



FLY SAFE CAMPAIGN

MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS
DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC!



AgAviation.org/flysafe

July 28, 2025

21 Ag Accidents reported by NTSB this year
4 Fatalities

EIGHT AG ACCIDENTS AND TWO FATALITIES LAST WEEK – SLOW DOWN, FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HAND, AND KEEP WIRES AND OTHER THREATS IN YOUR SHORT-TERM MEMORY

Last week was a tragic week for the ag aviation industry. While the NTSB has yet to list all the accidents, it appears there was a total of eight ag accidents in just seven days. Two pilots never made it home to their loved ones. The industry is experiencing an increase in workload, which means operators and pilots are all pushing to get work done. No matter how busy you are, resist the urge to rush yourself. When you hurry, it becomes easier to forget something important and to make mistakes.

Checklists and personal minimums become more critical when you're busy – they are there to force you to slow down and consider the safety aspects and the potential risks to all your decisions. It doesn't matter how many fields you need to spray that day – each one needs to have a complete and thorough reconnaissance for wires, towers, and other obstructions. Just because you're two days behind does not suddenly make it acceptable to push foggy weather – it's a bad decision no matter your workload.

Forgetting about wires and other obstacles is a constant concern for ag aviators. Your short-term memory can only hold about five things at once. When something new enters your short-term memory, the oldest item gets pushed out and forgotten. Even under the easiest workload, the challenges of ag aviation make short-term memory loss a threat. During the busy part of the season, it can become an even greater risk. Your mind can start worrying about the other fields you need to spray that day, how many days behind you are, and how approaching bad weather could further delay your applications. You must push these thoughts from your mind and focus on your current pass.

Check TFRs

Always check Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) NOTAMs before flying! Make sure you have proof of a preflight TFR briefing from sources such as FSS or <https://www.1800wxbrief.com>

Don't Forget to Communicate

Communicate with other ag aircraft using 122.925 MHz – limit your transmissions to announcing who you are, where you are, and what you plan to do.

Make a *Fly Safe* Resolution Today!