



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Basile, LA	Accident Number:	FTW02LA194
Date & Time:	07/01/2002, 0750 CDT	Registration:	N8917H
Aircraft:	Grumman-Schweizer G-164A	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The pilot had just completed his fourth spray load of the morning and was returning for the next load when the engine began running rough and started to backfire. He checked the magnetos, propeller, and throttle lever, and found everything to be "normal." The engine continued to backfire, and not being able to maintain altitude, the pilot elected to make a forced landing in a rice field. After touchdown, the airplane nosed over and came to rest inverted. An examination by a certified mechanic revealed no anomalies which would have prevented normal engine operation. The reason for the partial loss of engine power was undetermined.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the loss of engine power as a result of fuel starvation. A contributing factor was the lack of suitable terrain for the forced landing.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings
1. (C) FLUID,FUEL - STARVATION

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

Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: EMERGENCY LANDING

Findings
2. TERRAIN CONDITION - WET
3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	22
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	1230 hours (Total, all aircraft), 882 hours (Total, this make and model), 1207 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 254 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 68 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Grumman-Schweizer	Registration:	N8917H
Model/Series:	G-164A	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	Kib Aviation	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	R-985
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	/ , 180°
Temperature:	24° C	Visibility:	7 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Basile, LA	Destination:	

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:	30.548333, -92.477500		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Thomas M Little	Adopted Date:	04/01/2003
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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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.

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