



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA	Accident Number:	BFO96LA001
Date & Time:	10/01/1995, 1615 EDT	Registration:	N226WR
Aircraft:	RUDY KITFOX 1	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot stated that the airplane was in cruise flight at 2,700 feet MSL when the engine lost power. His attempts to restart the engine were unsuccessful, so he made a forced landing on a golf course. During landing, the airplane collided with tall trees. The pilot stated that the airplane was filled to its capacity (9.5 gallons) at the departure airport. The loss of engine power occurred about 1.5 hours after departure. Postaccident examination revealed that there was no fuel in the carburetor bowl/fuel system. Expected fuel consumption for the engine was 6.5 gallons per hour. The aircraft manufacturer recommended installing a low fuel warning system, but this aircraft was not so equipped.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's improper fuel management which resulted in fuel exhaustion. A related factor was the pilot's inadequate fuel consumption calculations.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (F) FUEL CONSUMPTION CALCULATIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - EXHAUSTION
3. (C) FUEL MANAGEMENT - IMPROPER - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY DESCENT/LANDING

Findings

4. OBJECT - TREE(S)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	45
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	147 hours (Total, all aircraft), 54 hours (Total, this make and model), 20 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 21 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	RUDY	Registration:	N226WR
Model/Series:	KITFOX 1 KITFOX 1	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	WAYNE D RUDY	Engine Manufacturer:	ROTAX
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	532LC
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Personal		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	CHO, 641 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	4 knots / , 250°
Temperature:	24° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	FARMVILLE, VA (FVX)	Destination:	NEW MARKET, VA (8W2)

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	BEVERLEY DRAKE-NURSE	Adopted Date:	03/21/1996
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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