

No: 9/92

Ref: EW/G92/07/08

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Jodel D120 Paris-Nice, G-AYGG
No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental C90-14F piston engine
Year of Manufacture: 1960
Date & Time (UTC): 10 July 1992 at 1700 hrs
Location: Shipdham Airfield, Norfolk
Type of Flight: Private
Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1
Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None
Nature of Damage: Bent left main gear leg and chipped left wheel rim
Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night ratings
Commander's Age: 42 years
Commander's Flying Experience: 315 hours (of which 18 were on type)
Last 90 days - 15 hours
Last 28 days - 8 hours
Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft, which was normally based at a grass airfield in the north of England, was engaged on a cross-country flight to Norfolk. The pilot flew a normal approach to Shipdham's asphalt surfaced runway 02 in good weather conditions with little or no surface wind. A little power was added just before the three-point touchdown to avoid a long taxi after landing. After touchdown the aircraft appeared to be under good directional control using rudder only but then, with little warning, it started to veer to the right. The pilot attempted to correct the swing with left rudder followed by full left wheel-braking but he was unable to prevent the ensuing ground loop which occurred from about 20 mph. He succeeded in keeping the aircraft on the runway and the wing tip off it but the landing gear was overloaded and visibly distorted.

The pilot assessed the factors which contributed to the accident as landing on an unforgiving surface with an aft CG plus a little indecision on his part just before touchdown. Prudently he decided to have the aircraft inspected by an engineer before attempting to fly it back to his home base.