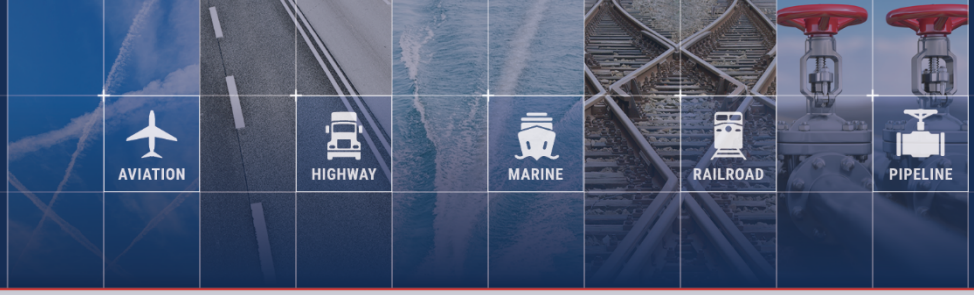

Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Yoder, Kansas	**Accident Number:**	CEN22LA279
Date & Time:	June 22, 2022, 11:30 Local	**Registration:**	N364BA
Aircraft:	LET L-23 SUPER BLANIK	**Aircraft Damage:**	Substantial
Defining Event:	Aerodynamic stall/spin	**Injuries:**	1 Serious, 1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The flight instructor reported that after demonstrating maneuvers he noticed that the glider had quickly descended to pattern altitude, so he proceeded into the traffic pattern. He slowed the glider to minimum sink airspeed and then turned onto the base leg about 200 to 250 ft above ground level. During the base leg turn, the glider continued to turn and descend, and the flight instructor was unable to maintain control. The glider impacted terrain short of the runway and sustained substantial damage to the fuselage, empennage, and both wings. The flight instructor reported that there were no preimpact mechanical malfunctions or failures with the glider that would have precluded normal operation. The flight instructor reported that there was sinking air in the flight area.

Probable Cause and Findings

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

The pilot's encounter with sinking air conditions that resulted in a loss of lift and a subsequent loss of control.

Findings

Aircraft	(general) - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Approach-VFR pattern base	Aerodynamic stall/spin (Defining event)
Approach-VFR pattern base	Loss of lift

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Commercial; Flight instructor	**Age:**	71,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	**Seat Occupied:**	Rear
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	**Restraint Used:**	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	Airplane	**Second Pilot Present:**	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	Airplane single-engine; Glider	**Toxicology Performed:**	
Medical Certification:	BasicMed Without waivers/limitations	**Last FAA Medical Exam:**	January 25, 2021
Occupational Pilot:	No	**Last Flight Review or Equivalent:**	June 22, 2021
Flight Time:	6143 hours (Total, all aircraft), 359 hours (Total, this make and model), 5963 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 0 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Student pilot Information

Certificate:	None	**Age:**	15,Male
Airplane Rating(s):	None	**Seat Occupied:**	Front
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	**Restraint Used:**	5-point
Instrument Rating(s):	None	**Second Pilot Present:**	Yes
Instructor Rating(s):	None	**Toxicology Performed:**	
Medical Certification:	None	**Last FAA Medical Exam:**	
Occupational Pilot:	No	**Last Flight Review or Equivalent:**	
Flight Time:	(Estimated)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	LET	**Registration:**	N364BA
Model/Series:	L-23 SUPER BLANIK	**Aircraft Category:**	Glider
Year of Manufacture:	2000	**Amateur Built:**	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal; Utility	**Serial Number:**	008706
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tailwheel	**Seats:**	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	May 4, 2022 Annual	**Certified Max Gross Wt.:**	1124 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		**Engines:**	0
Airframe Total Time:	4420.9 Hrs as of last inspection	**Engine Manufacturer:**	
ELT:	Not installed	**Engine Model/Series:**	
Registered Owner:	CIVIL AIR PATROL INC	**Rated Power:**	
Operator:	CIVIL AIR PATROL INC	**Operating Certificate(s) Held:**	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	**Condition of Light:**	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	KHUT,1542 ft msl	**Distance from Accident Site:**	8 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	11:52 Local	**Direction from Accident Site:**	15°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 1900 ft AGL	**Visibility**	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken	**Visibility (RVR):**	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	10 knots /	**Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:**	/
Wind Direction:	90°	**Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:**	/
Altimeter Setting:	30.21 inches Hg	**Temperature/Dew Point:**	26°C / 21°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Yoder, KS	**Type of Flight Plan Filed:**	None
Destination:	Yoder, KS	**Type of Clearance:**	None
Departure Time:		**Type of Airspace:**	Class G

Airport Information

Airport:	Sunflower Aerodrome Gliderport SN76	**Runway Surface Type:**	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	1582 ft msl	**Runway Surface Condition:**	Dry
Runway Used:	17	**IFR Approach:**	None
Runway Length/Width:	7000 ft / 200 ft	**VFR Approach/Landing:**	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Serious	**Aircraft Damage:**	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 Minor	**Aircraft Fire:**	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	**Aircraft Explosion:**	None
Total Injuries:	1 Serious, 1 Minor	**Latitude, Longitude:**	37.939714,-97.904686(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Lindberg, Joshua
Additional Participating Persons:	Dieter Reinhard; Federal Aviation Administration; Wichita, KS
Original Publish Date:	September 8, 2022
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class 4
Note:	The NTSB did not travel to the scene of this accident.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=105339