



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Heidi Moats
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region Aviation

January 6, 2016

Subject: ERA15LA076
Who: Mr. Rafael Cortes Ramos - Pilot

In a telephone interview with the pilot, he stated the following:

- Flying that day, he took off around 10 or 10:15.
- He flew the airplane a bit off shore in order to avoid a bit of rain that was noted on the Unicom.
- After, he flew the airplane inland a bit, and that is when the engine started "sounding weird."
- It was "kind of losing power."
- He started the emergency checklist and called "mayday."
- He continued to troubleshoot the engine but was unable to restart it.
- I chose a spot to land, and couldn't land into the wind, therefore he landed with a crosswind.
- He made the field he intended to land in and continued with the emergency procedures.
- Established the airplane's glide speed at 60 knots.
- Prior to the flight, he completed a preflight and engine run up with no anomalies noted. "Nothing was wrong with it."
- He flew the airplane for an "hour until the engine died."
- "It still had gas when I landed."
- He turned everything off before touching down in the field.
- When the FAA went to do investigation, there was gas in the line and gas in the carburetor.
- It had oil, everything was in place, and it just broke.