



Aviation Investigation Factual Report

Location:	East Moriches, New York	Accident Number:	ERA15LA251
Date & Time:	June 24, 2015, 18:00 Local	Registration:	N84927
Aircraft:	Aeronca 7AC	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Factual Information

On June 24, 2015, at 1800 eastern daylight time, N84927, an Aeronca 7AC, sustained substantial damage when it collided with a tree on takeoff from Lufker Airport (49N) East Moriches, New York. The sport pilot was seriously injured and the passenger sustained minor injuries. The airplane was operated by the pilot and registered to a private company. Visual meteorological conditions prevailed and no flight plan was filed for the personal flight conducted under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 91.

The pilot stated that he had flown in and out of 49N on several occasions and was familiar with the airport. He said he departed to the north with a left crosswind. Once the airplane became airborne it weather-vaned into the wind and veered to the left of the runway. The pilot was unable to maintain directional control and the airplane's left wing "grazed" a tree. The airplane then nosed over and impacted the ground, separating the engine from the airframe. Both occupants exited the airplane and there was no post-impact fire. The pilot said there were no pre-mishap mechanical problems with the airplane or engine. Though he wasn't sure why he was unable to avoid colliding with the trees, he did say that it was "probably a combo of not doing enough things" to maintain directional control.

Weather at Brookhaven Airport (HWV), Shirley, New York, about 5 miles west of 49N, was reported as wind from 300 degrees at 7 knots, visibility 10 miles, clear skies, temperature 28 degrees C, dewpoint 13 degrees C, and a barometric pressure setting of 29.97 inches Hg.

The pilot held a sport pilot certificate and reported a total of 208 flight hours, of which, 12 hours were in the accident airplane.

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Sport Pilot	Age:	65
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	Lap only
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Sport pilot None	Last FAA Medical Exam:	
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	September 29, 2014
Flight Time:	208 hours (Total, all aircraft), 12 hours (Total, this make and model), 139 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Aeronca	Registration:	N84927
Model/Series:	7AC	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:	1946	Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	3649
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 22, 2015 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1220 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:	9 Hrs	Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	4645 Hrs at time of accident	Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	A65-8
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	65 Horsepower
Operator:	On file	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	HWV, 81 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	5 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	16:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	270°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	7 knots / None	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/ None
Wind Direction:	300°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/ N/A
Altimeter Setting:	29.96 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	28°C / 13°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	East Moriches, NY (49N)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	BAYPORT, NY (23N)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	17:30 Local	Type of Airspace:	Unknown

Airport Information

Airport:	LUFKER 49N	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	57 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	N	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2300 ft / 100 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	40.824722,-72.750831(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Yeager, Leah
Additional Participating Persons:	Andria Drew; FAA/FSDO; Farmingdale, NY
Report Date:	September 23, 2015
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=91432

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