

Streak Shadow, G-BSOR

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/99 Ref: EW/G99/06/34 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Streak Shadow, G-BSOR
No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 532 piston engine
Year of Manufacture: 1990
Date & Time (UTC): 26 June 1999 at 1245 hrs
Location: Weston Underwood Airfield, Buckinghamshire
Type of Flight: Private
Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None
Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage: Extensive
Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age: 56 years
Commander's Flying Experience: 250 hours (of which 90 were on type)
Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was landing into wind on the 320 yard grass Runway 11 at Weston Underwood after a flight from Cranfield. During the flight, there was marked turbulence and thermal activity. On final approach, the aircraft was trimmed nose up, approach flap was selected and power was reduced. About 20 yards from the threshold, the aircraft began to sink rapidly. Full throttle was applied in order to commence a go-around, but the aircraft still sank until it contacted some standing crop. It then struck the top wire of a fence causing damage to the underside of the aircraft. It bounced across a small ditch and arrived at the threshold on its fuel tank. The fuel tank ruptured but there was no fire. The aircraft came to rest on the landing strip by the threshold.

The pilot considered that the sink was caused by the effect of the surface wind passing over higher ground adjacent to the far end of the runway.