



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	PAXTON, IL	Accident Number:	CHI99LA081
Date & Time:	02/03/1999, 1031 CST	Registration:	N704BF
Aircraft:	Cessna 150M	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Analysis

The pilot stated that after flying for 2.5 hours, he decided to land at an airport near Champaign, Illinois, and missed the airport due to the wind. The pilot stated that he then diverted to Paxton, Illinois, and after six attempts was unable to locate the airport. The pilot stated that the airplane ran out of fuel and he declared an emergency. An off airport landing was made into a plowed farm field 2.5 miles west of the Paxton Airport. The forced landing was made on a heading of 020 degrees. A weather report for a reporting station located 27 nautical miles and 190 degrees from the accident site reported winds from 180 degrees at 20 knots gusting to 26 knots. The left wing fuel tank contained no fuel and the right wing fuel tank contained less than one cupful of fuel. Examination of the airplane revealed no other anomalies.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the inadequate preflight planning by the pilot in command and the exhaustion of usable fuel. Factors were the tailwind landing condition and the rough terrain at the landing site.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL
Phase of Operation: CRUISE

Findings

1. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings

3. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - TAILWIND
4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - ROUGH/UNEVEN

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	42
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	836 hours (Total, all aircraft), 58 hours (Total, this make and model), 745 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N704BF
Model/Series:	150M 150M	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	TEVIS AVIATION, INC.	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-200
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Business		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CMI, 754 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	20 knots / 26 knots, 180°
Temperature:	5° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CHANUTE, KS (17KS)	Destination:	DETROIT, MI

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	JOHN M BRANNEN	Adopted Date:	04/18/2001
Investigation Docket:	NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubin@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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