

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 8 ag accidents including 1 fatal accident so far this year.

ON TARGET – WHERE CUSTOMERS AND THEIR NEIGHBORS ONLY WANT YOU TO SPRAY

No effort must be spared to keep aerial applications on target. Drift mitigation means your customers are getting all of the chemical they paid for on the crop they need protected, and surrounding sites are protected from drift. Start by selecting and operating nozzles based on the label recommended droplet size. You can determine the droplet size for your nozzle setup using the [USDA-ARS AATRU Droplet Size Models](#). Consider adjuvants and their impact on droplet size and drift potential.

Weather is another major factor in drift mitigation. Avoid spraying during temperature inversions, which cause many drift incidents every year. Inversions allow very small spray droplets to hang in the air and travel long distances before settling down off-target. Inversions usually occur early in the morning and late in the afternoon into the evening. Very calm winds are often a sign an inversion may be present. Avoid spraying when wind speeds get above the labeled wind speed limit or when winds are blowing strongly towards sensitive, off-target areas.

Check to see what is adjacent to all sides of your application site. Use [FieldWatch](#) to assist in identifying nearby sensitive crops and apiaries. Ensure no labor crews are working too close to the target field and determine if an adjacent crop is tolerant to herbicides and if so, which ones. When working near a particularly sensitive site, consider using a shortened spray boom to further reduce the spray entering your wingtip vortices. Drift misapplications can be costly, increase insurance premiums, risk license suspension and blacken the industry's eye.

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!

Watch your fax or e-mail every other Monday in April, May, June and August and every Monday in July for scheduled issues. Supplemental messages may be sent when increased flight activity warrants additional safety awareness. To be removed from the “Fly Safe” fax list, please call 202-546-5722 or e-mail information@agaviation.org. Let us know if you wish to be removed only from these Fly Safe messages or all faxes or e-mails from the NAAA.