



Aviation Investigation Final Report

Location:	Ware, Massachusetts	Accident Number:	ERA09CA553
Date & Time:	June 27, 2009, 13:00 Local	Registration:	N1879G
Aircraft:	Champion 7GCAA	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Defining Event:	Loss of control in flight	Injuries:	1 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General aviation - Personal		

Analysis

The pilot stated that an annual inspection of the airplane had just been completed and that he was flying the airplane from that location to his home airstrip. The wind was on the nose of the airplane and as he approached the runway for a full stop landing, his approach speed was 55 mph. When the airplane was approximately 1 foot above the runway for a three point landing, the airspeed decreased and the nose dropped. The propeller contacted the soft ground and the airplane nosed over, damaging the vertical stabilizer and right wing lift struts. The pilot reported that there was nothing mechanically wrong with the airplane that caused the accident to occur.

Probable Cause and Findings

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The pilot's failure to maintain control of the airplane during landing.

Findings

Aircraft	Airspeed - Not attained/maintained
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Factual Information

History of Flight

Landing-flare/touchdown	Loss of control in flight (Defining event)
Landing-flare/touchdown	Nose over/nose down

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Private	Age:	68, Male
Airplane Rating(s):	Single-engine land	Seat Occupied:	
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:	May 14, 2008
Occupational Pilot:	No	Last Flight Review or Equivalent:	June 19, 2007
Flight Time:	946 hours (Total, all aircraft), 200 hours (Total, this make and model), 946 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Champion	Registration:	N1879G
Model/Series:	7GCAA	Aircraft Category:	Airplane
Year of Manufacture:		Amateur Built:	
Airworthiness Certificate:	Normal	Serial Number:	65
Landing Gear Type:	Tailwheel	Seats:	2
Date/Type of Last Inspection:	June 27, 2009 Annual	Certified Max Gross Wt.:	1850 lbs
Time Since Last Inspection:		Engines:	1 Reciprocating
Airframe Total Time:	1464 Hrs as of last inspection	Engine Manufacturer:	LYCOMING
ELT:	Installed, not activated	Engine Model/Series:	O-320-A2B
Registered Owner:	MUCHA COLLEEN M	Rated Power:	150 Horsepower
Operator:	Richard C. O'Riley	Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual (VMC)	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	ORH,1009 ft msl	Distance from Accident Site:	15 Nautical Miles
Observation Time:	12:54 Local	Direction from Accident Site:	108°
Lowest Cloud Condition:	Few / 4900 ft AGL	Visibility	10 miles
Lowest Ceiling:	None	Visibility (RVR):	
Wind Speed/Gusts:	4 knots /	Turbulence Type Forecast/Actual:	/
Wind Direction:	220°	Turbulence Severity Forecast/Actual:	/
Altimeter Setting:	29.71 inches Hg	Temperature/Dew Point:	24°C / 14°C
Precipitation and Obscuration:	No Obscuration; No Precipitation		
Departure Point:	Montague, MA (0B5)	Type of Flight Plan Filed:	None
Destination:	Ware, MA (MA53)	Type of Clearance:	None
Departure Time:	12:35 Local	Type of Airspace:	

Airport Information

Airport:	Ware Airport MA53	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Airport Elevation:	483 ft msl	Runway Surface Condition:	Soft
Runway Used:	20	IFR Approach:	None
Runway Length/Width:	2030 ft / 150 ft	VFR Approach/Landing:	Full stop

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	1 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:		Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Total Injuries:	1 None	Latitude, Longitude:	42.281944,-72.214721(est)

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC):	Monville, Timothy
Additional Participating Persons:	Francis Hoban; FAA/FSDO; Windsor Locks, CT
Original Publish Date:	October 21, 2010
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.ntsb.gov/Docket?ProjectID=76287

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