

Socata TB9, G-BHOZ

AAIB Bulletin No: 12/2001	Ref: EW/G2001/09/19	Category: 1.3
Aircraft Type and Registration:	Socata TB9, G-BHOZ	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming O-320-D2A piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1980	
Date & Time (UTC):	16 September 2001 at 1402 hrs	
Location:	Thruxton Airfield, Hampshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Wing tip damaged	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	52 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	279 hours (of which 81 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 15 hours	
	Last 28 days - 6 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft had been flown from Kemble, Gloucestershire to Thruxton, Hampshire. The surface wind for the landing at Thruxton was given as 350°/15 gusting 20 kt with grass Runway 31 in use. The pilot was not experienced on grass runways, and since the crosswind was within the aircraft limit of 25 kt, he decided to land on tarmac Runway 07.

The approach proceeded uneventfully but, just as the aircraft crossed the runway threshold, a strong gust drifted the aircraft to the right edge of the runway, and the pilot decided to carry out a missed approach. He applied full power and at about 30 to 50 feet agl, with the speed at about 60 kt, retracted the flaps to the take-off position. The aircraft began to sink and a further gust raised the left wing. Realising that there was a danger of the aircraft striking the ground, the pilot turned the aircraft to the right toward the adjacent, parallel, grass Runway 07. The left main undercarriage wheel struck the ground first and the aircraft bounced. In the course of the subsequent touchdown

the right wing tip touched the ground causing minor damage, and the aircraft came to a halt on grass Runway 07.

In his report, the pilot judged the cause of the accident to be a lack of sufficient airspeed in the gusty conditions compounded by landing on the crosswind runway.