



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location: WILMONT, Arkansas Accident Number: FTW92DPG14

Date & Time: August 12, 1992, 10:00 Local Registration: N4420S

Aircraft: AIR TRACTOR AT-300 Aircraft Damage: Substantial

Defining Event: 1 None

Flight Conducted Under: Part 137: Agricultural

Analysis

DURING THE INITIAL CLIMB AFTER TAKEOFF THE PILOT EXPERIENCED A TOTAL POWER LOSS DUE TO A FAILURE OF THE NUMBER THREE CYLINDER. FORCED LANDING TERRAIN IMPACT RESULTED IN DAMAGE TO THE LEFT WING SPAR AND SEPARATED THE LEFT MAIN LANDING GEAR.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: POWER LOSS DUE TO A FAILED CRACKED CYLINDER. A FACTOR WAS THE LACK OF SUITABLE TERRAIN FOR THE FORCED LANDING.

Findings

Occurrence #1: LOSS OF ENGINE POWER(TOTAL) - MECH FAILURE/MALF

Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

Findings

1. (C) ENGINE ASSEMBLY, CYLINDER - CRACKED

Occurrence #2: FORCED LANDING

Phase of Operation: DESCENT - EMERGENCY

Occurrence #3: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER

Phase of Operation: LANDING

Findings
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - NONE SUITABLE

Page 2 of 6 FTW92DPG14

Factual Information

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	45,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Valid Medicalw/ waivers/lim	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 3, 1992
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	7706 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1890 hours (Total, this make and model), 7649 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 350 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 145 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 5 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Page 3 of 6 FTW92DPG14

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AIR TRACTOR	Registration:	N4420S
Model/Series:	AT-300 AT-300	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	300-0080
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	April 9, 1992 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	5000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	472 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	6825 Hrs	Engine Manufacturer:	P&W
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	R-1340-AN1
Registered Owner:	WILMONT FLYING SERVICE INC.	Rated Power:	600 Horsepower
Operator:	WILMONT FLYING SERVICE INC.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	ZGNG

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	GLH ,131 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	30 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	10:00 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	226°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	500 ft AGL	Visibility	5 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	360°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	26°C / 23°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	N/A - None - Haze		
Departure Point:		Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	09:55 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Page 4 of 6 FTW92DPG14

Airport Information

Airport:		Runway Surface Type:	
Airport Elevation:		Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	0	IFR Approach:	
Runway Length/Width:		VFR Approach/Landing:	Forced landing

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:	33.050689,-91.570983(est)

Page 5 of 6 FTW92DPG14

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Milliser, Edwin

Additional Participating
Persons:

Original Publish Date: July 26, 1993

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: Class

Note:

Investigation Docket: https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=18315

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant events in other modes of transportation—railroad, transit, highway, marine, pipeline, and commercial space. We determine the probable causes of the accidents and events we investigate, and issue safety recommendations aimed at preventing future occurrences. In addition, we conduct transportation safety research studies and offer information and other assistance to family members and survivors for each accident or event we investigate. We also serve as the appellate authority for enforcement actions involving aviation and mariner certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and US Coast Guard, and we adjudicate appeals of civil penalty actions taken by the FAA.

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 6 of 6 FTW92DPG14