



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Pixley, CA	Accident Number:	LAX06CA002
Date & Time:	10/02/2005, 0900 PDT	Registration:	N201SC
Aircraft:	Bell 206B	Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The helicopter impacted a support wire between two poles while it was conducting aerial applications. The pilot completed spraying the field and was getting ready to spray the borders. He checked the power lines near the field and elected to fly beneath them to prevent drift over the adjacent field. As the pilot neared the wires for the spray run, he noticed a guy-wire running from pole-to-pole below the power lines. He lowered to collective, but the helicopter snagged the wire with the top portion of the vertical stabilizer. The helicopter then impacted terrain and rolled into a canal.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: the pilot's failure to maintain clearance with the wire during a low altitude aerial application flight.

Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

Findings

1. OBJECT - WIRE, STATIC
2. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	61
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land; Single-engine Sea	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Helicopter	Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane Multi-engine; Airplane Single-engine
Flight Time:	21500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 750 hours (Total, this make and model), 326 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 71 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 9 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Bell	Registration:	N201SC
Model/Series:	206B	Engines:	1 Turbo Shaft
Operator:	Slykerman Ag Aviation, Inc.	Engine Manufacturer:	Allison
Operating Certificate(s) Held:		Engine Model/Series:	250-C20B
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:	Light and Variable / ,
Temperature:	24° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Pixley, CA	Destination:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:	35.507222, -119.191944		

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Nicole L Charnon	Adopted Date:	02/28/2006
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
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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