



MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Todd Gunther
Air Safety Investigator
Eastern Region

Date: August 24, 2017
Subject: Summary of Interview with Elijah Herbison (Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: ERA17LA286

Mr. Herbison was interviewed over the telephone.

According to Mr. Herbison, He was spraying three loads on the day of the accident.

During the flights for the first two loads, he did not experience any problems.

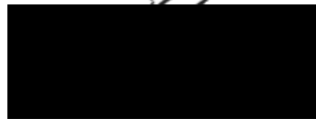
On the third flight, during the takeoff, the airplane "did not want to get off the ground."

He put the flaps down, and "it still would not fly", and the airplane went into a bean field.

He was carrying Gramoxone herbicide on all three flights.

He received minor injuries, but the airplane was damaged.

At 6:30^{PM} on 8-21-17 I took off with a full load departing from our home base in Shaw, MS. After taxiing to runway and lining up on runway, I throttled the airplane, noticed I was at redline Torque, and RPM was at redline. When I made it to the end of the concrete on the runway, I could feel that the airplane didn't want to fly. I lowered flaps and pushed throttle to the stop, the airplane was still not flying as I approached the end of the runway, so I then dumped the trigger to release the load and the left wing went down and the right one went up as I ran across a ditch, breaking off the landing gear causing the airplane to slide and spin to its stop in a bean field. Before taking this load I had been flying the plane most all day with no indication of any problems, and had just previously take two loads of the same mix and quantity with no indication of a problem.



Total Flight time 5,180 HRS

Tail wheel time 4,950 HRS

AT-402 4,270 HRS

AT-502 125 HRS

AT-602 550 HRS

325 HRS in last 90 Day

Biannual flight review 2-21-17

MS org aviation Convention, yearly, attend pass program
and MAAA annual safety meetings.