

Inspector Statement:

On October 9th 2019 I received a phone call from the ROC out of Atlanta. I was informed about an aircraft a Beech B19 N2177W caught on fire after landing in an open field. And that witnesses stated that the engine quit and forced the PIC to land in the open field. Upon arriving at the scene on the following morning, myself and another inspector proceeded to the airport where we interviewed the airport manager and inspected the airport's fueling facilities, which included pulling a fuel sample. The sample was clean the filter for the fueling station was changed out on September 2019. On October 9th approximately 1400 N2177W landed in Fayette County airport. The PIC was Floyd Yarbrow. The PIC got gas for his aircraft and approximately 1500 started to taxi the aircraft to the runway. The PIC conducted his takeoff procedures, and run up and proceeded to takeoff. About 500 feet above the runway the engine shutdown. The PIC was able to land the aircraft in an open field just south of the airport's runway. The aircraft came to a stop and the PIC noticed the fuel selector valve was in the closed position. The PIC opened the fuel selector valve. The PIC then started the engine back up and commenced to conduct a soft field takeoff. Upon roll out the aircraft hit an embankment causing the aircraft to lift into the air. With not enough airspeed, the aircraft landed hard with both mains hitting the ground and the nose landing gear being torn from the aircraft causing a rupture in the fuel tanks. The aircraft came to rest nose down and caught on fire. The PIC was able to exit the aircraft with no injuries. The aircraft was completely destroyed due to post crash fire. These sequence of events was ascertained after interviewing Mr. Yarbrow several times.

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