

No: 11/91

Ref: EW/G91/09/11

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Reims Cessna FRA150L, G-AZKV
No & Type of Engines: 1 Rolls Royce Continental O-240-A piston engine
Year of Manufacture: 1972
Date & Time (UTC): 15 September 1991 at 1730 hrs
Location: Lostwithiel, Cornwall
Type of Flight: Private
Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1
Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None
Nature of Damage: Aircraft beyond economical repair
Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age: 32 years
Commander's Flying Experience: 118 hours (of which 103 were on type)
Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot, who had been flying around the local area and conducting various flight exercises for about three quarters of an hour, decided to carry out a practice forced landing from 1500 feet amsl. There was no significant weather and the wind was light and variable.

The pilot states that he identified a suitable field and used flap to regulate the approach. At a height "above 50 feet", when he had established that the landing could be made, he applied full engine power to initiate a go-around. At this moment he realised that he had chosen a field of crops, rather than grass, and that it sloped steeply up towards the far end. During the go-around, the angle of climb of the aircraft was less than the gradient of the field and the mainwheels made contact with the ground, slowing the aircraft and preventing further flight. The aircraft continued across the field, struck the boundary hedge, somersaulted and came to rest upside down across an adjoining lane.

The pilot and his passenger were both using full safety harnesses which withstood the impact. They immediately left the aircraft and the pilot, having satisfied himself that there was no immediate danger, returned to it and switched off the electrical systems.