

No: 12/83

Ref: EW/G83/08/01

**Aircraft type and registration:** Beagle B121-1, G-AZSX, (light single engine fixed wing aircraft)

**Year of Manufacture:** 1969

**Date and time (GMT):** 3 August 1983 at 1202 hrs

**Location:** Near Wycombe Air Park, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire

**Type of flight:** Private

**Persons on board:** Crew — 1                      Passengers — Nil

**Injuries:** Crew — Minor                      Passengers — Nil

**Nature of damage:** Damage to propeller, nose gear, right wing tip and fuselage

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilots Licence, with IMC and night rating

**Commander's Age:** 42 years

**Commander's total flying experience:** 1957 hours (of which over 1000 hours were on type)

While on final approach to runway 35 at Wycombe Air Park the engine failed. At the time of the failure the aircraft was at a height of 150-200 feet, ¼ mile short of the runway threshold. An emergency landing was made into a field containing mature wheat (approximately 30 inches tall). After touchdown the aircraft 'somersaulted' and came to rest inverted. The aircraft was operating with Mogas in the right-hand tank and Avgas in the left-hand tank. During the down wind checks the pilot changed the fuel selection from the right-hand tank, which contained approximately 9 gallons of Mogas to the left-hand tank which the gauge indicated as containing 1½ to 2 gallons of Avgas. At the time of the engine failure the pilot noted that the fuel pressure gauge was fluctuating between 0 and 1 lb per square inch and that the fuel booster pump was selected ON. Subsequent examination showed that the left-hand fuel tank contained an insignificant amount of fuel and the fuel selector was set on the left-hand tank. At this time no faults have been found with the engine or its associated systems.