Data available from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission indicate most manual lawn trimmer or edger injuries that received hospital treatment, during 2008, were lacerations to fingers. In addition to physical injuries, there are the potential for ergonomic injuries associated with repetitive hand-squeezing and stooping and bending motions frequently utilized when using grass shears. Many of these injuries are avoidable and are due to inexperience or lack of training or improper or inattentive use of grass shears.

For additional information about grass-shearing safety, go to the Clover Safe note at: http://ucanr.org/cloversafe.

Clover Safe Notes are prepared by the UC ANR Office of Environmental Health & Safety, in support of the Statewide 4-H Youth Development Program.