



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	VILLE PLATTE, LA	Accident Number:	FTW90DRD07
Date & Time:	05/02/1990, 1045 CDT	Registration:	N8938H
Aircraft:	GRUMMAN G-164A	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

THE AG PILOT WAS SPREADING SEED RICE ON THE FIELD, AND DURING THE SECOND PASS, THE ENGINE STOPPED, THEN RESUMED POWER. THIS OCCURRED 2 MORE TIMES. THE PILOT TRIED TO GET TO A ROAD FOR A FORCED LANDING, BUT HAD TO LAND IN A FLOODED RICE FIELD. AT TOUCHDOWN, THE AIRPLANE FLIPPED FORWARD TO THE INVERTED POSITION. THE AIRPLANE WAS DEMOLISHED, BUT THE COMMERCIAL PILOT WAS NOT INJURED. AFTER RECOVERY, THE NUMBER FOUR CYLINDER INTAKE VALVE ROCKER BOX HOUSING WAS FOUND TO BE CRACKED.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: PARTIAL LOSS OF ENGINE POWER DUE TO A CRACKED NUMBER FOUR CYLINDER INTAKE ROCKER BOX HOUSING. THE LACK OF A SUITABLE FORCED LANDING SITE WAS A RELATED FACTOR.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(PARTIAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings

1. ENGINE ASSEMBLY,CYLINDER - FAILURE,PARTIAL
2. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY,VALVE,INTAKE - FAILURE,PARTIAL
3. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY,ROCKER ARM/TAPPET - FAILURE,PARTIAL

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

Occurrence #3: NOSE OVER
Phase of Operation: LANDING - FLARE/TOUCHDOWN

Findings

4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE
5. TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT
6. TERRAIN CONDITION - WATER

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	43
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane; Helicopter
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	11768 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5500 hours (Total, this make and model), 11511 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 150 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 100 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	GRUMMAN	Registration:	N8938H
Model/Series:	G-164A G-164A	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	PATRICK AARON YOUNG	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
Operating Certificate(s) Held:		Engine Model/Series:	R-1340-AN1
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:	10 knots / , 190°
Temperature:	29° C	Visibility	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:		Destination:	

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):	HENRY J CHRISTIAN	Adopted Date:	09/10/1992
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.ntsbt.gov/pubdms/ .		

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