

Luscombe Silvaire 8F, G-BTJC

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/99 **Ref:** EW/G99/07/39 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Luscombe Silvaire 8F, G-BTJC

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-290-D2 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1949

Date & Time (UTC): 31 July 1999 at 1540 hrs

Location: Glebe Farm, Stockton, Wiltshire

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damage to cabin structure, fin and rudder, engine and propeller

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 166 hours (of which 20 was on type)
Last 90 days - 4 hours
Last 28 days - 1 hour

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and AAIB enquiries

The pilot reported that the aircraft was undertaking a test flight from Stockton airfield following extensive radio work. During the take off the air speed indicator (ASI) had appeared to function normally, but during the climb the pointer had 'stuck' at 60 mph and the altimeter and vertical speed indicator appeared 'sluggish'. The pilot then carried out a handling check, during which the ASI reading at the stall appeared approximately correct. He then conducted an approach to the airfield, with the aircraft trimmed nose up, and during which the ASI indicated an air speed of '120 mph'. However when the aircraft was just short of the threshold, 'sink' was encountered and although the power was immediately increased the aircraft landed just short of the threshold and nosed-over, coming to rest inverted on the runway. The pilot evacuated the aircraft without injury.

He reported that the pitot system was subsequently found to have been partially blocked by the wing of an insect.