



Memo for Record

Craig Hatch
Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Pilot: William Martin

NTSB Accident Number: CEN17CA294

Narrative: In a written statement to the FAA, the pilot reported the following points:

- Planned to spray a herbicide chemical into a field that was also occupied by a ground tractor, applying the same chemical.
 - He planned on testing the spray system for maximum output at a specific airspeed.
- He approached the tractor from the south, and passed over it approximately 50 to 100 ft
 - He noted pressure, output, airspeed, and groundspeed while spraying at about 10 ft agl.
 - He then pulled up, made a teardrop turn, and headed north.
- “Lost focus” looking inside the aircraft, and noted the test results
 - When he looked up, it was too late to avoid the tractor.
- There was not mechanical problems with the airplane before the collision.