

Pitts S-2A, G-BTTR

AAIB Bulletin No: 5/2000 Ref: EW/G2000/02/11 Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Pitts S-2A, G-BTTR

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-A1E piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1979

Date & Time (UTC): 13 February 2000 at 1530 hrs

Location: Bagby Airfield, North Yorkshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Propeller, fin and both left wings

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

Commander's Age: 42 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 654 hours (of which 91 were on type)
Last 90 days - 25 hours
Last 28 days - 5 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was landing on the grass Runway 24 with a 10 kt crosswind component from the right. The aircraft touched down normally but bounced into the air when the mainwheels ran over some bumps in the runway. It drifted to the left and as the mainwheels straddled the edge of the runway, the lower left wing struck a one metre high warning sign. The impact slewed the aircraft further to the left, away from the runway, and down a slope into boggy ground where it overturned at low forward speed. The pilot, who was restrained by a seven point aerobatic harness and protected by a helmet, was unhurt and able to evacuate the overturned aircraft without assistance.

The sun was low in the sky and in-line with the runway producing glare which adversely affected the pilot's view over the aircraft's nose. The pilot has since stated that he misjudged the lateral drift of the aircraft after it bounced into the air. The warning sign, which was demolished, has since been re-located further from the runway edge.

