



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	DeWitt, AR	Accident Number:	CEN10LA236
Date & Time:	05/03/2010, CDT	Registration:	N5531X
Aircraft:	AERO COMMANDER S2R	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The airplane was reported missing after failing to return from an aerial application flight. The airplane wreckage was located in a wooded area near the field being sprayed about 5 hours after the airplane's expected return time. Flight control continuity could not be verified due to damage to the airplane. Postaccident examination of the engine and propeller assemblies indicated that the engine was producing power and the propeller was rotating during the impact sequence. The reason for the airplane impacting the trees and terrain could not be determined.

Flight Events

Maneuvering-low-alt flying - Unknown or undetermined

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot did not maintain clearance from terrain for undetermined reasons.

Findings

Not determined-Not determined-(general)-(general)-Unknown/Not determined - C

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	51
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	8259 hours (Total, all aircraft), 650 hours (Total, this make and model), 100 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 55 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	AERO COMMANDER	Registration:	N5531X
Model/Series:	S2R	Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Operator:	AUFDERHEIDE FLYING SERVICE INC	Engine Manufacturer:	Garrett
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	TPE331-2-201A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	SGT, 224 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	None
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	8 knots, 230°
Temperature:	30° C / 11° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	De Witt Municip, AR (5M1)	Destination:	De Witt Municip, AR (5M1)

Airport Information

Airport:	DeWitt Municipal Airport (5M1)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Fatal	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Daniel Baker	Adopted Date:	05/21/2012
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=75926		

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.