



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Jim Silliman
Air Safety Investigator
Central Region

Date: June 22, 2017
Person Contacted: Mr. J.R. Vigdal, FAA Inspector
NTSB Accident Number: CEN17LA238

Narrative:

Mr. Vigdal reported that the pilot had been seriously injured. The airplane apparently stalled about ½ mile north of the airport in a bean field. There were witnesses who stated that the airplane landed in a nose first, 45-degree impact attitude. The wife of the pilot stated that the air was heavy, and the airplane was not getting lift. A witness stated that the engine was 200 RPMs short and that the pilot should have aborted the takeoff. The pilot had flown earlier that day. The temperature 20/8 was conducive to carburetor icing.

Witnesses stated that the airplane was not gaining altitude. It banked right and nosed straight into the ground.

Mr. Vigdal examined the airplane. He stated that he was able to rotate the engine and the crankshaft and drive train exhibited continuity. He pulled the valve covers and found a rusty valve springs. The magnetos turned. Fuel was found in the carburetor bowl. The spark plugs were normal in color and wear. The header fuel tank was ruptured. There was an aux fuel tank in the left wing. The propeller did not show much damage.

He checked and confirmed that there was flight control continuity. He didn't see anything abnormal.