

Aviation Investigation Factual Report

Location:	Friona, Texas	Accident Number:	FTW04CA107
Date & Time:	April 8, 2004, 17:50 Local	Registration:	N2320T
Aircraft:	Ayres S2R-T34	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Factual Information

On April 8, 2004, at 1750 central daylight time, an Ayres SR2-T34 single-engine, tailwheelequipped agricultural airplane, N2320T, was substantially damaged when it collided with a vehicle following a loss of directional control during landing roll at the Benger Air Park (X54), near Friona, Texas. The commercial pilot, who was the sole occupant, was not injured. The airplane was registered to and operated by Benger Aero Spraying Inc., Friona, Texas. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed, and a flight plan was not filed for the 14 Code of the Federal Regulations Part 137 aerial application flight. The local flight originated from X54 at 1700.

The 15,798-hour pilot reported in the Pilot/Operator Aircraft Accident Report (NTSB Form 6120.1/2) that while spraying a field approximately two miles north of the airport, it started to rain. The pilot returned to the airport and landed on runway 22, which is a 3,013 feet long and 60 feet wide asphalt runway. During the landing roll, he moved the propeller condition lever to the BETA position, and subsequently "lost visibility" from water on the windshield. The "wind pushed the airplane off the left side of the runway." As the pilot attempted to go around, the left wing struck a tractor located approximately 40 feet to the left of the runway.

The operator reported that rain and a "strong crosswind" were present at the time of the accident, with "standing water" on the left side of the runway.

Examination of the airplane by a Federal Aviation Administration inspector, who responded to the accident, revealed the left forward wing spar was bent.

Weather at the Clovis Municipal Airport, near Clovis, New Mexico, approximately 23 miles southwest of the accident site, at 1735, reported, wind from 340 degrees at 14 knots, visibility 10 statue miles, few clouds at 4,900, scattered clouds at 7,000, temperature 52 degrees Fahrenheit, dew point 48 degrees Fahrenheit, and an altimeter setting of 29.89 inches of Mercury.

The pilot reported wind from the northwest at 17 knots, with moderate rain at the time of accident.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	59,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medical-w/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 5, 2004
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	February 19, 2003
Flight Time:	15798 hours (Total, all aircraft), 2150 hours (Total, this make and model), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Ayres	Registration:	N2320T
S2R-T34	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
	Amateur Built:	
Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	T34-260
Tailwheel	Seats:	1
January 1, 2004 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6000 lbs
	Engines:	1 Turbo prop
	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	PT6-34
Benger Aero Spraying, Inc.	Rated Power:	750 Horsepower
	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None
	Operator Designator Code:	BSPG
	S2R-T34 Restricted (Special) Tailwheel January 1, 2004 Annual Not installed	S2R-T34Aircraft Category:S2R-T34Amateur Built:Restricted (Special)Serial Number:TailwheelSeats:January 1, 2004 AnnualCertified Max Gross Wt.:January 1, 2004 AnnualEngines:Ion installedEngine Manufacturer:Not installedEngine Model/Series:Benger Aero Spraying, Inc.Rated Power:January 1, 2004 AnnualIon installedIon installedSengine Model/Series:Benger Aero Spraying, Inc.Rated Power:January 1, 2004 AnnualIon installedIon installedIon installedBenger Aero Spraying, Inc.Rated Power:January 1, 2004 AnnualIon installedJanuary 1, 2004 AnnualIon installedBenger Aero Spraying, Inc.Rated Power:January 1, 2004 AnnualIon installedJanuary 1, 2004 Annual

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	5 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	17 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	290°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:		Temperature/Dew Point:	18°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	Moderate - None - Rain		
Departure Point:	Friona, TX (X54)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class E

Airport Information

Airport:	Benger Airpark X54	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4003 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Wet
Runway Used:	22	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	3013 ft / 60 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Go around:Straight-in

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	34.654167,-102.691665

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	McGill, C Frank
Additional Participating Persons:	William J Fitzgerald; Lubbock Flight Standards District Office; Lubbock, TX
Report Date:	April 26, 2004
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	<u>Class</u>
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=59026

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The NTSB does not assign fault or blame for an accident or incident; rather, as specified by NTSB regulation, "accident/incident investigations are fact-finding proceedings with no formal issues and no adverse parties ... and are not conducted for the purpose of determining the rights or liabilities of any person" (Title 49 *Code of Federal Regulations* section 831.4). Assignment of fault or legal liability is not relevant to the NTSB's statutory mission to improve transportation safety by investigating accidents and incidents and issuing safety recommendations. In addition, statutory language prohibits the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report (Title 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b)). A factual report that may be admissible under 49 *United States Code* section 1154(b) is available here.