing (including by e-mail) and should include the identity of the Designated Person, the type of transaction (for example, an open market purchase, a privately negotiated sale, an option exercise, a gift, etc.), the date or proposed date of the transaction and the number of options or shares involved. In addition, the Designated Person must execute a certification (in the form attached as Exhibit A) that he or she is not aware of material, non-public information about the Company. The Chief Financial Officer and the Chief Legal Officer shall have sole discretion to decide whether to permit the contemplated transaction. (The Chief Legal Officer shall have sole discretion to decide whether to permit transactions by the Chief Financial Officer or his or her Family Members, and the Chief Financial Officer shall have sole discretion to decide whether to permit transactions by the Chief Legal Officer or his or her Family Members.) All trades that are pre-cleared must be effected within five business days of receipt of the pre-clearance unless a specific exception has been granted by the Chief Legal Officer and Chief Financial Officer. A pre-cleared trade (or any portion of a pre-cleared trade) that has not been effected during the five business day period must be pre-cleared again prior to execution. If a Designated Person becomes aware of material, non-public information following receipt of pre-clearance but before the trade is executed, the Designated Person must not complete the trade.

3. Trading Window. As a general rule, transactions by Designated Persons in the securities of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company will be permitted only when the trading window is "open." The open window period typically begins one full trading day following the public announcement by the Company of its quarterly earnings. The open window period typically ends on the day that is two

calendar weeks prior to the end of each fiscal quarter, *except* for the third fiscal quarter, where the open window period will end after two weeks. The Company may from time to time close the trading window when it would otherwise be open in view of significant events or developments involving the Company. As a convenience, Designated Persons will be sent notices pertaining to the opening and closing of the trading window.

4. Pre-clearance of 10b5-1 Trading Plans. Rule 10b5-1 under the Exchange Act provides an affirmative defense against an allegation of insider trading. In order to be eligible to rely on this defense, a Designated Person must enter into a Rule 10b5-1 plan for transactions in securities of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company that satisfies certain requirements specified in the Rule (including cooling-off periods). If the plan meets the requirements of Rule 10b5-1, a Designated Person may purchase or sell securities of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company pursuant to the plan without regard to certain insider trading restrictions. In general, a Rule 10b5-1 Plan must be entered into at a time when the person entering into the plan is not aware of material nonpublic information. Once the Rule 10b5-1 Plan is adopted, the person must not exercise any influence over the amount of securities to be traded, the price at which they are to be traded or the date of the trade. For example, if a Designated Person implements a written trading plan (at a time when he or she was not aware of material, non-public information) specifying that he or she will sell 1,000 shares of common stock of the Company on the first day of each month following the end of the applicable cooling-off period, a sale pursuant to that plan would not subject the Designated Person to insider trading liability even if he or she was aware of material, non-public information at the time the sale took place.

Trading plans complying with Rule 10b5-1 have the obvious advantage of protecting against insider trading liability. However, they also require advance commitments regarding the amounts, prices and timing of purchases and sales under those plans and contracts, and thus limit flexibility and discretion with respect to such transactions to some degree. Accordingly, while some Designated Persons may find such trading plans attractive, they may not be suitable for all Designated Persons. It is the Company's policy that any Designated Person wishing to adopt a new Rule 10b5-1 trading plan or amend an existing Rule 10b5-1 trading plan submit the trading plan in advance for review and written approval by the Chief Legal Officer and/or the Chief Financial Officer.

The Chief Legal Officer and Chief Financial Officer will approve a trading plan or trading plan amendment only if the trading plan (1) is in writing; (2) is submitted to the Company for review by the Chief Legal Officer and/or Chief Financial Officer prior to its adoption; and (3) is to be adopted while the Designated Person is not aware of material, non-public information and when the trading window is open.

