



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Crowley, Louisiana	Accident Number:	GAA19CA010
Date & Time:	October 8, 2018, 10:20 Local	Registration:	N1500E
Aircraft:	Air Tractor AT 402	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control on ground	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 137: Agricultural		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he did not want to take off from the wet grass airstrip he normally used, so he decided to take off from an asphalt road that paralleled the grass on the left side of the airstrip. During the takeoff roll, the left wing collided with tall vegetation, and the airplane veered left and exited the road. The airplane subsequently impacted a drainage culvert.

The airplane sustained substantial damage to the left wing and the empennage.

The pilot reported that there were no mechanical malfunctions or failures 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 selection of unsuitable terrain for takeoff, which resulted in a collision with vegetation and a subsequent loss of directional control.

Findings

Personnel issues	Decision making/judgment - Pilot
Aircraft	Directional control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	(general) - Decision related to condition
Environmental issues	(general) - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Takeoff	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)
Takeoff	Loss of control on ground (Defining event)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	37,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land; Multi-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Single
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 2 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 1, 2017
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 29, 2017
Flight Time:	(Estimated) 9773 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 9386 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 157 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 16 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Air Tractor	Registration:	N1500E
Model/Series:	AT 402 Undesignat	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1991	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	402-0820
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 28, 2018 100 hour	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	6000 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:	13655.6 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-15AG
Registered Owner:		Rated Power:	680 Horsepower
Operator:		Operating Certificate(s) Held:	Agricultural aircraft (137)

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KIYA, 50 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	10 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	15:15 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	119°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Scattered / 2000 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:		Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	5 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	100°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.95 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 25°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Crowley, LA (PVT)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Crowley, LA (3R2)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	10:20 Local	Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Private PVT	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	5 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	180	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2600 ft / 25 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

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:	30.055, -92.245834(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Hicks, Michael
Additional Participating Persons:	Randy Otilio ; FAA; Baton Rouge, LA
Original Publish Date:	September 26, 2019
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=98433

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The Independent Safety Board Act, as codified at 49 U.S.C. Section 1154(b), precludes the admission into evidence or use of any part of an NTSB report related to an incident or accident in a civil action for damages resulting from a matter mentioned in the report. A factual report that may be admissible under 49 U.S.C. § 1154(b) is available [here](#).