#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM 8-K

## CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report: November 5, 2003 (Date of earliest event reported)

# DEERE & COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

DELAWARE (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

> 1-4121 (Commission File Number)

36-2382580 (IRS Employer Identification No.)

One John Deere Place Moline, Illinois 61265 (Address of principal executive offices and zip code)

(309)765-8000 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

Item 5. Other Events



Deere & Company One John Deere Place Moline, IL 61265 USA Phone: 309-765-8000 www.deere.com

### **Deere Sells Stake in Rental Company**

MOLINE, Illinois (November 5, 2003) – Deere & Company today announced that Sunstate Equipment Co., LLC purchased Deere's minority investment in Sunstate. As a result of the sale, Deere expects to record a pretax gain of approximately \$30 million, or \$22 million after-tax, in the fiscal first quarter of 2004. Sunstate, based in Phoenix, Arizona, is engaged in the equipment rental business. Terms of the sale were not disclosed.

### <u>Signature</u>

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 hereto duly authorized.

### **DEERE & COMPANY**

By: <u>/s/ JAMES H. BECHT</u> James H. Becht Secretary

Dated: November 6, 2003