

Reims Cessna FR182, G-NOCK, 9 June 1998 at 1800 hrs

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/98 Ref: EW/G98/06/11 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Reims Cessna FR182, G-NOCK

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-540-J3C5D piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1979

Date & Time (UTC): 9 June 1998 at 1800 hrs

Location: Top Farm, Royston, Hertfordshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial to fuselage and wings

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC Rating

Commander's Age: 51 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 276 hours (of which 24 were on type)
Last 90 days - 12 hours
Last 28 days - 9 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

After a 30 minute local flight, the pilot commenced his approach to Runway 24. There were localised storms in the area with a variable cloud base; visibility was good and the pilot assessed, from the windsock, that the surface wind was 220/20 kt and gusting. As he flew over the threshold of the grass runway, a gust of wind caused the aircraft to bank to the right. The pilot applied power and aileron but could not prevent the right wingtip striking the runway and G-NOCK slid to the right into an area of wheat. On the ground, the aircraft continued to slide and, before coming to rest, the rear of the fuselage and the left wingtip had also struck the ground.

The pilot acknowledged that he should have maintained a higher speed on his approach to counter the gusting wind.

