

ACCIDENT

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| Aircraft Type and Registration: | Piper J3C-65 Cub, G-AJAD | |
| No & Type of Engines: | 1 Continental Motors Corp C90-12 piston engine | |
| Year of Manufacture: | 1943 (Serial no: 11700) | |
| Date & Time (UTC): | 20 September 2017 at 1630 hrs | |
| Location: | Private airstrip, Saltford, Bath | |
| Type of Flight: | Private | |
| Persons on Board: | Crew - 1 | Passengers - None |
| Injuries: | Crew - None | Passengers - N/A |
| Nature of Damage: | Damage to wing strut, upper cockpit airframe and propeller | |
| Commander's Licence: | Commercial Pilot's Licence | |
| Commander's Age: | 49 years | |
| Commander's Flying Experience: | 1,627 hours (of which 1,000 were on type) Last 90 days - 32 hours Last 28 days - 21 hours | |
| Information Source: | Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot | |

Synopsis

Following a short flight to a privately owned grass airstrip, the pilot completed a crosswind landing and proceeded to taxi the aircraft, a classic 'taildragger' type, toward the hangar situated to the north of the runway. Still on the runway, the aircraft veered to the left and the left wing strut hit a fence post. The strut, upper cockpit frame and propeller were damaged in the collision. The pilot was uninjured.

History of the flight

Following a short flight, the pilot had landed G-AJAD, a classic 'taildragger' type, at a privately owned grass airstrip with a runway on a heading of 270°. The local weather conditions were dry with surface winds of 190° at 7 kt, across the runway. This runway has a nominal width of approximately 30 m between wire stock fencing. After touchdown the pilot had slowed the aircraft to taxi speed and was proceeding to a hangar situated to the north of the runway. During this manoeuvre, whilst still on the runway, the aircraft veered rapidly to the left and hit a fence post which formed part of the southerly boundary of the airstrip. This caused the wing to drop, further damaging the upper cockpit frame and propeller against the fence. The pilot was uninjured.

Discussion

In the pilot's opinion, the cause of the accident was a "mismanagement of rudder, brakes and throttle" during the taxi.