



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Bisbee, Arizona	Accident Number:	SEA08CA109
Date & Time:	April 8, 2008, 07:30 Local	Registration:	N3228N
Aircraft:	Piper J3C-65	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot performed 5 or 6 touch-and-go landings. He said that on the last one about 50 feet above ground level after takeoff, "...the airplane began to sink and we landed off field straight ahead hitting some brush." The airplane's right wing tip was substantially damaged as a result of impacting a tree during the landing roll. The pilot reported that calm winds prevailed at the time of the accident.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to obtain/maintain sufficient airspeed after takeoff, which resulted in a stall/mush condition.

Findings

Aircraft	Airspeed - Not attained/maintained
Environmental issues	Tree(s) - Not specified

Factual Information

History of Flight

Initial climb	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Uncontrolled descent	Collision with terr/obj (non-CFIT)

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	70, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	
Instructor Rating(s):		Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3	Last FAA Medical Exam:	February 1, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1100 hours (Total, all aircraft), 5 hours (Total, this make and model), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 2 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Piper	Registration:	N3228N
Model/Series:	J3C-65	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Restricted (Special)	Serial Number:	22420
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	
Date/Type of Last Inspection:		Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Continental
ELT:		Engine Model/Series:	C-90-8F
Registered Owner:	Donovan O Laeding	Rated Power:	
Operator:	Donovan O Laeding	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:		Distance from Accident Site:	
Observation Time:		Direction from Accident Site:	
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Clear	Visibility	20 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	/	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:		Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	30 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	16°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Bisbee, AZ (P04)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Bisbee, AZ (P04)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:		Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Bisbee Municipal Airport P04	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	4780 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	02	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2650 ft / 75 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	None

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	
Total Injuries:	2 None	Latitude, Longitude:	31.375278,-109.884162

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Little, Thomas
Additional Participating Persons:	Chris Clark; Federal Aviation Administration; Scottsdale, AZ
Original Publish Date:	May 28, 2008
Last Revision Date:	
Investigation Class:	Class
Note:	This accident report documents the factual circumstances of this accident as described to the NTSB.
Investigation Docket:	https://data.nts.gov/Docket?ProjectID=67794

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