While the Company encourages Designated Persons to use trading plans as appropriate, the Company's expectation is that the Designated Person will adhere to the terms of the trading plan and not seek to terminate the trading plan before its natural conclusion. While the Company will not permit amendments to a trading plan, it will consider requests for early termination of a trading plan on a case-by-case basis. The Company expects that a Designated Person who successfully terminates a trading plan early will not seek to enter into a new trading plan for a period of at least six months following the early termination of that trading plan. Further, if the Company, in its sole discretion, determines that a Designated Person has engaged in a pattern of early termination of trading plans, the Company may decline to pre-approve future requests for trading plans by the Designated Person.

5. Post Transaction Notification. Section 16 Insiders must notify the Chief Legal Officer promptly following, and in no event more than one business day after, any trades (including gifts) in the securities of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company to facilitate compliance with the reporting requirements of Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and the rules promulgated thereunder).

All questions about this policy should be directed to the Office of the Chief Legal Officer or Office of the Chief Financial Officer.

Exhibit A

PRE-CLEARANCE CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have read and I am familiar with the Insider Trading Policy of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company & Subsidiaries (the “Company”).

Based on my review of the Company’s Insider Trading Policy, I believe the proposed purchase or sale of securities of the Company, or adoption of a Rule 10b5-1 plan regarding a future purchase or sale of securities of the Company, for which I am seeking pre-clearance is being completed in accordance with the Company’s Insider Trading Policy.

Further, by signing this certification, I represent to the Company that to the best of my knowledge I am not currently aware of any material, non-public or “inside” information about the Company.

I agree that if I become aware of any material, non-public or “inside” information about the Company at any time after pre-clearance has been granted but before the purchase, sale or adoption of a 10b5-1 plan, or if I am not sure whether such information is material, **I will immediately stop the execution of such purchase or sale or adoption of a 10b5-1 plan** and contact the Chief Legal Officer or Chief Financial Officer of the Company. However, once the purchase or sale has taken place, or once the adoption of a 10b5-1 plan has become effective, I need not take any further action.

Finally, I understand that early termination of a 10b5-1 plan exposes me to external regulatory risks as well as internal Company actions intended to discourage such activity.

Print Name _____

Signature _____

Date _____

DIRECT AND INDIRECT SUBSIDIARIES OF
THE SCOTTS MIRACLE-GRO COMPANY

Directly owned subsidiaries, as of March 29, 2025, are located at the left margin, each subsidiary tier thereunder is indented. Subsidiaries are listed under the names of their respective parent entities. Unless otherwise noted, the subsidiaries are wholly-owned.

NAME	JURISDICTION OF FORMATION
1868 Ventures LLC	Ohio
Swiss Farms Products, Inc.	Delaware
GenSource, Inc.	Ohio
OMS Investments, Inc.	Delaware
Scotts Temecula Operations, LLC	Delaware
Sanford Scientific, Inc.	New York
Scotts Global Services, Inc.	Ohio
Scotts Live Goods Holdings, Inc.	Ohio
Bonnie Plants, LLC ¹	Delaware
Scotts Manufacturing Company	Delaware
Miracle-Gro Lawn Products, Inc.	New York
Scotts Oregon Research Station LLC	Ohio
Scotts Products Co.	Ohio
Scotts Servicios, S.A. de C.V. ²	Mexico
Miracle-Gro Tecnología & Servicios, S de R.L. de C.V. ²	Mexico
Scotts Professional Products Co.	Ohio
Scotts Servicios, S.A. de C.V. ²	Mexico
Miracle-Gro Tecnología & Servicios, S de R.L. de C.V. ²	Mexico
SMG Growing Media, Inc.	Ohio
AeroGrow International, Inc.	Nevada
Hyponex Corporation	Delaware
Rod McLellan Company	California
The Hawthorne Gardening Company	Delaware
Hawthorne Hydroponics LLC	Delaware
Hawthorne Gardening B.V.	Netherlands
Gavita International B.V.	Netherlands
Agrolux Canada Limited	Canada
Hawthorne Canada Limited	Canada
HGCI, Inc.	Nevada

¹ Scotts Live Goods Holdings, Inc.'s ownership is 50.0%.

² Scotts Professional Products Co. owns 50% and Scotts Products Co. owns 50.0%.

