

## **Fly Safe Campaign**



### **MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS**

***Don't become a statistic!***

**NTSB has reported 13 ag accidents including 1 fatal accident so far this year.**

### **ENSURE THE CORRECT PRODUCTS FOR THE JOB ARE GOING IN YOUR AIRCRAFT'S HOPPER**

Pesticide containers, packaging, and labels frequently look very similar to each other, especially those from the same manufacturer. Colors, emblems, and overall packaging design can look identical except for the names. The differences in names may only be a few letters, but those letters often indicate a pre-mix with another active ingredient. It can be easy to accidentally grab the wrong product when mixing a load. The risk of this occurring is heightened during the busy season when everyone is tired and distracted. This is also when product deliveries are at their highest, and sometimes products arrive in unexpected container types and sizes. A single mixing error on a high value crop has the potential to put an operation out of business.

If possible, separate your application products based on major categories: insecticides, fungicides, herbicides, fertilizers, and adjuvants. If you have a product for a special job or one that you're particularly concerned about, consider storing it in a completely separate building. You can also develop your own color-based marking system. Use a specific color for each type of product, such as red for herbicides. You can mark the products with permanent markers, tape, paint, or stickers. Make sure bulk storage containers are well marked with labels always visible.

Mix-ups can also happen to manufacturers or distributors. Verify each container contains the correct product as you move them into your pesticide storage area. All operation employees should be trained on the type of products applied at the business so everyone can be vigilant for potential mix-ups. No matter how busy you are, double check all pesticides on work orders as you mix them to ensure you're loading the correct products. To be even more safe, have both the pilot and loader double-check and agree on the products from the work order as they are mixed.

### **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!**