

Fuel Performance Calculations

Pilot stated the airplane had a fuel burn of 13 gallons per hour. The mechanic stated that airplane make and model can have a fuel burn between 13 and 20 gallons per hour.

Day before the accident, the airplane had about 18 gallons of fuel on board. The pilot flew the airplane for 30-45 minutes from Shiflet Field Airport (9A9), Marion, North Carolina, to Long Island Airpark (NC26), Catawba, North Carolina, which was 50.6 nautical miles away.

Estimated Fuel Burn	Time	Fuel Used
13 gal/hr	45 mins	9.75 gal
20 gal/hr	45 mins	15 gal

On the day of the accident, the pilot intended to fly from NC26 to Twin Lakes Airport (8A7), Mocksville, North Carolina, which was 29.4 nautical miles away. The engine lost total power less than 2 miles from the 8A7. He departed at 0740 and the accident occurred around 0810.

Estimated Fuel Burn	Time	Fuel Used
13 gal/hr	30 mins	6.5 gal
20 gal/hr	30 mins	10 gal

Therefore, the pilot flew the airplane for about an hour and 15 minutes.

Estimated Fuel Burn	Total Time	Total Fuel Used
13 gal/hr	75 mins	$9.75 + 6.5 = 16.25$ gal
20 gal/hr	75 mins	$15 + 10 = 25$ gal

Note: That total amount of fuel used does not account for engine start, taxi, and runup.