

Cessna F152, G-BLWV

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/2001

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Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cessna F152, G-BLWV	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-235-L2C piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1981	
Date & Time (UTC):	24 July 2001 at 1428 hrs	
Location:	Earls Colne Airfield, Essex	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to nose landing gear, engine and propeller	
Commander's Licence:	Student Pilot	
Commander's Age:	50 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	49 hours (of which 47 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 10 hours	
	Last 28 days - 4 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft was landing on grass Runway 24L at Earls Colne Airfield, as part of a qualifying cross country flight. The runway surface was dry and the wind was light and variable. The pilot reported that he realised he was higher than ideal when established on final approach. However, he lowered full flap and continued the approach at a steeper angle than normal. He noted that the airspeed was greater than 60 kt when he started the landing flare. The aircraft "ballooned" and he attempted to correct this by lowering the nose. The aircraft touched down nosewheel first and bounced. After two more bounces, it went to the left, the nose landing gear hit the edge of the adjoining asphalt taxiway, the propeller made contact with the surface and the aircraft came to a halt. The pilot, who was wearing lap and diagonal upper torso restraint, carried out the basic shutdown actions and escaped without injury.

The pilot attributed the accident to his failure to control the airspeed on final approach and subsequently to not initiating a go around when he realised the airspeed was higher than ideal.