



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Olney, Texas	Accident Number:	CEN24LA165
Date & Time:	April 24, 2024, 18:52 Local	Registration:	N6108L
Aircraft:	AIR TRACTOR INC AT-502B	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot reported that he was completing a practice flight in an airplane which he had 3 hours of total flight experience. While on short final a gust of wind lifted the right wing, the airplane veered left, and he was unable to maintain control. The airplane landed hard in a field next to the runway and sustained substantial damage to the left and right wing. The pilot reported that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures that would have precluded normal operation.

At the time of the accident the pilot was landing on runway 17. The nearest weather station recorded wind from 120° at 8 knots and gusts to 15 knots.

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 of the airplane during landing in gusty wind conditions.

Findings

Aircraft	Pitch control - Not attained/maintained
Aircraft	Lateral/bank control - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Gusts - Contributed to outcome

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Other weather encounter

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial	Age:	43,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Single
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	4-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Powered-lift	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	
Medical Certification:	Class 2 Without waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	June 26, 2023
Occupational Pilot:	Yes	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	March 10, 2024
Flight Time:	372.7 hours (Total, all aircraft), 3 hours (Total, this make and model), 345.9 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 25.6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 3 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	AIR TRACTOR INC	Registration:	N6108L
Model/Series:	AT-502B	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1995	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	502B-0289
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	1
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Turbo prop
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Pratt & Whitney
ELT:	Not installed	Engine Model/Series:	PT6A-34
Registered Owner:	L & W FLYING SERVICE INC	Rated Power:	680 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	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:	KRPH, 1123 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	20 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	18:55 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	138°
Lowest Cloud Condition:		Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 6000 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	8 knots / 15 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	120°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.98 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	25°C / 19°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Olney, TX	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Olney, TX	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	OLNEY MUNI ONLY	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1275 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	17/35	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	5101 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop; Straight-in; Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	33.357638, -98.81684(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): Lindberg, Joshua

Additional Participating Persons: Corey Wehmeyer; Federal Aviation Administration; Lubbock, TX

Original Publish Date: June 13, 2024

Last Revision Date:

Investigation Class: [Class 4](#)

Note: The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.

Investigation Docket: <https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=194150>

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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](#).