Team Minimax 91, G-MYDF

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/99 Ref: EW/G99/05/37 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Team Minimax 91, G-MYDF

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 447 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1993

Date & Time (UTC): 2 May 1999 at 1000 hrs

Location: Oxton Airfield, Nottinghamshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial to forward fuselage and wings

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 37 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 208 hours (of which 19 were on type)

Last 90 days - 14 hours

Last 28 days - 11 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was on a cross country flight from Headon Farm, Nottinghamshire to Popham Airfield Hampshire, and it was the pilot's intention to make several stops on the way. About one hour into the flight the pilot decided that the weather conditions were not good enough for him to continue his planned flight so he turned around and flew a few miles back to Oxton. At Oxton the wind was light from the north and he flew a low circuit and a shallow, powered approach to Runway 36. During the final stages of the approach the pilot noticed that the aircraft was sinking and he applied more power. This was not enough to fully arrest the descent and the aircraft contacted an oilseed rape crop in the undershoot to the runway. Contact with the crop caused the aircraft to decelerate rapidly, pitch nose down, hit the ground, and flip over forwards coming to rest 5 feet into the runway.

The cockpit was severely damaged but the lap and shoulder harnesses held and the pilot was able to vacate the aircraft uninjured. He attributed the cause of the accident to his failure to control the airspeed thereby taking the aircraft too close to the stall.