

Piper PA-34-220T Seneca IV, G-BZTG

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Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Piper PA-34-220T Seneca IV, G-BZTG	
No & Type of Engines:	2 Continental TSIO-360-RB1B piston engines	
Year of Manufacture:	1999	
Date & Time (UTC):	15 December 2001 at 1045 hrs	
Location:	Little Snoring, Norfolk	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - 2
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - None
Nature of Damage:	Damage to nose cone, propellers, left main and nose landing gears and engines shock loaded	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	48 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	352 hours (of which 279 were on type)	
	Last 90 days - 27 hours	
	Last 28 days - 4 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft was being flown from Alderney to Little Snoring Airfield, Norfolk. The weather conditions were good on arrival at Little Snoring, with a light north-westerly wind. The pilot made an approach to Runway 10, which has a paved surface of 770 metres length and 16 metres width. While on the approach, the pilot noticed that a pile of sugar beet was located close to the right side of the runway threshold. He became distracted by this and flared the aircraft too high. A hard landing resulted which caused the left main tyre to burst. After touchdown, the aircraft slewed to the left and ran off the runway into a ploughed field. The left main and nose landing gears both collapsed and the propellers struck the surface.

The pilot and both of the passengers were wearing harnesses with upper body restraint and all escaped without injury.

The runways at the airfield are unlicensed and are therefore not subject to the obstacle clearance requirements pertaining to licensed runways.