

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Pitts Super Stinker 11-260 (Modified), G-IIIIV	
No & Type of Engines:	1 Lycoming AEIO-540-D4A5 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2002 (Serial no: PFA 273-13005)	
Date & Time (UTC):	30 July 2015 at 1700 hrs	
Location:	Field adjacent to Leicester Airport	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Engine, propeller, landing gear, top wing and rudder	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	47 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,300 hours (of which 200 were on type) Last 90 days - 33 hours Last 28 days - 14 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

During a local flight to practise aerobatics, the pilot reported that shortly after he commenced his routine the engine began to run roughly and the available power "dropped off". The pilot selected the mixture to RICH and the electric fuel pump ON, but there was no improvement in the engine's performance. He carried out a forced landing in the only available field, which had a 30° upslope and contained sheep. The aircraft was substantially damaged but the pilot, who was uninjured, was able to vacate normally.

The constructor and maintainer of the aircraft commented that an initial inspection of the engine did not reveal any defects. He considered it was possible that, during the aerobatic manoeuvring, air may have been ingested into the fuel supply system and, due to the length of pipework on this particular model, it may have taken time to clear.

Further work is planned to inspect and fault-find the engine and fuel system. If there are any relevant findings they will be reported in a future AAIB Bulletin.