

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-22-135 Tri-Pacer, G-APYI	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-290-D2 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1954 (Serial no: 22-2218)	
Date & Time (UTC):	26 October 2012 at 1100 hrs	
Location:	Sarngwm Farm Strip, Bethesda, Pembrokeshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Damage to propeller, landing gear, rear fuselage, left elevator and left wing spar	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	48 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	160 hours (of which 68 were on type) Last 90 days - 17 hours Last 28 days - 3 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

G-APYI is a Piper Tri-pacer aircraft (built with a tricycle landing gear) converted to a tailwheel configuration.

The pilot was taking off from his grass airstrip, the runway of which is 475 m long, oriented 24/06 and is bordered at each end by hedges. The runway also cuts through two hedges at about its midpoint. The wind

was from the north-west at 10 kt and the aircraft was taking off on Runway 24, which has a downward slope. The pilot stated that, after about 150 m of ground roll, the aircraft encountered a soft patch of grass and the combination of this with the crosswind caused him to lose directional control and the aircraft slid into a hedge to the left of the runway.