



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	TOWN CREEK, Alabama	<b>Accident Number:</b>	ATL92LA148
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	July 30, 1992, 16:25 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N4495Q
<b>Aircraft:</b>	CESSNA 188	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>		<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 137: Agricultural		

## Analysis

THE PILOT WAS ATTEMPTING A TAKEOFF FROM A WET SOD STRIP WITH A FULL LOAD OF CHEMICALS. AFTER THE AIRPLANE FAILED TO ACCELERATE TO LIFTOFF SPEED, THE PILOT ELECTED TO DUMP THE CHEMICALS; THE AIRPLANE BROKE GROUND AND FLEW BRIEFLY. THE PILOT CONTINUED THE CLIMBOUT BUT NEVER GAINED ENOUGH ALTITUDE TO CLEAR TREES SURROUNDING THE SOD STRIP. NO MECHANICAL PROBLEMS WERE REPORTED BY THE PILOT.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: THE INADEQUATE PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION BY THE PILOT WHICH RESULTED IN REDUCED AIRCRAFT PERFORMANCE AND THE COLLISION WITH TREES DURING CLIMBOUT. FACTORS WERE THE SOFT AND WET TERRAIN.

## Findings

Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT  
Phase of Operation: TAKEOFF - INITIAL CLIMB

### Findings

1. OBJECT - TREE(S)
2. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - SOFT
3. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - WET

4. (C) CLEARANCE - NOT OBTAINED - PILOT IN COMMAND
5. (C) PREFLIGHT PLANNING/PREPARATION - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND

## Factual Information

### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Commercial	<b>Age:</b>	40, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Front
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	Airplane	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	No
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 1 Valid Medical--w/ waivers/lim	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	March 17, 1992
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	
<b>Flight Time:</b>	1300 hours (Total, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	CESSNA	<b>Registration:</b>	N4495Q
<b>Model/Series:</b>	188 188	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>		<b>Amateur Built:</b>	
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Restricted (Special)	<b>Serial Number:</b>	18800895
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Retractable - Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	February 2, 1992 Annual	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	4000 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	25 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>	4295 Hrs	<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	CONTINENTAL
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	IO-520-D-26B
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	HARRELL AVIATION SERVICES INC.	<b>Rated Power:</b>	300 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	HARRELL AVIATION SERVICES INC.	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	
<b>Operator Does Business As:</b>		<b>Operator Designator Code:</b>	

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Not reported
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	MLS ,550 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	15 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	14:28 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	280°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	7 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	Broken / 2400 ft AGL	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	7 knots /	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	130°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	29 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	25°C / 22°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	(PVT )	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>		<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>	16:24 Local	<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class G

## Airport Information

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

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<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>	34.670875,-87.399879(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Powell, Phillip
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	EDWARD DASILVA; BIRMINGHAM , AL
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	July 29, 1993
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class</a>
<b>Note:</b>	
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=8638">https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=8638</a>

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