SMGM LLC	Ohio
Scotts-Sierra Investments LLC	Delaware
Scotts Sierra (China) Co., Ltd.	China
Scotts Canada Ltd.	Canada
Laketon Peat Moss Inc. ³	Canada
Scotts de Mexico SA de CV ⁴	Mexico
SMG Germany GmbH	Germany
SMG Gardening (UK) Limited	United Kingdom
The Scotts Company LLC	Ohio
The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation ⁵	Ohio

³ Scotts Canada Ltd.'s ownership is 50.0%.

⁴ The Scotts Company LLC owns 0.5% and Scotts-Sierra Investments LLC owns the remaining 99.5%.

⁵ The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation is a 501(c)(3) corporation.

LIST OF GUARANTOR SUBSIDIARIES

The following subsidiaries of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company (the "Company") were, as of March 29, 2025, guarantors of the Company's 5.250% Senior Notes due 2026, 4.500% Senior Notes due 2029, 4.000% Senior Notes due 2031 and 4.375% Senior Notes due 2032:

NAME OF GUARANTOR SUBSIDIARY	JURISDICTION OF FORMATION
1868 Ventures LLC	Ohio
AeroGrow International, Inc.	Nevada
GenSource, Inc.	Ohio
Hawthorne Hydroponics LLC	Delaware
HGCI, Inc.	Nevada
Hyponex Corporation	Delaware
Miracle-Gro Lawn Products, Inc.	New York
OMS Investments, Inc.	Delaware
Rod McLellan Company	California
Sanford Scientific, Inc.	New York
Scotts Live Goods Holdings, Inc.	Ohio
Scotts Manufacturing Company	Delaware
Scotts Products Co.	Ohio
Scotts Professional Products Co.	Ohio
Scotts-Sierra Investments LLC	Delaware
Scotts Temecula Operations, LLC	Delaware
SMG Growing Media, Inc.	Ohio
SMGM LLC	Ohio
Swiss Farms Products, Inc.	Delaware
The Hawthorne Gardening Company	Delaware
The Scotts Company LLC	Ohio

Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications
(Principal Executive Officer)
CERTIFICATIONS

I, James Hagedorn, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company for the fiscal quarter ended March 29, 2025;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 7, 2025

By: /s/ JAMES HAGEDORN

Printed Name: James Hagedorn

Title: Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer

Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) Certifications
(Principal Financial Officer)
CERTIFICATIONS

I, Mark J. Scheiwer, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company for the fiscal quarter ended March 29, 2025;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
 - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
 - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
 - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
 - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
 - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
 - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 7, 2025

By: /s/ MARK J. SCHEIWER

Printed Name: Mark J. Scheiwer

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Chief Accounting Officer

SECTION 1350 CERTIFICATIONS*

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company (the “Company”) for the fiscal quarter ended March 29, 2025 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the “Report”), the undersigned James Hagedorn, Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer of the Company, and Mark J. Scheiwer, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Chief Accounting Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that, to the best of their knowledge:

- 1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- 2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the consolidated financial condition and results of operations of the Company and its subsidiaries.

/s/ JAMES HAGEDORN

Printed Name: James Hagedorn

Title: Chairman of the Board & Chief Executive Officer

May 7, 2025

/s/ MARK J. SCHEIWER

Printed Name: Mark J. Scheiwer

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer & Chief Accounting Officer

May 7, 2025

* THESE CERTIFICATIONS ARE BEING FURNISHED AS REQUIRED BY RULE 13a-14(b) UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 (THE “EXCHANGE ACT”) AND SECTION 1350 OF CHAPTER 63 OF TITLE 18 OF THE UNITED STATES CODE, AND SHALL NOT BE DEEMED “FILED” FOR PURPOSES OF SECTION 18 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT OR OTHERWISE SUBJECT TO THE LIABILITY OF THAT SECTION. THESE CERTIFICATIONS SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO BE INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE INTO ANY FILING UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 OR THE EXCHANGE ACT, EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT THAT THE COMPANY SPECIFICALLY INCORPORATES THESE CERTIFICATIONS BY REFERENCE.