



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	SYLVANIA, GA	Accident Number:	ATL92LA171
Date & Time:	09/01/1992, 0945 EDT	Registration:	N9450G
Aircraft:	CESSNA 188	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

THE PILOT COMPLETED A PREFLIGHT INSPECTION WHICH INCLUDED CHECKING FUEL SAMPLES FOR CONTAMINATES; NO CONTAMINATES WERE REPORTED. THE PILOT LOADED THE CHEMICALS ON THE AIRPLANE, FLEW 15 MINUTES TO THE SOYBEAN FIELD AND STARTED THE SPRAYING OPERATION. AFTER SPAYING ABOUT 100 GALLONS, THE AIRPLANE COLLIDED WITH TREES SURROUNDING THE FIELD. THE PILOT DID NOT RECALL THE EVENTS OF THE ACCIDENT, NOR WERE THERE WITNESSES TO THE ACCIDENT. HOWEVER, TWO PEOPLE NEAR THE ACCIDENT SITE, RECALLED DIFFERENT ACCOUNTS OF THE ENGINE OPERATION PRIOR TO THE COLLISION. AN EXAMINATION OF THE ENGINE REVEALED THE PRESENCE OF WATER IN THE FUEL MANIFOLD VALVE AND NUMBER 6 CYLINDER; IMPACT FORCES DAMAGED THE FUEL TANKS. THE ENGINE OPERATED NORMALLY DURING THE POST-CRASH EXAMINATION.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:
AN INADEQUATE PREFLIGHT INSPECTION BY THE PILOT WHICH RESULTED IN FUEL CONTAMINATION AND A LOSS OF ENGINE POWER.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - CONTAMINATION
2. (C) FLUID,FUEL - WATER
3. (C) AIRCRAFT PREFLIGHT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

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

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

Findings

4. MISC EQPT/FURNISHINGS,SHOULDER HARNESS - FAILURE,TOTAL
5. MISC EQPT/FURNISHINGS,SHOULDER HARNESS - DETERIORATED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	23, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	04/20/1992
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	3835 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2145 hours (Total, this make and model), 3675 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 350 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 175 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N9450G
Model/Series:	188 188	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted	Serial Number:	18801488T
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	08/14/1992, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	4200 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	99 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4946 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520
Registered Owner:	HILDE, RICHARD L.	Rated Power:	285 hp
Operator:	HILDE, RICHARD L.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	FWNG

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	SAV, 51 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	35 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	0850 EDT	Direction from Accident Site:	145°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear / 0 ft agl	Visibility	6 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	100°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	31° C / 23° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	0900 EDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

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
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	PHILLIP POWELL	Report Date:	06/21/1993
Additional Participating Persons:	ROBERT E BRUCE; COLLEGE PARK, GA		
Publish Date:			
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 pubinquiry@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).