

Evans VP-1, G-BIFO, 16 June 2002 at 1700 hrs

AAIB Bulletin No: 8/2002 **Ref:** EW/G2002/06/19 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Evans VP-1, G-BIFO	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Volkswagen 1834 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1982	
Date & Time (UTC):	16 June 2002 at 1700 hrs	
Location:	Eddsfield, East Yorks	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Landing gear collapsed	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilots Licence	
Commander's Age:	61 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	404 hours (of which 6 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 6 hours	
	Last 28 days - 2 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and AAIB enquiries	

The pilot reported that the aircraft departed Bagby at 1630 hrs local time for Eddsfield, with an estimated flight time of 35 minutes. During the flight the airspeed began to reduce and eventually the maximum airspeed that could be sustained without loss of height was reduced to 50 to 55 kt. When full throttle was selected a spark plug blew out of its cylinder. The aircraft subsequently landed in a cornfield about two miles short of its intended destination. During the landing, the landing gear collapsed. The pilot was uninjured.

The pilot states that the plug had been fitted in a helicoil insert, and had become loose before blowing out. The aircraft had been flown earlier in the day by an instructor, without apparent problems.

