

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 41 ag accidents including 11 fatal accidents so far this year.

END THE SEASON SAFE, PROFESSIONAL, AND ACCURATE

The season is coming to an end in many parts of the U.S. As your flying slows down, be careful not to let your guard down when it comes to safety. It is easy to get complacent once your workload decreases. Things you've put off thinking about during the busy part of the season now start to enter your mind, such as winter maintenance and problem customers. Don't let these items become distractions while you're flying. Even if you only have one load to do in a day, make sure that load gets your undivided attention.

Professionalism, like a safety mind set, is critical throughout the season and in every aspect of your flying and operations. Remember that the label is the law, and that following it is not only your legal obligation but your professional one as well. When it comes to the labeled gallons per acre (GPA) spray application rate, the label will provide a minimum and it is illegal to apply below that minimum. You may be aware of research or field data that shows a lower GPA provides equal or superior efficacy, but unless that rate is on the label, it's illegal to spray at the lower than labeled rate. If you violate the label and there are negative consequences such as poor efficacy or a drift claim, the fallout can damage the reputation of the entire aerial application industry, not just your business.

Now is also the time for cover crop seeding. Aerially seeding cover crops is the best option for both growers and the environment. The cover crops seeded by aerial applicators sequester 1.9 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalent annually, which would be the equivalent of removing approximately 412,000 cars with carbon-combustion engines from the roads each year. But if the cover crop does not develop into a well-established stand, or drifts into a seed crop field growers won't get the results they want and may tarnish the use of ag aircraft for cover crop seeding, or other work, in the future. And a poor or off-target cover crop stand provides very visible evidence of the work you do and will be used to judge your professionalism.

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!