

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Cessna U206F, G-BMHC	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Continental Motors Corp IO-520-F piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1976	
Date & Time (UTC):	20 October 2005 at 1855 hrs	
Location:	Tilstock Airfield, Preesheath, Whitchurch, Shropshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Extensive; aircraft damaged beyond economic repair	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	33 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	824 hours (of which 400 were on type) Last 90 days - 140 hours Last 28 days - 49 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Summary

The aircraft struck a rut or mound while landing on a rough grass strip in failing light. The nose wheel fork fractured and dug in, overturning the aircraft.

History of the flight

The pilot reported that he flew from Draycott Farm to Blackpool for a business meeting in Blackburn. Owing to the meeting over-running, followed by heavy traffic encountered on the return drive to Blackpool Airport, the departure was later than intended and the pilot considered that he could not reach Draycott Farm before nightfall. He therefore decided to fly to Tilstock, an airfield well known to him, from which he had operated extensively in the past and with which he was very familiar.

On arrival at Tilstock the approach was normal but just after touch-down the nose-wheel hit either a rut or a small mound on the runway. The aircraft then became airborne again. The fork holding the nose-wheel axle fractured and as the aircraft touched down for the second time the remains of the fork dug into the ground and the aircraft overturned. The pilot switched off the fuel and electrics and both occupants exited the aircraft without injury.

Pilot's comment

The pilot subsequently considered that he had been unwise to use a comparatively rough grass strip in fading light conditions, when adverse surface features were less easily seen and avoided.