

Avid Speed Wing (Modified), G-BVIV

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/99 **Ref:** EW/G99/07/41 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Avid Speed Wing (Modified), G-BVIV

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 582 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1995

Date & Time (UTC): 25 July 1999 at 1430 hrs

Location: Farm Strip in Worcester

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Right main landing gear bent back, propeller broken and structural damage to front fuselage

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

Commander's Age: 57 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 433 hours (of which 116 were on type)

Last 90 days - 16 hours

Last 28 days - 8 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot and his passenger were returning from a grass farm strip in Worcester to Barton Airport (Manchester). Following a satisfactory power check, the pilot applied full power and commenced the take off on the runway heading of 050°. The wind was northerly 8 kt, gusting 12 kt and OAT +23°C. There was a slight uphill slope and acceleration was slower than normal. At the top of the slope the strip changed to a steep downslope and at this point the pilot, realising that insufficient room was left in which to get airborne, abandoned the take off. Despite braking the aircraft continued down the strip until it struck a hedge at the end and stopped.

Both persons onboard were secured by three point harness's and were uninjured. The left door could not be opened due to the hedge and both occupants exited through the right door. The pilot considered that the cause of the accident had been the combination of high temperature and initial upslope with a possibility that his feet had not been clear of the brakes causing them to drag and so impede the aircraft acceleration. Following the decision to abandon the take off, the short distance

remaining combined with the steep down slope was such that there was insufficient braking available to prevent the aircraft striking the hedge.