

UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20436

**MEMORANDUM ON PROPOSED TARIFF LEGISLATION
of the 109th Congress¹**

[Date approved: September 11, 2006]²

Bill No. and sponsor: S. 3136 (Mr. Saxby Chambliss of Georgia).

Proponent name, location: The Home Depot, Atlanta, GA.

Other bills on product (109th Congress only): None.

Nature of bill: Temporary duty suspension through December 31, 2009.

Retroactive effect: None.

Suggested article description(s) for enactment (including appropriate HTS subheading(s)):

Grass shears with swiveling heads and with rotating vertical and horizontal cutting blades of steel (provided for in subheading 8201.90.30).

Check one: Same as that in bill as introduced.
 Different from that in bill as introduced (see Technical comments section).

Product information, including uses/applications and source(s) of imports:

Swivel grass shears with rotating vertical and horizontal steel cutting blades are used to trim grass around posts, sidewalks, plant beds, and other objects. The blades are actuated by the squeezing action of a human hand that pulls one blade up to the other blade, typically by means of a connecting rod between one of the blades and one of the tool's handle. In this particular type of grass shears, the blades fit into a head that can be rotated up to 360 degrees relative to the handle. The rotating feature allows the user to change the cutting plane of the blades from horizontal plane relative to the handle to a vertical plane or some other angle, so that the user need not rotate the wrist to obtain the desired cutting angle. The blades are typically made of carbon steel. The principal sources of imports are Taiwan, China, and Finland.

¹ Industry analyst preparing report: Dennis Fravel (202-205-3404); Tariff Affairs contact: Jan Summers (202-205-2605).

² Access to an electronic copy of this memorandum is available at http://usitc.gov/tata/hts/other/rel_doc/bill_reports/index.htm.

Estimated effect on customs revenue:

HTS subheading: 8201.90.30					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Col. 1-General rate of duty (AVE) ^{1/}	2¢ each + 5.1% (5.1%)				
Estimated value <i>dutiable</i> imports	\$1,365,000	\$1,365,000	\$1,365,000	\$1,365,000	\$1,365,000
Customs revenue loss	\$69,615	\$69,615	\$69,615	\$69,615	\$69,615

^{1/} The AVE is the ad valorem equivalent of a specific or compound duty rate expressed as a percent, using the most recent import data available.

Source of estimated dutiable import data: Commission estimates based on industry information.

Contacts with domestic firms/organizations (including the proponent):

Name of firm/organization	Date contacted	Claim US makes same or competing product(s)?	Submission attached?	Opposition noted?
		(Yes/No)		
The Home Depot (Proponent) Zachery Paulsen, 202-626-5921	07/20/2006	No	No	No
Ames True Temper Company Cindy Cline, 717-737-1500	07/27/2006	No	No	No
Bond Manufacturing Company, Inc. Phil Harrison, 925-252-1146	07/21/2006	No	No	No
Corona Clipper, Inc. Steve Erickson, 951-737-6515	07/21/2006	No	No	No
Fiskars Brands, Inc. Deb Godwin, 608-643-2380	07/20/2006	No	No	No
Garden Pals, Inc. Chris Hill, 909-947-3151	07/24/2006	No	No	No
Gilmour Group/Robert Bosch Tool Corp. Charles McKibben, 502-625-2050	07/21/2006	No	No	No
Lowe's Company Scott D. Mason, 704-758-1000	07/17/2006	No	No	No
Sears, Roebuck & Co. Sharon Brengelson, 847-286-2500	07/25/2006	No	No	No

Technical comments:³

It is suggested that the article description be modified as shown on page 1, to indicate that the head holding the blades can rotate to various cutting planes.

³ The Commission may express an opinion on the HTS classification of a product to facilitate consideration of the bill. However, by law, only the U.S. Customs Service is authorized to issue a binding ruling on this matter. The Commission believes that the U.S. Customs Service should be consulted prior to enactment of the bill.

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. 3136

To suspend temporarily the duty on grass shears with rotating blade.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 25, 2006

Mr. CHAMBLISS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To suspend temporarily the duty on grass shears with rotating blade.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. GRASS SHEARS WITH ROTATING BLADE.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 99 of
5 the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is
6 amended by inserting in numerical sequence the following
7 new heading:

“	9902.82.01	grass shears with rotating blade (provided for in subheading 8201.90.30)	Free	No change	No change	On or before 12/31/2009	”.
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8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 subsection (a) applies to goods entered, or withdrawn from

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- 1 warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after
- 2 the date of the enactment of this Act.

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