

ACCIDENT

Aircraft Type and Registration:	Spacek SD-1 Minisport, G-MZSP	
No & Type of Engines:	1 piston engine	
Year of Manufacture:	2014 (Serial no: 111)	
Date & Time (UTC):	9 July 2018 at 1005 hrs	
Location:	Popham Airfield, Hampshire	
Type of Flight:	Private	
Persons on Board:	Crew - 1	Passengers - None
Injuries:	Crew - None	Passengers - N/A
Nature of Damage:	Nose gear and one propeller blade damaged	
Commander's Licence:	National Private Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	75 years	
Commander's Flying Experience:	750 hours (of which 3 were on type) Last 90 days - 10 hours Last 28 days - 3 hours	
Information Source:	Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot	

The pilot stated that he was taking off from Runway 26, a grass runway, at Popham Airfield, for a local flight. About 50 m into the ground roll the nosewheel lifted before the rotation speed of 45 kt had been achieved. The pilot eased the stick forward to lower the nose and the nose gear touched down firmly. It subsequently collapsed resulting in the propeller striking the ground and the engine stopping with the aircraft coming to a stop on the runway. The pilot was uninjured and removed the aircraft from the runway with assistance.

The pilot believed that due to his lack of experience on type he may have pushed the control column forward too much and too quickly. He also believed that an uneven part of the grass runway may have contributed to the nose gear failure.