

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Vol Mediterrani VM-1 Esqual, PH-GCJ	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Jabiru 3300 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2008	
Date & Time (UTC):	13 January 2009 at 1254 hrs	
Location:	Ludham Airfield, Norfolk	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Main landing gear damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	50 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,675 hours (of which 14 were on type) Last 90 days - 30 hours Last 28 days - 11 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

Synopsis

The pilot lost directional control of the aircraft whilst landing on Runway 25 at Ludham Airfield; it ran off the right side of the runway, about 110 m from the upwind end, into a cultivated field. The pilot was uninjured and damage was confined to the aircraft's main landing gear. Runway 25, which was described as damp at the time, is a 459 m concrete runway with a displaced threshold and a landing distance available of 420 m. The weather was fine, with a surface wind

estimated at 5 kt from the west. The aircraft has a castoring nosewheel, with ground steering achieved through differential braking. The pilot thought that the main wheels had locked up whilst braking after landing fairly well into the runway, leading to the loss of control. He considered that not making an early go-around decision and a lack of recent ground handling practice were contributory factors.