



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Final Report

Location:	PLAINFIELD, WI	Accident Number:	CHI89DEP10
Date & Time:	08/01/1989, 1730 CDT	Registration:	N5044S
Aircraft:	Air Tractor AT-301	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

DURING AN AERIAL APPLICATION MANEUVER, THE AIRCRAFT DEPARTED CONTROLLED FLIGHT AND IMPACTED THE TERRAIN. THE AIRCRAFT WAS DESTROYED AND THE PILOT SUSTAINED FATAL INJURIES. SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION FOUND NOTHING OF A MECHANICAL NATURE IN THE WRECKAGE THAT WOULD HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE ACCIDENT.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: FAILURE OF THE PILOT-IN-COMMAND TO MAINTAIN CONTROL OF THE AIRCRAFT WHILE CONDUCTING AERIAL APPLICATION MANEUVERS IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE TERRAIN.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF CONTROL - IN FLIGHT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings

1. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (C) STALL/MUSH - INADVERTENT - PILOT IN COMMAND

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	35, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Seatbelt, Shoulder harness
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	Yes
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim.	Last FAA Medical Exam:	05/22/1989
Occupational Pilot:		Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	7200 hours (Total, all aircraft), 6900 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 200 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 150 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Air Tractor	Registration:	N5044S
Model/Series:	AT-301 AT-301	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	No
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted	Serial Number:	301-0108
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	10/21/1988, Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	192 Hours	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5389 Hours	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	R-1340-AN1
Registered Owner:	REABE, ROY W.	Rated Power:	600 hp
Operator:	REABE SPRAYING SERVICE, INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	OSH, 805 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	40 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	1645 CDT	Direction from Accident Site:	285°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 5000 ft agl	Visibility	8 Miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Visibility (RVR):	0 ft
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	29° C / 17° C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	PLAINFIELD, WI (PVT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	1700 CDT	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Wreckage and Impact Information

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	CHARLES A EBERT	Report Date:	06/26/1992
Additional Participating Persons:			
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/ .		

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), established in 1967, is an independent federal agency mandated by Congress through the Independent Safety Board Act of 1974 to investigate transportation accidents, determine the probable causes of the accidents, issue safety recommendations, study transportation safety issues, and evaluate the safety effectiveness of government agencies involved in transportation. The NTSB makes public its actions and decisions through accident reports, safety studies, special investigation reports, safety recommendations, and statistical reviews.

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](#).