

## ***Fly Safe Campaign***



### **MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS**

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

**NTSB has reported 5 ag accidents including 1 fatal accident so far this year. NTSB hasn't reported on 1 fatality, making the total 2 fatal accidents.**

### **INSPECT AND MAINTAIN PROPELLER BLADES TO PREVENT FRACTURES**

Aluminum propeller blades need to be regularly inspected and maintained. Small nicks, pitting, or corrosion on the surface or edge of aluminum propeller blades can lead to fatigue cracking and eventually fracture if left unaddressed. Frequent propeller inspection is especially important for ag aircraft because of the environment they work in, such as exposure to potentially corrosive ag chemicals and loose rocks or other debris from operations off unimproved airstrips.

Inspect all areas of your aircraft's propeller blades when you conduct your preflight inspection. Make sure you include both sides of each blade and pay particular attention to the leading edge. Ensure you have good lighting for the inspection and use magnification for questionable spots. Maintain the propeller according to the manufacturer's instructions, including following all overhaul schedules.

Remember that propellers aren't the only component on your aircraft that needs regular inspection. During the busiest parts of your season, it can be tempting to skip or shorten inspections and put off maintenance in order to maximize your productivity. Don't delay addressing maintenance issues promptly. An accident resulting in a damaged or destroyed aircraft or an injured pilot will cause a far more significant loss of time. Don't fall prey to normalization of deviance when it comes to any aircraft maintenance – just because it held together yesterday doesn't mean it will today. Click [here](#) for more information on inspecting aluminum propeller blades.

### **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!**