

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 40 ag accidents including 6 fatal accidents so far this year. There has been 1 fatal accident not yet reported by NTSB bringing the total to 7 fatal accidents.

COVER CROPS PRESENT A POSITIVE IMAGE FOR THE AG AVIATION INDUSTRY – ENSURE ACCURATE APPLICATIONS TO MAXIMIZE BENEFIT TO ALL

There are already reports of ag aircraft seeding cover crops in some parts of the country. Aerial cover crop seeding is a great opportunity to present a positive image of ag aviation to the public by highlighting how the industry plays a positive role in [protecting 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. Cover crops also reduce soil erosion, hold valuable nutrients in place for next season's crop, and help suppress weeds.

The public can easily understand and appreciate the environmental benefits of cover crops, and while cover crops can be seeded by ground, it's obviously a task best suited for aircraft. This creates a great opportunity for the ag aviation industry to show the public a side of the industry they can support and that counters negative portrayals in the media. There are several recent examples of how cover crop seeding is improving our industry's reputation. An Illinois Farm Bureau [article](#) touts the benefits of aerially seeded cover crops, and a [podcast](#) provides a growers perspective on the best management practices for seeding cover crops by air.

To maximize the benefits of cover crops for the grower, the public, and our industry, make sure your cover crop seeding is done accurately and uniformly. A cover crop stand that is poorly formed can lead to a disgruntled customer and a negative example for other growers who might be considering aerial seeding. If farmers turn away from aerial cover crop seeding because of poor results, we can't take credit for work we're not doing. For information on applying cover crops accurately, you can view the [cover crops presentation](#) from the 2017 NAAA Ag Aviation Expo.

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!