

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 24 ag accidents including 4 fatal accidents so far this year. There have been 4 fatal accidents not yet reported by NTSB bringing the total to 8 fatal accidents.

AVOIDING MID-AIR COLLISIONS

Over the 10-year period from 2012 to 2021 there have been a total of four mid-air collisions involving ag aircraft. These four accidents resulted in the loss of four lives – one accident resulted in both pilots being fatally injured, two accidents resulted in just one of the pilots involved being killed, and in the remaining mid-air neither pilot was injured. In two of these mid-airs, at least one of the aircraft involved was descending to land. In another two of the mid-airs, both aircraft were ferrying between a field and landing strip. One of the aircraft in two of the mid-air collisions were surveying the field at the time of the accident. None of the aircraft in all four mid-air collisions were equipped with ADS-B.

Always remember the PAASS slogan “Ferry above five (hundred) and stay alive.” When there are multiple aircraft working in the same area, ferrying above 500 AGL (above ground level) greatly increases your chances of avoiding a collision with another ag aircraft making an application. It also provides clearance from unmarked towers and transmission power lines. Remain vigilant during your ferry – resist the urge to let your guard down and don't become too distracted with other tasks, especially those not related to your mission.

ADS-B (Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast) is technology that can dramatically reduce the likelihood of having a mid-air collision. In addition to broadcasting an aircraft's position to air traffic control, ADS-B also provides position data to any aircraft with ADS-B In. ADS-B Out only broadcasts your position – it cannot see other aircraft. While there is concern among some ag pilots that ADS-B In would add another distraction to an already technology inundated cockpit, ADS-B In does not have to be constantly monitored. It will provide an audible signal to alert you to nearby traffic, and it will also alert you to towers that are in the FAA's tower database. Those aerial applicators who have added ADS-B In to their aircraft have found the systems to be very beneficial, especially when there are multiple ag aircraft working off the same airport.

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!