



RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Michael J. Hodges
Air Safety Investigator
General Aviation Accident Investigation Division (AS-20)

Date: July 1, 2015
Person Contacted: Mr. Kurt Ilse (Pilot)
NTSB Accident Number: GAA15CA154

Narrative:

The following is a synopsis of the information provided by Mr. Ilse in a telephone conversation.

- The accident occurred on 6/25/2015 at 1215 CDT.
- The helicopter is a Robinson R22, N842SH.
- Mr. Ilse is the pilot who was conducting a flight from private property by Eagle Lake, Texas to fly over a rice field to circulate the pollen. Mr. Ilse was sitting in the right seat.
- Mr. Ilse reported that he was tired and did not sleep good the night before the flight.
- Mr. Ilse reported that he was flying about 15 inches above the rice plants and was going about 25 miles per hour.
- Mr. Ilse reported that 1.5 hours into the flight, his iPad was not secured on his lap, and slid off on to the top of the collective.
- Mr. Ilse reported that he went to pick up the iPad, he hit the cyclic, and the helicopter nosed into the rice plants.
- Mr. Ilse sustained no injuries.
- Mr. Ilse verified that there were no pre-impact mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airframe or engine that would have precluded normal operation.