

Tiger Cub 440, G-MMIM

AAIB Bulletin No: 1/2000 **Ref: EW/G99/08/33** **Category: 1.4**

Aircraft Type and Registration: Tiger Cub 440, G-MMIM

No & Type of Engines: 1 Fuji-Robin EC-44-PM piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1995

Date & Time (UTC): 29 August 1999 at 1215 hrs

Location: Sarn, Nr Newtown, Powys

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - Serious - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to cockpit and fuselage structure

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 61 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 2,673 hours (of which 9 were on type)
Last 90 days - 1 hour
Last 28 days - 1 hour

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot had just completed a low pass over a field to demonstrate the aircraft when the engine failed without warning at a height estimated to be equivalent to "two houses". As he lowered the nose and turned away to miss a hedge, at about 30 feet the aircraft stalled without any warning and impacted the ground in a nose down attitude.

The pilot managed to extricate himself from the aircraft without initially realising that he had a serious back injury.

The pilot commented that during the recovery it was difficult to monitor the instruments and look out at the same time. He further observed that, when being checked out on the aircraft, he was told to recover as soon as the stall was recognised but does not remember being warned of the "viscousness" of the stall as experienced on this flight, nor its complete lack of warning. He does concede that on the accident flight the stall could have been aggravated by the failure of the engine rather than it just having been throttled back as it was for training.

The cause of the engine failure has not been determined to date but any further information gained from a planned strip examination will be published in an addendum to this Bulletin.