



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Boone, IA	Accident Number:	CEN10LA514
Date & Time:	09/02/2010, 0921 CDT	Registration:	N10128
Aircraft:	CESSNA 150L	Injuries:	1 Fatal
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Banner Tow		

Analysis

The pilot conducted a downwind takeoff on the local banner-tow flight. The airplane subsequently picked up the banner on a downwind low approach. A witness reported that the engine sounded normal. An eyewitness reported the airplane was not gaining much altitude and that the banner was very close to being dragged in crops on departure. A witness near the accident site said that the banner got caught in the corn while the airplane was maneuvering. Another witness saw the banner separate from the airplane before the airplane banked and went into a dive. The pilot was trained in and endorsed for banner towing operations and emergencies. However, his logbook did not contain an endorsement for a flight review. The local wind was 11 knots gusting to 20 knots. A wreckage examination revealed no preimpact anomalies. The propeller blades exhibited chordwise abrasion and leading edge nicks consistent with an engine producing power at the time of impact. A global positioning system unit showed that, after the airplane picked up the banner, it made a tight downwind turn to the left and headed northeast during its climbout. The data showed the airplane then turned to the south and subsequently descended.

Flight Events

Maneuvering-low-alt flying - Aerodynamic stall/spin

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain airplane control while performing low-level banner towing operations with a gusting wind.

Findings

Aircraft-Aircraft oper/perf/capability-Performance/control parameters-(general)-Not attained/maintained - C

Personnel issues-Task performance-Use of equip/info-Aircraft control-Pilot - C

Environmental issues-Conditions/weather/phenomena-Wind-Gusts-Contributed to outcome

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	24
Airplane Rating(s):	Multi-engine Land; Single-engine Land	Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Instructor Rating(s):	None
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 560 hours (Total, all aircraft), 40 hours (Total, this make and model)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	CESSNA	Registration:	N10128
Model/Series:	150L	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Operator:	DRAKE AERIAL ENTERPRISES LLC DBA	Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:	None	Engine Model/Series:	O-360-A4A
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Banner Tow		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	BNW, 1161 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:	11 knots/ 20 knots, 310°
Temperature:	22° C / 17° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Boone, IA (BNW)	Destination:	Boone, IA (BNW)

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):	Edward F Malinowski	Adopted Date:	06/27/2011
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=77177		

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