

AAIB Bulletin No: 2/94

Ref: EW/G93/08/51

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna F172G Skyhawk, G-ATKS

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental O-300-D piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1965

Date & Time (UTC): 23 August 1993 at 1600 hrs

Location: Gunton Airstrip, Norfolk

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to the left wing leading edge, the propeller and the left flap

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 56 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 400 hours (of which 50 were on type)
Last 90 days - 0 hours
Last 28 days - 0 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot, who had used the airstrip many times, made an approach from the south over some trees to land in a northerly direction. The wind was 350°/13 kt and the 800 metre grass surface of the strip was wet.

Expecting a little windshear effect from the trees, the pilot chose to touch down at 70 kt, with 30° of flap and the throttle closed. When the aircraft landed, the brakes immediately locked and the aircraft skidded along the strip, with retardation provided only by the wet surface and a slight up gradient. Despite an unsuccessful attempt to use aerodynamic braking and to induce a ground loop, the aircraft struck a deer fence at the far end of the strip, whilst travelling at a fast walking pace.

The attempted ground manoeuvres had caused the aircraft to slew to the right and it contacted the fence with the left wing and the propeller.