



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	Gregory, AR	Accident Number:	CEN11CA098
Date & Time:	12/02/2010, 0930 CST	Registration:	N9145H
Aircraft:	AIR TRACTOR INC AT-602	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The pilot departed on his third aerial application flight for the day. Shortly after take-off, the engine lost power and the pilot elected to conduct a forced landing in a field. During touchdown, the airplane landed hard and received substantial damage. After the accident, the pilot reported that this was the first flight since refueling the airplane. The pilot also added that he did not check the fuel supply, prior to refueling the airplane. An examination of the airplane and refueling tanks, after the accident, revealed water was present in the fuel.

Flight Events

Initial climb - Fuel contamination
Initial climb - Loss of engine power (total)
Emergency descent - Controlled flight into terr/obj (CFIT)

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate preflight inspection and failure to detect water contaminated fuel, which resulted in a loss of engine power during takeoff.

Findings

Aircraft-Fluids/misc hardware-Fluids-Fuel-Inadequate inspection - C
Aircraft-Fluids/misc hardware-Fluids-Fuel-Not specified - C
Personnel issues-Task performance-Inspection-Preflight inspection-Pilot - 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:	16500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 6500 hours (Total, this make and model), 16500 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 200 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Manufacturer:	AIR TRACTOR INC	Registration:	N9145H
Model/Series:	AT-602	Engines:	1 Turbo Prop
Operator:	REYNOLDS FLYING SERVICE INC	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W CANADA
Air Carrier Operating Certificate:		Engine Model/Series:	JT15D 5 SER
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:		Weather Information Source:	Pilot
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	Unknown
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	5 knots, 150°
Temperature:		Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Gregory, AR (NA)	Destination:	Gregory, AR (NA)

Airport Information

Airport:	Private (NA)	Runway Surface Type:	
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Length/Width:			

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

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Craig Hatch	Adopted Date:	10/06/2011
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=77954		

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