



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Mendota, Illinois	Accident Number:	CEN09CA323
Date & Time:	May 29, 2009, 07:50 Local	Registration:	N198LA
Aircraft:	AIR TRACTOR INC. AT-502	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Runway excursion	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The agricultural airplane was loaded about 300 pounds over its maximum gross weight for a commercial aerial application flight. The pilot stated that the airplane had not become airborne after traveling 3/4 down the runway. At that point in the takeoff, the pilot attempted to lift off, but the airplane settled back onto the runway. The airplane then overran the runway and hit a hill after which the airplane became airborne and then impacted the ground with its right wing tip and left wing, resulting in substantial damage. The pilot sustained minor injuries.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate preflight planning and preparation and his failure to perform an aborted takeoff.

Findings

Personnel issues	Weight/balance calculations - Pilot
Personnel issues	Lack of action - Pilot
Aircraft	(general) - Incorrect use/operation

Factual Information

History of Flight

Prior to flight	Aircraft loading event
Takeoff	Runway excursion (Defining event)
Takeoff	Collision during takeoff/land

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	50, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Center
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	March 14, 2009
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	April 12, 2008
Flight Time:	3581 hours (Total, all aircraft), 412 hours (Total, this make and model), 3485 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 50 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 8 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AIR TRACTOR INC.	Registration:	N198LA
Model/Series:	AT-502	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	502-0198
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	October 25, 2008 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	8000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	9391 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-34A6
Registered Owner:	Pilot	Rated Power:	750 Horsepower
Operator:	R & R Flight Service	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	RFD	Distance from Accident Site:	17 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	07:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	315°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 25000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	3 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	290°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.9 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	Mendota, IL (0C7)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Mendota, IL (0C7)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	07:45 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Hendrickson Flying Service Air IL93	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	889 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	
Runway Used:	36	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2800 ft / 80 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	41.521945,-89.132499(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Gallo, Mitchell
Additional Participating Persons:	Colleen La Plata; Federal Aviation Administration; West Chicago, IL
Original Publish Date:	September 10, 2009
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.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=73929

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