

Rotorway Executive 162F, G-CBJV

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/2004	Ref: EW/G2004/09/09	Category: 2.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Rotorway Executive 162F, G-CBJV	
No & Type of Engines:	1 RI 162F piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2001	
Date & Time (UTC):	12 September 2004 at 1320 hrs	
Location:	Private landing site near Tadcaster, North Yorkshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 1
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Minor)	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damage to tail boom and cockpit	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	38 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	102 hours (of which 71 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 11 hours	
	Last 28 days - 7 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Whilst preparing to land at a private landing site the pilot noticed that the concrete landing pad had several loose branches on its surface. He decided instead to land the helicopter in an adjacent field of long grass. After landing, the collective was lowered fully and the pilot began the shutdown checks. As he did so the right skid sank rapidly into the surface, causing the helicopter to roll over onto its right side. Both occupants were wearing four point harnesses and were able to vacate the aircraft without injury.

The pilot believed the upset was caused by dynamic rollover after the skid sank into a rut beneath the grass. With the collective control fully down however, there would have been little or no residual lift produced by the rotor blades. The rollover therefore was more likely to have been the result of a geometric change in the static balance of forces brought about by the right skid sinking. This could have been further exacerbated by a crosswind of 15 kt from the left.