



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	TECUMSEH, Michigan	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CHI90LA175
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 15, 1990, 11:37 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N8854M
<b>Aircraft:</b>	BEECH                      A23	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 Minor
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

DURING INITIAL CLIMBOUT FROM TAKEOFF THE AIRPLANE EXPERIENCED A LOSS OF ENGINE POWER. THE PILOT MADE AN OFF AIRPORT FORCED LANDING IN A BEAN FIELD DURING WHICH THE AIRPLANE WAS SUBSTANTIALLY DAMAGED. A COMPLETE POWERPLANT ANALYSIS DURING TEARDOWN WAS NOT POSSIBLE DUE TO THE FACT THAT BOTH MAGNETOS AND WIRING HARNESS WERE STOLEN PRIOR TO THE TEARDOWN.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: A LOSS OF ENGINE POWER DUE TO UNKNOWN REASONS.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - NONMECHANICAL  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

### Findings

1. (C) REASON FOR OCCURRENCE UNDETERMINED  
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Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING  
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY  
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Occurrence #3: ON GROUND/WATER ENCOUNTER WITH TERRAIN/WATER  
Phase of Operation: LANDING - ROLL

Findings

2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - CROP

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	51, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Left
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Valid Medical--no waivers/lim.	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	July 1, 1988
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	No	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>			

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	BEECH	<b>Registration:</b>	N8854M
<b>Model/Series:</b>	A23 A23	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Normal	<b>Serial Number:</b>	M-589
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	4
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	November 13, 1989 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	2350 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	49 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Installed, activated, did not aid in locating accident	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-346-A
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	J. L. FISHER DEVELOPMENT CORP.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	165 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>		<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	JXN ,1000 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	68 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	14:50 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	131°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Unknown	<b>Visibility</b>	3 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 2200 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	6 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	170°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	22°C / 19°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	N/A - None - Fog		
<b>Departure Point:</b>		<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	11:37 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	MERILLAT 3TE	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Dirt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	820 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Vegetation
<b>Runway Used:</b>	18	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	4000 ft / 100 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Forced landing

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 Serious	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	1 Minor	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 Serious, 1 Minor	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	41.999092,-83.939918(est)

## Administrative Information

**Investigator In Charge (IIC):** Gattolin, Frank

**Additional Participating Persons:**

**Original Publish Date:** February 12, 1993

**Last Revision Date:**

**Investigation Class:** [Class](#)

**Note:**

**Investigation Docket:** <https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=14707>

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