Cyclone AX3K/582, G-BVRY

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/98 Ref: EW/G98/07/14 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cyclone AX3K/582, G-BVRY

No & Type of Engines: 1 Rotax 582 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1995

Date & Time (UTC): 9 July 1998 at 1348 hrs

Location: Popham Airfield, Hampshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None **Injuries:** Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial to nose area and wing strut

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

Commander's Age: 78 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 14,915 hours (of which 118 were on type)

Last 90 days - 18 hours

Last 28 days - 8 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was making a glide approach to Runway 26 with a surface wind of 10 to 12 kt down the runway. He was flying from the right-hand seat for only the second time. While the pilot was deliberately sideslipping the aircraft, the right wing dropped and the aircraft entered an uncontrollable right turn. When close to the ground, the pilot regained some control but was unable to arrest the descent before the aircraft struck the ground in a nose down attitude.

The pilot considered that the cause of the accident was the unusual perspective from the right-hand seat which led him to allow the airspeed to fall to an unsafe figure for the manoeuvre that he was attempting.