

Task Profile - *Agricultural Operations without Spotter Aircraft*

Task Profile Name:
Agricultural operations (fixed wing and helicopters) – without spotter aircraft support.
Objectives of Task:
1. To control locusts through the delivery of approved insecticides in areas familiar to the operator
Description of task:
<p>Defined as the aerial delivery of insecticides to control locusts, including aerial inspection and transit. The task will be conducted in a NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) contracted aircraft allocated for the task.</p> <p>No aerial spotter aircraft is used in this situation. Reliance is placed on previous aerial surveillance reports (surveillance not below 500 feet above terrain, ground spotting conducted by appropriately competent ground personnel, the agricultural operator or NSW DPI).</p> <p>Unless otherwise decided by the operator this profile is usually only to be used in areas with which the operator is familiar or in areas in which hazards are readily identifiable and managed by the operator and ground crews.</p> <p>The agricultural operation itself will be conducted in accordance with AAAA (Aerial Agricultural Association of Australia) guidance.</p>
Civil Aviation & Safety Authority (CASA) permit / approval:
Aerial Work – approval for agricultural operations
Task Elements (sequence):
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning including reconnaissance for hazards 2. Briefing 3. Load preparation (insecticide) 4. Start/Taxi/Take off 5. Transit to area of operation, but not below 500 feet above terrain. 6. Conduct continuous aviation hazard assessment. 7. Maintain agreed Search and Rescue communications. 8. Aerial delivery of insecticide on target 9. Return transit to operating base, but not below 500 feet above the terrain. 10. Land/Shut down 11. Debriefing and report.

<p>Task conditions or technical aspects</p> <p>Ground survey and ground inspection may be associated with this task profile. Not usually conducted in undulating areas where wires may be difficult to detect and see.</p> <p>Not usually conducted in areas where environmentally sensitive areas have not been identified or may be difficult to identify from the ground.</p> <p>Aircraft pilots and operators must be appropriately licensed by Department of Environment and Climate Change.</p>
<p>Limitations:</p> <p>The operation is preceded by an appropriate risk assessment including aviation hazard identification and assessment, assessment of environmental risks and an assessment of the operational impact of conducting the operation within the conditions established by this task profile.</p> <p>Only the pilot is carried on this task – no other people are to be in the aircraft.</p>
<p>Height restrictions:</p> <p>As per CASA approval</p> <p>Descent below 500 feet is not conducted prior to confirmation of a low level of risk considering aircraft performance, environmental conditions and the assessment of the risk associated with any hazards to which the aircraft would be exposed while low flying.</p> <p>No flight below 200 feet above terrain except when landing and taking off from low-risk basic Helicopter Landing Site (HLS), Aircraft Landing Ground (ALG) or aerodrome, conducting the spray operation or in an emergency situation.</p>
<p>Crew composition:</p> <p>Pilot and ground crew</p> <p>No personnel other than pilot are permitted.</p>
<p>Role of each crew member:</p> <p>In accordance with agricultural operator's operations manual and NSW DPI Task Profile and relevant policy and procedures.</p>
<p>Landing zone details:</p> <p>Suitable agricultural landing area or aerodrome</p> <p>No landing will occur other than at initial take off and final landing and intermediate refueling points at designated landing sites and at low risk HLS or ALG with HLS to meet minimum requirements of CASA Civil Aviation Advisory Publication (CAAP) 92-2 (1) for basic HLS or in an emergency situation.</p>

Communication requirements

Communications and visual contact are to be established and maintained with other low flying aircraft in the immediate vicinity.

Sterile cockpit procedures are to be used when below 500 feet above terrain.

Sterile cockpit - No extraneous conversations or non-pertinent radio calls within the aircraft cabin. Hazard avoidance calls by anyone are exempt from the sterile cockpit procedures.

Communications are to be established and maintained with the agricultural aircraft and with the respective ground crew element as appropriate in order to facilitate the communication of operational and hazard related information.

SAR requirements

Flight following by the Aviation Coordinator using 30 min reporting schedules.

Any change to the flight operations must be communicated to the Aviation Coordinator immediately.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

As per OH&S (AAAA) guidance. Helmets with built in communications and visor for applicable crew, nomex or equivalent flight suit, enclosed leather footwear, non-flammable underclothing and socks.

TRAINING

Helicopter Underwater Escape Training (HUET) – Where flight over a large body of water or extended flying in flood conditions is required, all crew are to be HUET qualified

Requirements of operator as per Expression of Interest and Contract.

Restrictions / non-approved practice:

No flight below 500 ft above terrain during transit between treatment areas or in transit to and from landing zone to treatment area.