



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	CENTRE, AL	Accident Number:	ATL92LA173
Date & Time:	09/02/1992, 1600 CDT	Registration:	N4845Q
Aircraft:	CESSNA A188B	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

THE AG PILOT HAD BEEN SPRAYING COTTON FIELDS FOR ABOUT AN HOUR, AND WAS PERFORMING ANOTHER PASS. HE REPORTED 'ROLLING AND TURBULENT' WINDS NEAR THE TREE LINES. AS HE PULLED THE STICK AFT TO ARREST THE SINK RATE, THE AIRCRAFT CONTINUED TO DESCEND. THE LANDING GEAR BOGGED DOWN IN THE COTTON AND THE AIRCRAFT CONTACTED THE GROUND, RESULTING IN STRUCTURAL DAMAGE TO THE AIRFRAME. THE PILOT REPORTED THAT JUST PRIOR TO THE COLLISION, HE LOST ABOUT 20 KNOTS OF AIRSPEED DUE TO WIND SHEAR.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE PILOT'S INADEQUATE COMPENSATION FOR EXISTING WIND CONDITIONS, WHICH RESULTED IN HIS INABILITY TO MAINTAIN A PROPER ALTITUDE. FACTORS WERE THE TURBULENCE AND WIND SHEAR PRESENT AT THE TIME OF THE ACCIDENT.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - TURBULENCE
2. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - WINDSHEAR
3. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
4. (C) PROPER ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	50
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	9000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3000 hours (Total, this make and model), 400 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 200 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 15 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	CESSNA	Registration:	N4845Q
Model/Series:	A188B A188B	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	HOPPE, DONALD L.	Engine Manufacturer:	CONTINENTAL
Operating Certificate(s) Held:		Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-D
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	, 0 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots / 9 knots, 220°
Temperature:	29° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	CENTRE, AL (A04)	Destination:	(A04)

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	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):	RALPH E HICKS	Adopted Date:	05/26/1993
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 pubinq@ntsb.gov , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/ .		

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