



# **Aviation Investigation Final Report**

Location: WAHPETON, North Dakota Accident Number: DEN83LA190

Date & Time: August 13, 1983, 12:10 Local Registration: N2070J

Aircraft: CESSNA T188L Aircraft Damage: Substantial

**Defining Event:** 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 137: Agricultural

### **Analysis**

THE ACFT COLLIDED WITH THE GROUND DURING AERIAL APPLICATION TURN AROUND. THE PILOT STATED THAT HE LOOKED INSIDE THE COCKPIT DURING THE MANEUVER TO SEE HOW MUCH CHEMICAL WAS LEFT. HE SAW THE GROUND OUT OF THE CORNER OF HIS EYE AND TRIED TO AVOID THE COLLISION BUT WAS TOO LATE.

### **Probable Cause and Findings**

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

#### **Findings**

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING - AERIAL APPLICATION

#### **Findings**

1. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

2. (C) ALTITUDE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND

3. (C) DESCENT - NOT CORRECTED - PILOT IN COMMAND

## **Factual Information**

#### **Pilot Information**

| Certificate:              | Commercial; Flight instructor   | Age:                              | 59,Male      |
|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Airplane Rating(s):       | Single-engine land; Multi-engine land   | Seat Occupied:                    | Center       |
| Other Aircraft Rating(s): | Helicopter  | Restraint Used:                   |              |
| Instrument Rating(s):     | Airplane; Helicopter  | Second Pilot Present:             | No           |
| Instructor Rating(s):     | Airplane multi-engine; Airplane single-engine; Instrument airplane  | Toxicology Performed:             | No           |
| Medical Certification:    | Class 2 Valid Medical-w/<br>waivers/lim   | Last FAA Medical Exam:            | June 9, 1983 |
| Occupational Pilot:       | Yes   | Last Flight Review or Equivalent: |              |
| Flight Time:              | 12400 hours (Total, all aircraft), 153 hours (Total, this make and model), 25 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 4 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft) |                                   |              |

Page 2 of 5 DEN83LA190

## **Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information**

| Aircraft Make:                | CESSNA                   | Registration:                     | N2070J          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Model/Series:                 | T188L T188L              | Aircraft Category:                | Airplane        |
| Year of Manufacture:          |                          | Amateur Built:                    |                 |
| Airworthiness Certificate:    | Restricted (Special)     | Serial Number:                    | T18803360T      |
| Landing Gear Type:            | Tailwheel                | Seats:                            | 1               |
| Date/Type of Last Inspection: | March 21, 1983 100 hour  | Certified Max Gross Wt.:          | 4400 lbs        |
| Time Since Last Inspection:   | 45 Hrs                   | Engines:                          | 1 Reciprocating |
| Airframe Total Time:          | 741 Hrs                  | Engine Manufacturer:              | CONTINENTAL     |
| ELT:                          | Not installed            | Engine Model/Series:              | TSIO-520-T      |
| Registered Owner:             | TRI STATE AVIATION, INC. | Rated Power:                      | 310 Horsepower  |
| Operator:                     |                          | Operating Certificate(s)<br>Held: |                 |
| Operator Does Business As:    |                          | Operator Designator Code:         |                 |

# 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:        |          |
| <b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>   | Clear                     | Visibility                           | 11 miles |
| Lowest Ceiling:                  | None                      | Visibility (RVR):                    |          |
| Wind Speed/Gusts:                | 10 knots /                | Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:     | /        |
| Wind Direction:                  | 300°                      | Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual: | /        |
| Altimeter Setting:               |                           | Temperature/Dew Point:               | 27°C     |
| Precipitation and Obscuration:   | No Obscuration; No Precip | itation                              |          |
| Departure Point:                 | WAHPETON , ND (BWP<br>)   | Type of Flight Plan Filed:           | None     |
| Destination:                     |                           | Type of Clearance:                   | None     |
| Departure Time:                  | 11:25 Local               | Type of Airspace:                    | Class G  |
|                                  |                           |                                      |          |

Page 3 of 5 DEN83LA190

## **Airport Information**

| Airport:             |   | Runway Surface Type:             |      |
|----------------------|---|----------------------------------|------|
| Airport Elevation:   |   | <b>Runway Surface Condition:</b> |      |
| Runway Used:         | 0 | IFR Approach:                    | None |
| Runway Length/Width: |   | VFR Approach/Landing:            | None |

## Wreckage and Impact Information

| Crew Injuries:         | 1 None | Aircraft Damage:        | Substantial               |
|------------------------|--------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Passenger<br>Injuries: |        | Aircraft Fire:          | None                      |
| Ground Injuries:       | N/A    | Aircraft Explosion:     | None                      |
| Total Injuries:        | 1 None | Latitude,<br>Longitude: | 46.259429,-96.599205(est) |

Page 4 of 5 DEN83LA190

#### **Administrative Information**

| Investigator In Charge (IIC):     | Winningham, Fred                             |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Additional Participating Persons: |  |
| Original Publish Date:            |  |
| Last Revision Date:               |  |
| Investigation Class:              | Class  |
| Note:                             |  |
| Investigation Docket:             | https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=16137 |

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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.

Page 5 of 5 DEN83LA190