

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 6 ag accidents including 1 fatal accident so far this year.

NEGLECTING MAINTENANCE CAN RESULT IN LOSS OF LIFE THAT IS PREVENTABLE

A review of NTSB accident reports highlights the dangers of neglecting required inspections and maintenance. When inspections are not conducted at all, or if they are not conducted in a timely and proper manner, problems can go undetected. You obviously can't fix a problem if you aren't even aware it exists. Over the last 10 years, mechanical accidents on average account for 29% of all ag accidents and 7% of fatal accidents. Power loss is the most common type of mechanical accident, followed by airframe mechanical. There are mechanical ag accidents that could have been prevented had the inspections and maintenance been timely conducted as recommended.

Make sure you are staying up to date on all service bulletins, service information letters, and airworthiness directives. While manufacturers' service bulletins and information letters are not mandatory for many ag aircraft, these documents are based on known maintenance items with the aircraft and/or its engine and should be followed for the pilot's safety. The manufacturers' service information frequently has TBO and inspection intervals to follow and the timeline to conduct those may be shortened for aircraft used in the ag environment.

After an aircraft or component has had maintenance or overhaul you should be especially vigilant on preflight inspections and run-ups to find any problems. Beware of the dangers of normalization of deviance. Just because you've gotten away with pushing maintenance intervals or ignoring a problem in the past doesn't mean you'll continue to get away with it. The likelihood of a part failing doesn't get reduced just because it didn't fail the last time you flew. Careful maintenance, timely and thorough inspections and following best industry practices can help ensure safety.

Check Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs)

Always check TFR NOTAMs before flying! Make sure you have proof of a preflight TFR briefing from sources such as FSS or <https://www.1800wxbrief.com>.

Make a "Fly Safe" Resolution Now!