

Memorandum of Conversation

Date: July 8, 2020

Time: 1520 central daylight time

Conversation Including: David H. Freppon (Pilot/Owner)

Conversation Regarding: CEN20LA269, N602NY

Duration of Call: 20 Minutes



Summary & Factual Information from Conversation:

Mr. Freppon called to discuss the loss of engine power and forced landing near Weldon, Arkansas, on July 3, 2020, about 1700 central daylight time.

Mr. Freppon stated that he departed in the Air Tractor AT-602 (N602NY) from a private airstrip near Weldon, Arkansas, about 1650, with about 75 gallons of Jet-A fuel and a load of dry granular fertilizer. Mr. Freppon reported that the aerial-application portion of the flight was uneventful; however, as he was returning to base the airplane had a total loss of engine power at about 3 miles from the airstrip. Mr. Freppon stated that the airplane was established in cruise flight about 400 ft above ground level, with 2,800 ft-lbs of torque and 1,500 rpm, when the engine "spooled down."

Mr. Freppon stated that he was unable to restore engine power by advancing the power and propeller levers to full forward and activating the fuel boost pump and ignitors. Mr. Freppon did not recall looking at the cockpit engine gauges after the loss of engine power.

Mr. Freppon stated that he lost directional control of the airplane after he made a firm landing in an open field. He estimated the flight was about 10 minutes in duration, and that the airplane had about ¼ of its total fuel capacity remaining after the accident. The aft fuselage sustained substantial damage when the tailwheel separated during the ground loop after landing.

--- End of interview summary ---

I can attest that the above summary and factual information was taken on the above stated day, and is correct to the best of my knowledge:

Signed: _ Andrew Todd Fox _

Dated: _ July 8, 2020 _

Andrew Todd Fox
National Transportation Safety Board
Air Safety Investigator