



NTSB RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Investigator name: Shaun Williams
Title: Senior Aviation Accident Investigator
Region: Central

Date: 27 May, 2020
Person Contacted: Michael Gallman
NTSB Accident Number: CEN20CA190

Narrative:

On May 23, 2020, about 1559 central daylight time, an Air Tractor AT502 airplane, N571LA, sustained substantial damage during an impact with terrain following a loss of directional control on takeoff at Bunkie Flying Service Airport (2LA4), Bunkie, Louisiana. Mr. Gallman was acting as pilot-in-command of the accident airplane.

Mr. Gallman stated that during takeoff from runway 17, when he pushed the control stick forward to raise the tail of the airplane, the airplane went to the left. He tried to correct back to the right but was unsuccessful. In an attempt to prevent an accident, he decided to attempt the takeoff and became airborne briefly before the wheels impacted the sugarcane field, resulting in the airplane nosing over. He stated that he was wearing a helmet and only received minor injuries during the accident as a result of his sunglasses breaking.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or anomalies with the airplane prior to the accident.

END OF INTERVIEW