



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

<b>Location:</b>	Yankton, SD	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN15CA001
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	10/01/2014, 1230 CDT	<b>Registration:</b>	N6659Z
<b>Aircraft:</b>	PIPER PA 25-235	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 137: Agricultural		

## Analysis

After conducting an aerial application flight and attempting to return to the airport, the pilot noticed that the fuel float gauge displayed a low quantity. The airplane's engine experienced a total loss of power. The pilot performed a forced landing in a cornfield about 3 miles west of the airport. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing. The pilot reported in a postaccident statement that he ran out of fuel.

## Flight Events

Maneuvering-low-alt flying - Fuel exhaustion

## Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's improper fuel management, which resulted in a loss of engine power due to fuel exhaustion.

## Findings

Aircraft-Fluids/misc hardware-Fluids-Fuel-Fluid level - C

Aircraft-Fluids/misc hardware-Fluids-Fuel-Fluid management - C

Personnel issues-Task performance-Planning/preparation-Fuel planning-Pilot - C

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	55
<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>	1320 hours (Total, all aircraft), 800 hours (Total, this make and model), 360 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Manufacturer:</b>	PIPER	<b>Registration:</b>	N6659Z
<b>Model/Series:</b>	PA 25-235	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	LYCOMING
<b>Air Carrier Operating Certificate:</b>	Agricultural Aircraft (137)	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	O-540 B2C5
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 137: Agricultural		

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Observation Facility, Elevation:	KYKN, 1306 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Lowest Ceiling:	
Condition of Light:	Day	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	11 knots, 250°
Temperature:	22° C / 15° C	Visibility	10 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Meckling, SD	Destination:	Tabor, SD

## Airport Information

Airport:	CHAN GURNEY MUNI (YKN)	Runway Surface Type:	N/A
Runway Used:	N/A	Runway Surface Condition:	Rough; Vegetation
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):	Joshua D Lindberg	Adopted Date:	10/20/2014
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.		
Investigation Docket:	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=90197">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=90197</a>		

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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.