

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Maule MX-7-180, G-RAZZ	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-360-C1F piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1988	
Date & Time (UTC):	21 June 2005 at 1740 hrs	
Location:	Plaiestow Microlight Field, Hertfordshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 2
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Aircraft damaged beyond economic repair, and damage to crop	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	39 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,052 hours (of which 42 were on type) Last 90 days - 92 hours Last 28 days - 43 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot reported that G-RAZZ was lined up for takeoff on Runway 33, which is a grass runway, 357 m long. The surface was dry, the Outside Air Temperature (OAT) was 25°C and by reference to a windsock, the pilot estimated the headwind as being 10 kt. Based on his experience of similar conditions, the pilot estimated that the takeoff was within the performance capabilities of the aircraft.

During the takeoff the aircraft failed to reach sufficient height to clear a hedge at the departure end of the runway.

The landing gear clipped the top of the hedge, causing the aircraft to come to rest upright, in a standing crop on the far side of a road beyond the hedge. The pilot and passengers were uninjured and were able to vacate the aircraft without difficulty.

The pilot attributed the accident to an incorrect estimate of the wind strength, and the runway slope.