

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Pitts S-1E Special, G-OKAY
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming IO-360-B4A piston engine
Year of Manufacture:	1977 (Serial no: 12358)
Date & Time (UTC):	25 June 2013 at 0830 hrs
Location:	Knettishall Airfield, Suffolk
Type of Flight:	Private
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1 Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - 1 (Minor) Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Wings, fin, tailplane damaged
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age:	49 years
Commander's Flying Experience:	580 hours (of which 180 were on type) Last 90 days - 8 hours Last 28 days - 8 hours
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

On arrival overhead Knettishall Airfield, Suffolk, the weather was good with the surface wind mainly westerly at 10 kt but also light and variable. Following a low approach and go-around, the pilot made an approach to Runway 23 which has a grass surface 600 m long and estimated as 25 m wide, narrowing to 18 m. The approach was normal but as the aircraft touched down it yawed to the right and, despite the pilot's attempts to correct it entered the one-metre high wheat crop adjacent to the runway. Both mainwheels were caught in the crop and the aircraft somersaulted before coming to a stop.

The aircraft was severely damaged, but the pilot was able to exit the aircraft without assistance.

An inspection of the right main landing gear showed no binding of the brake or wheel bearing. The wheel spats had been refitted the previous weekend and were known to be clear of any debris. After the accident, a solid clump of soil and grass was found in the spat which, the pilot considered, had been picked up on landing and "jammed the tyre" causing the yaw to the right on touchdown.