



# Aviation Investigation Final Report

<b>Location:</b>	San Antonio, Texas	<b>Accident Number:</b>	CEN21LA079
<b>Date &amp; Time:</b>	December 1, 2020, 12:50 Local	<b>Registration:</b>	N322SL
<b>Aircraft:</b>	Hutson Star-Lite	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Defining Event:</b>	Nose over/nose down	<b>Injuries:</b>	1 None
<b>Flight Conducted Under:</b>	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

## Analysis

The pilot reported that during the local flight and in the airport traffic pattern, he'd decided to land on the grass about 50 ft short of the asphalt runway. During the landing roll, the nose landing gear dug into the soft terrain which resulted in the failure of the nose landing gear. The airplane sustained substantial damage to the engine mount which was considered part of the airplane primary structure. The pilot reported that there were no preaccident mechanical failures or malfunctions with the airplane that would have precluded normal operation.

## Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be:

The pilot's decision to land on a soft terrain which resulted in the failure of the nose landing gear.

## Findings

<b>Environmental issues</b>	Wet/muddy terrain - Contributed to outcome
<b>Personnel issues</b>	Decision making/judgment - Pilot

## Factual Information

### History of Flight

<b>Landing-flare/touchdown</b>	Nose over/nose down (Defining event)
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### Pilot Information

<b>Certificate:</b>	Private	<b>Age:</b>	75, Male
<b>Airplane Rating(s):</b>	Single-engine land	<b>Seat Occupied:</b>	Single
<b>Other Aircraft Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Restraint Used:</b>	
<b>Instrument Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Second Pilot Present:</b>	No
<b>Instructor Rating(s):</b>	None	<b>Toxicology Performed:</b>	
<b>Medical Certification:</b>	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	<b>Last FAA Medical Exam:</b>	April 18, 2019
<b>Occupational Pilot:</b>	UNK	<b>Last Flight Review or Equivalent:</b>	April 26, 2019
<b>Flight Time:</b>	700 hours (Total, all aircraft), 1 hours (Total, this make and model), 629 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 6 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

### Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

<b>Aircraft Make:</b>	Hutson	<b>Registration:</b>	N322SL
<b>Model/Series:</b>	Star-Lite	<b>Aircraft Category:</b>	Airplane
<b>Year of Manufacture:</b>	2017	<b>Amateur Built:</b>	Yes
<b>Airworthiness Certificate:</b>	Experimental (Special)	<b>Serial Number:</b>	121
<b>Landing Gear Type:</b>	Tricycle	<b>Seats:</b>	1
<b>Date/Type of Last Inspection:</b>	February 4, 2020 Unknown	<b>Certified Max Gross Wt.:</b>	600 lbs
<b>Time Since Last Inspection:</b>	20 Hrs	<b>Engines:</b>	1 Reciprocating
<b>Airframe Total Time:</b>		<b>Engine Manufacturer:</b>	Rotax
<b>ELT:</b>	Not installed	<b>Engine Model/Series:</b>	447
<b>Registered Owner:</b>	On file	<b>Rated Power:</b>	40 Horsepower
<b>Operator:</b>	On file	<b>Operating Certificate(s) Held:</b>	None

## Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

<b>Conditions at Accident Site:</b>	Visual (VMC)	<b>Condition of Light:</b>	Day
<b>Observation Facility, Elevation:</b>	KHDO,920 ft msl	<b>Distance from Accident Site:</b>	36 Nautical Miles
<b>Observation Time:</b>	12:51 Local	<b>Direction from Accident Site:</b>	267°
<b>Lowest Cloud Condition:</b>	Clear	<b>Visibility</b>	10 miles
<b>Lowest Ceiling:</b>	None	<b>Visibility (RVR):</b>	
<b>Wind Speed/Gusts:</b>	11 knots / 16 knots	<b>Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Wind Direction:</b>	190°	<b>Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:</b>	/
<b>Altimeter Setting:</b>	30.12 inches Hg	<b>Temperature/Dew Point:</b>	14°C / -6°C
<b>Precipitation and Obscuration:</b>	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
<b>Departure Point:</b>	San Antonio, TX	<b>Type of Flight Plan Filed:</b>	None
<b>Destination:</b>	San Antonio, TX	<b>Type of Clearance:</b>	None
<b>Departure Time:</b>		<b>Type of Airspace:</b>	Class E

## Airport Information

<b>Airport:</b>	San Geronimo Airpark 8T8	<b>Runway Surface Type:</b>	Asphalt
<b>Airport Elevation:</b>	1040 ft msl	<b>Runway Surface Condition:</b>	Soft
<b>Runway Used:</b>	17	<b>IFR Approach:</b>	None
<b>Runway Length/Width:</b>	3000 ft / 40 ft	<b>VFR Approach/Landing:</b>	Full stop;Traffic pattern

## Wreckage and Impact Information

<b>Crew Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Aircraft Damage:</b>	Substantial
<b>Passenger Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Fire:</b>	None
<b>Ground Injuries:</b>		<b>Aircraft Explosion:</b>	None
<b>Total Injuries:</b>	1 None	<b>Latitude, Longitude:</b>	29.394882,-98.487868(est)

## Administrative Information

<b>Investigator In Charge (IIC):</b>	Sauer, Aaron
<b>Additional Participating Persons:</b>	Carl Newton; FAA; San Antonio, TX
<b>Original Publish Date:</b>	August 20, 2021
<b>Last Revision Date:</b>	
<b>Investigation Class:</b>	<a href="#">Class 4</a>
<b>Note:</b>	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
<b>Investigation Docket:</b>	<a href="https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=102388">https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=102388</a>

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