

No: 9/92

Ref: EW/G92/07/12

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Taylor Monoplane, G-AWGZ

No & Type of Engines: 1 Volkswagen piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1969

Date & Time (UTC): 14 July 1992 at 1915 hrs

Location: Sleaf airfield, Shropshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Landing gear, left wing, propeller and engine bulkhead damaged

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 56 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 112 hours (none on type)
Last 90 days - 2 hours
Last 28 days - 2 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot, who was flying the aircraft for the first time, had completed four 'touch-and-go' circuits and was climbing through 800 feet on the crosswind leg when he heard a 'dull rumble' and felt vibration from the engine. He transmitted his intention to perform a 'tight circuit' for an immediate landing. However, during the landing the aircraft bounced, followed by several pilot-induced oscillations. The pilot opened the throttle, but contacted the runway twice before becoming airborne. At some stage during these contacts with the runway the aircraft's landing gear and propeller were damaged. The latter damage caused such vibration that the pilot decided against applying full power. He then flew the aircraft to the nearest safe landing area, which was a field of tall green wheat. Upon touchdown the damaged left-hand landing gear dug into the ground, causing the aircraft to stop within two to three feet. However, the pilot's harness held and he was able to vacate the aircraft without injury.

A strip examination of the engine by the owner revealed no fault except for a small area between the left rear cylinder head and the cylinder that indicated a hot gas leak had been occurring.