



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Ridgeland, South Carolina	Accident Number:	NYC08CA277
Date & Time:	August 11, 2008, 13:15 Local	Registration:	N9137V
Aircraft:	Mooney M20F	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 Minor
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot entered the downwind leg of the traffic pattern for runway 21, and noticed that the wind sock was "straight out and quartering." He reported that at his altitude of 1,000 feet, there was "moderate to severe turbulence," and he initially entertained returning to the departure airport, but instead decided to continue the approach and landing. While on final approach, the pilot crabbed the airplane to the right, and held it there until the airplane was about 5 feet above the ground, before he leveled the wings. He began the landing over runway centerline, but the wind pushed the airplane "hard to the left" until the landing gear was over the runway edge lights. The pilot again considered aborting the landing, but then the landing gear struck an unknown object, and the left wing struck the ground. The airplane came to rest shortly thereafter, with substantial damage to the fuselage and left wing. The reported winds at an airport 14 nautical miles east of the accident location, and about 40 minutes after the accident, were from 150 degrees at 6 knots, with gusts to 15 knots.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's inadequate compensation for a crosswind during landing. A factor contributing to the accident was the crosswind.

Findings

Environmental issues	Crosswind - Contributed to outcome
Aircraft	Crosswind correction - Not attained/maintained

Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
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Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	68, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	Left
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	None	Restraint Used:	
Instrument Rating(s):	None	Second Pilot Present:	No
Instructor Rating(s):	None	Toxicology Performed:	No
Medical Certification:	Class 3 With waivers/limitations	Last FAA Medical Exam:	November 1, 2007
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	
Flight Time:	1500 hours (Total, all aircraft), 500 hours (Total, this make and model), 30 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Mooney	Registration:	N9137V
Model/Series:	M20F	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	690034
Landing Gear Type:	Retractable - Tricycle	Seats:	4
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	Unknown	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:		Engine Manufacturer:	Lycoming
ELT:	Installed	Engine Model/Series:	IO-360
Registered Owner:	On file	Rated Power:	200 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:	NBC,37 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	14 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	13:56 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	90°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 3600 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	Broken / 5500 ft AGL	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	6 knots / 15 knots	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	150°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.87 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	31°C / 23°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Beaufort, SC (73J)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Ridgeland, SC (3J1)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	13:00 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Ridgeland Airport 3J1	Runway Surface Type:	Asphalt
Airport Elevation:	79 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Used:	21	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2692 ft / 70 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop;Traffic pattern

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 Minor	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 Minor	Latitude, Longitude:	32.4925,-80.992225

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Diaz, Dennis
Additional Participating Persons:	Howard Hollis; West Columbia FSDO; West Colombia, SC
Original Publish Date:	September 26, 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=68688

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