



FLY SAFE CAMPAIGN

MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS
DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC!



AgAviation.org/flysafe

April 6, 2026

2 Ag Accidents reported by NTSB this year
0 Fatalities

AVOID WIRE STRIKES AND OTHER CFIT ACCIDENTS THROUGHOUT THE SEASON

Controlled flight into terrain (CFIT) accidents accounted for 40% of the total and half of the fatal ag aviation accidents in 2025. Not all 2025 accidents have finalized NTSB investigations yet, but at this point NTSB data indicates there have been nine wire strikes, six impacts with the ground, one struck tree, and a collision with an excavator. In five of the nine wire strikes, the pilot hit a wire they were aware of before the accident. Two of the wire strikes occurred during a clean-up pass. Adding to the danger in the low-altitude environment is a recently emerged threat – slacklines. They are similar in purpose to a tightrope and strung between anchors, frequently rock formations or other high points in the landscape.

Remember the following key points to avoid wire strike and other CFIT accidents:

- You must treat wires as an invisible hazard – use structures and hardware to determine where wires are located.
- Your short-term memory can only hold about five thoughts at once – you must have a verbal system in place to remind yourself about wires.
- Beware of the experience trap – wire strikes happen to all experience levels.
- Conduct at least two recon orbits, preferably in different directions, over the application site to scout for wires and other hazards.
- Conduct an additional recon orbit prior to trimming up a field, returning with the next load, or if you change swath directions.
- Stay in condition yellow, maintaining situational awareness for threats.
- Turn down difficult and dangerous fields – no job is worth your life.
- Check NOTAMs and slackmap.com for the location of slacklines.

Check TFRs

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

Don't Forget to Communicate

Communicate with other ag aircraft using 122.925 MHz – limit your transmissions to announcing who you are, where you are, and what you plan to do.

Make a Fly Safe Resolution Today!