



# National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Factual Report

<b>Location:</b>	Colexico, CA	<b>Accident Number:</b>	WPR20CA092
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	02/18/2020, 1915 PST	<b>Registration:</b>	N288NS
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Bell OH 58A	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of lift	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 137: Agricultural		

The commercial pilot reported that during an aerial application flight, he sprayed a row on the field and climbed to avoid wires on the south side of the field. He then made a right turn and began his descent back to the field. After he cleared the wires, he entered the field on the spray line and began raising the collective. He noticed that the torque gauge was responding, however, the rate of descent was not being halted and the helicopter subsequently impacted the ground and came to rest on its right side.

The helicopter sustained substantial damage to the fuselage.

The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the helicopter that would have precluded normal operation.

## Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Flight Instructor; Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	41, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine Land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Right
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	Helicopter	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	Helicopter	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 2 Without Waivers/Limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	04/18/2019
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	04/11/2019
<b>Flight Time:</b>	2713 hours (Total, all aircraft), 713 hours (Total, this make and model), 2583 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Bell	<b>Registration:</b>	N288NS
<b>Model/Series:</b>	OH 58A No Series	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Helicopter
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1970	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	No
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Restricted	<b>Serial Number:</b>	70-15288
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	High Skid	<b>Seats:</b>	2
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	11/28/2019, 100 Hour	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	3200 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	32 Hours	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Turbo Shaft
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	11218 Hours as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Rolls Royce
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	C20C SERIES
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Amador Fernandez Jr	<b>Rated Power:</b>	420 hp
<b>Operator:</b>	A Farmer Service Corp	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	Agricultural Aircraft (137)

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual Conditions	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Night
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	IPL, -54 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Observation Time:</b>	PST	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 Miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	None / None
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	Variable	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	N/A / N/A
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>		<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	19° C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Imperial, CA (IPL)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Imperial, CA (IPL)	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	1015 PST	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	33.133333, -115.700000 (est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Samantha A Link
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Tom Marques; Federal Aviation Administration; San Diego, CA
<b>Note:</b>	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=100969">http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/search/dockList.cfm?mKey=100969</a>