



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Sargent, Nebraska	Accident Number:	CHI07CA166
Date & Time:	June 8, 2007, 18:30 Local	Registration:	N9493G
Aircraft:	Cessna A188B	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Defining Event:		Injuries:	1 Serious
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The agricultural airplane was destroyed during a post-impact ground fire following an in-flight collision with terrain. The pilot reported that the airplane impacted a hillside while he was circling around a pasture that was to be sprayed. The pilot was reportedly trying to locate a map in the cockpit when the airplane struck the hillside. The airplane was flying into the setting sun when the ground impact occurred.

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 adequate visual lookout and clearance from the hillside. Factors contributing to the accident include the pilot's diverted attention, the hillside, and the glare from the setting sun.

Findings

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

Findings

1. (C) VISUAL LOOKOUT - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND
2. (F) DIVERTED ATTENTION - PILOT IN COMMAND
3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY

4. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT MAINTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (F) LIGHT CONDITION - SUNGLARE

Factual Information

The agricultural airplane was destroyed during a post-impact ground fire following an in-flight collision with terrain. The pilot reported that the airplane impacted a hillside while he was circling around a pasture that was to be sprayed. The pilot was reportedly trying to locate a map in the cockpit when the airplane struck the hillside. The airplane was flying into the setting sun when the ground impact occurred.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	Age:	72, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Single
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	January 1, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	May 1, 2007
Flight Time:	10000 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5000 hours (Total, this make and model), 10000 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 200 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 30 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Cessna	Registration:	N9493G
Model/Series:	A188B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	18801500
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	February 1, 2007 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	3300 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	5100 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-520-D
Registered Owner:	Michael J. Hoard	Rated Power:	300 Horsepower
Operator:	Air Inc.	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	
Operator Does Business As:		Operator Designator Code:	AXKG

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	BBW,2547 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:	19:53 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	9 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	210°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.04 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	20°C / 5°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Comstock, NE (PVT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:		Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	18:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	On-ground
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious	Latitude, Longitude:	41.640209,-99.369712(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Fox, Andrew
Additional Participating Persons:	Russ Timmerman; Federal Aviation Administration - Lincoln FSDO; Lincoln, NE
Original Publish Date:	August 30, 2007
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=66236

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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](#).