

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Boeing E75 Stearman, N43YP	
No & Type of Engines:	1 P & W R1340 Series piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	1942 (Serial no: 75-6018)	
Date & Time (UTC):	13 April 2016 at 1257 hrs	
Location:	North Weald Airfield, Essex	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 2	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Abrasion to undersides of left and right lower wingtips and ailerons and fractured left wheel rim	
Commander's Licence:	Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	63 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	1,199 hours (of which 102 were on type) Last 90 days - 8 hours Last 28 days - 5 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The aircraft was landing on the asphalt Runway 20 at North Weald, with the control tower reporting the wind as from 240° at 4 kt with occasional gusts of 15 kt from 290°. The pilot adopted his usual wing down/opposite rudder approach technique and touched down on the mainwheels, performing a 'wheeler' landing. He allowed the tail to lower as elevator authority was lost but, after a few seconds in the three-point attitude, a swing to the right developed. He countered this with full left rudder but the swing continued to diverge. The left lower wingtip and aileron contacted the asphalt before the aircraft left the runway and ran briefly onto the grass before encountering a paved taxiway. It completed a 270° groundloop before coming to rest, having also grazed the right wingtip and aileron. The pilot subsequently realised that the left mainwheel had been damaged as it crossed the grass/paved surface interface. He also noted that, on several occasions during the hour following, the windsock was horizontal and perpendicular to the runway indicating occasional crosswind gusts.