
ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Pioneer 300, G-ZZZG	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Rotax 912 ULS piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2008	
Date & Time (UTC):	12 September 2008 at 1400 hrs	
Location:	Abergavenny (Hardwick) Airfield, Monmouthshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Substantial damage	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	54 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	158 hours (of which 19 were on type) Last 90 days - 10 hours Last 28 days - 2 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

The airfield at Abergavenny has a grass runway with a length of 660 m which slopes down slightly from either end in such a way that a shallow hollow is formed approximately 80 m into the runway. The pilot joined the circuit on left base for Runway 33 and the approach and landing were normal. However, about 30 m after touchdown the aircraft veered to the left. The pilot attempted to regain the centreline by applying corrective rudder and nosewheel steering, but without effect. He realised that if he continued with the landing, the aircraft would impact the airfield fence and the trees beyond, so he applied full power and further corrective control inputs. Although the aircraft turned slightly, the pilot

considered that there was still a risk of hitting the trees while airborne and he opted to allow the aircraft to strike the fence. The aircraft spun through 270°, resulting in substantial damage.

The pilot was later informed that the rainfall prior to his arrival had been very heavy and the ground was still waterlogged. He considered that the amount of water on the runway draining towards the hollow had been sufficient to flood the ground and cause it to become very soft. He subsequently noted that the left wing and landing gear were heavily contaminated with mud.