



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Marmaduke, AR	<b>Accident Number:</b>	FTW03LA004
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	10/02/2002, 1430 CDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N155HF
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Air Tractor AT-400	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 137: Agricultural		

## Analysis

During the aerial application flight, two fields were being sprayed from east to the west with a set of power lines running north and south between the fields. The pilot would fly the airplane over the power lines and then descend to spray the field. During the accident swath descent to spray the east field, the airplane struck the ground. The pilot and local authorities reported that the winds were "strong" from the southwest. The weather observation facility, located approximately 22 nautical miles southwest of the accident site, reported the wind from 250 degrees at 4 knots, visibility 10 statute miles, few clouds at 4,000 feet agl and a broken ceiling at 5,500 feet agl, temperature 31 degrees Celsius, dew point 22 degrees Celsius, an altimeter setting of 30.01 inches of Mercury, and towering cumulus clouds in all quadrants.

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain aircraft control. A contributing factor was the towering cumulus in all quadrants.

## Findings

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

### Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - THUNDERSTORM, OUTFLOW
2. (C) AIRCRAFT CONTROL - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	39
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None
<b>Flight Time:</b>	11000 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Air Tractor	<b>Registration:</b>	N155HF
<b>Model/Series:</b>	AT-400	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Turbo Prop
<b>Operator:</b>	Glenn Kuntz	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Pratt & Whitney
<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>		<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	PT6A-20
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 137: Agricultural		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	JBR, 262 ft msl	<b>Weather Information Source:</b>	Weather Observation Facility
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 5500 ft agl	<b>Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:</b>	4 knots / , 250°
<b>Temperature:</b>	31 °C	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>			
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Marmaduke, AR	<b>Destination:</b>	

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	35.831944, -90.646111		

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Joyce Roach	<b>Adopted Date:</b>	11/25/2003
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	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 <a href="mailto:pubinq@ntsb.gov">pubinq@ntsb.gov</a> , or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/</a> .		

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