

4.27 CRUISING

The cruising speed of the Cherokee Six is determined by many factors, including power setting, altitude, temperature, loading and equipment installed in the airplane.

The normal maximum cruising power is 75% of the rated horsepower of the engine. When selecting cruising RPM below 2300, limiting manifold pressure for continuous operation, as specified by the appropriate "Avco-Lycoming Operator's Manual," should be observed.

To obtain the desired power, set the manifold pressure and RPM according to the power setting table in this manual.

Use of the mixture control in cruising flight reduces fuel consumption significantly, especially at higher altitudes. The mixture should be leaned during cruising operation above 5000 ft. altitude and at pilot's discretion at lower altitudes when 75% power or less is being used. If any doubt exists as to the amount of power being used, the mixture should be in the full "RICH" position for all operations under 5000 feet.

To lean the mixture, disengage the lock and pull the mixture control until the engine becomes rough, indicating that the lean mixture limit has been reached in the leaner cylinders. Then enrich the mixture by pushing the control towards the instrument panel until engine operation becomes smooth. The fuel flow meter will give a close approximation of the fuel being consumed. The low side of the power setting, as shown on the fuel flow meter, indicates best economy for that percent of power while the high side indicates best power.

If the airplane is equipped with the optional exhaust gas temperature (EGT) gauge, a more accurate means of leaning is available to the pilot. For this procedure, refer to the "Avco-Lycoming Operator's Manual."

For airplanes with serial numbers 32-7740001 through 32-7840202 lateral trim is best maintained by using fuel alternately from each main tank, and when these are nearly exhausted, from each tip tank. It is recommended that one main tank be used for one hour after takeoff, the other main tank used until nearly exhausted, then return to the first main tank. When nearly exhausted, turn to one tip tank and alternate at one-half hour intervals to maintain lateral trim.

For airplanes with serial numbers 32-7940001 and up, lateral trim is best maintained by using fuel alternately from each tank at one hour intervals.

Always remember that the electric fuel pump should be turned "ON" before switching tanks, and should be left on for a short period thereafter. To preclude making a hasty selection, and to provide continuity of flow, the selector should be changed to another tank before fuel is exhausted from the tank in use. The electric fuel pump should be normally "OFF" so that any malfunction of the engine driven fuel pump is immediately apparent. If signs of fuel starvation should occur at any time during flight, fuel exhaustion should be suspected, at which time the fuel selector should be immediately positioned to a full tank and the electric fuel pump switched to the "ON" position. Fuel tank selection at low altitude is not recommended, since little recovery time is available in the event of an error in tank selection. When switching tanks, make sure that the selector drops into a detent and is lined up with the desired tank.