

INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* Varian John <small>(Last) (First) (Middle)</small> C/O XOMA LTD., 2910 SEVENTH STREET <small>(Street)</small> BERKELEY, CA 94710 <small>(City) (State) (Zip)</small>	2. Date of Event Requiring Statement (Month/Day/Year) 12/08/2008	3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol XOMA LTD /DE/ [XOMA]		
		4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner <input type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify below)		5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)
		6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing Check Applicable Line <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person		

Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 4)	2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4)	3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
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Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4)	2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4)		4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5)	6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5)
	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amount or Number of Shares			
Non-Qualified Share Option (right to buy)	(1)	12/08/2018	Common Shares	70,000	\$ 1.07	D	

Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
Varian John C/O XOMA LTD. 2910 SEVENTH STREET BERKELEY, CA 94710	X			

Signatures

By: Christopher J. Margolin For: John Varian	12/09/2008
<small>**Signature of Reporting Person</small>	<small>Date</small>

Explanation of Responses:

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 5(b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Exercisable with respect to 1/36th of options in monthly increments beginning 1/8/2009 and ending 12/8/2011.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, See Instruction 6 for procedure.

Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Know all by these presents, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints each of Steven B. Engle and Christopher J. Margolin, signing singly, his true and lawful attorneys-in-fact to:

(1) execute for and on behalf of the undersigned Forms 4 or 5 in accordance with Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder (the "Exchange Act");

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to complete the execution and delivery of any such Form 4 or 5 and timely filing of any such form with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and

(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required of, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to each attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such undersigned person might or could do if personally present with full power of substitution or revocation, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact, or his substitute or substitutes, shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorneys-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, are not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

This Power of Attorney shall expire on July 31, 2012.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed and it shall be effective as of __December 8__, 2008.

/s/ John Varian
John Varian