SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Amendment #1

Name of

QUANEX CORP Issuer:

Title of Class

of Securities: Common Stock

CUSIP Number: 747620102

1) NAME OF I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF REPORTING PERSON

The Prudential Insurance Company of America 22-1211670

2.) MEMBER OF A GROUP: (a) N/A

(b) N/A

3) SEC USE ONLY:

4) PLACE OF ORGANIZATION: A mutual insurance company organized under the laws of the State of New Jersey

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY REPORTING PERSON WITH:

Not Applicable

5) Sole Voting Power:6) Shared Voting Power: Not Applicable

7) Sole Dispositive Power: Not Applicable

8) Shared Dispositive Power: Not Applicable

9) AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED:

Not Applicable

10) AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES SHARES: Not Applicable

11) PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (9):

Not Applicable

12) TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON: IC, IA

ITEM 1(a). NAME OF ISSUER:

OUANEX CORP

ITEM 1(b). ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S EXECUTIVE OFFICES:

QUANEX CORP

1900 West Loop South

Suite 1500

Houston, TX 77027

ITEM 2(a). NAME OF PERSON FILING:

The Prudential Insurance Company of America

ITEM 2(b). ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE:

751 Broad Street

Newark, New Jersey 07102-3777

ITEM 2(c). CITIZENSHIP:

A mutual insurance company organized under the

laws of the State of New Jersey

ITEM 2(d). TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES:

Common Stock

ITEM 2(e). CUSIP NUMBER:

747620102

ITEM 3. The Person filing this statement is an Insurance

Company

as defined in Section 3(a) (19) of the Securities

Exchange

Act of 1934, and an Investment Adviser registered

under

Section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP:

(a) Number of Shares

Beneficially Owned: Not Applicable

(b) Percent of Class:

Number

(c) Powers

Of Shares

Sole power to vote or Not Applicable

to direct the vote

Shared power to vote or Not Applicable

to direct the vote

Sole power to dispose or Not Applicable

to direct disposition

Shared power to dispose Not Applicable

or to direct disposition

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF 5% OR LESS OF A CLASS:

Prudential has ceased to be the owner of more than 5% of the outstanding Common Stock of this issuer.

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN 5% ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON:

Not Applicable

ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY:

Not Applicable

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP:

Not Applicable

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP:

Not Applicable

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION:

By signing below, the Prudential Insurance Company of America certifies that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purpose or effect.

The filing of this statement should not be construed as an admission that Prudential is, for purposes of Sections 13 or 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the beneficial owner of such shares.

SIGNATURE

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of its knowledge and belief, The Prudential Insurance Company of America certifies that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA

By: Ellen McGlynn Koke

Second Vice President

Date: 01/27/99 As of: 12/31/98

Exhibit A

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP: