

## Cessna FRA150M, G-BCTU

**AAIB Bulletin No:** 11/98      **Ref:** EW/G98/08/39      **Category:** 1.3

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Cessna FRA150M, G-BCTU

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Continental O-240-E piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1974

**Date & Time (UTC):** 25 August 1998 at 1120 hrs

**Location:** Compton Abbas, Wiltshire

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

**Injuries:** Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

**Nature of Damage:** Substantial to nose landing gear, propeller and engine mountings

**Commander's Licence:** Student

**Commander's Age:** 54 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 53 hours (all on type)  
Last 90 days - 10 hours  
Last 28 days - 3 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

On arriving at the airfield on a navigation exercise, the student pilot was landing on Runway 26 with a surface wind of 270°/10 kt. The approach was uneventful but during the flare, the aircraft began to sink and struck the runway heavily causing separation of the nose landing gear.

The student's instructor suggested that wind fluctuations at the threshold of 26 may have been a contributory factor. This was the third accident in three months involving student pilots landing on this runway, two of whom were visiting the airfield on navigation exercises.