



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	Holyoke, Colorado	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN23LA241
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	June 15, 2023, 08:45 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N6106U
<b>Aircraft:</b>	AIR TRACTOR INC AT-401B	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Loss of control on ground	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

## Analysis

The operator reported that, while landing during a solo instructional flight, the airplane touched down in a three-point attitude and veered left during the roll out. The airplane ground looped to the left and exited the left side of the runway. During the ground loop, the right wing struck the ground. The airplane came to rest about 25 ft from the edge of the runway and sustained substantial damage to the right wing.

The operator reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

## Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's failure to maintain directional control during the landing roll.

## Findings

<b>Aircraft</b>	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Aircraft control - Pilot
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Total experience w/ equipment - Pilot



## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing-landing roll</b>	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)
<b>Landing-landing roll</b>	Runway excursion
<b>Landing-landing roll</b>	Dragged wing/rotor/float/other

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	48, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Single
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	4-point
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 Without waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	October 4, 2021
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	Yes	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	March 15, 2022
<b>Flight Time:</b>	385 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 321 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 39 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 17 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

## Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	AIR TRACTOR INC	<b>Registration:</b>	N6106U
<b>Model/Series:</b>	AT-401B	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	1995	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Restricted (Special)	<b>Serial Number:</b>	401B-0976
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tailwheel	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	January 10, 2023 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	7680 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>		<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	8063.3 Hrs as of last inspection	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Pratt & Whitney
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	R1340-AN1
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	Steggs Flying Service, Inc	<b>Rated Power:</b>	600 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	Steggs Flying Service, Inc	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	Agricultural aircraft (137)
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>	Steggs Flying Service, Inc	<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	53GG

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KHEQ,3731 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	0 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	08:55 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	113°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Scattered / 1400 ft AGL	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	/	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>		<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29.84 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	19°C / 13°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	Light - None - Rain		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	Holyoke, CO (HEQ)	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	Holyoke, CO	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	08:15 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	HOLYOKE HEQ	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	3729 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Dry
<b>Runway Used:</b>	32	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	5000 ft / 75 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>	N/A	<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	40.568688,-102.27216

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Brown, Zane
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Phil Potter; FAA FSDO ; Denver , CO
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	September 28, 2023
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class 4</a>
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=192378">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=192378</a>

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](#).