

AAIB Bulletin No: 9/93

Ref: EW/G93/04/20

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-22-160 Tripacer, G-BSED

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-A piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1957

Date & Time (UTC): 24 April 1993 at 0900 hrs

Location: Tewkesbury airfield, Gloucester

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Left main landing gear collapsed, both wings and engine cowling damaged

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC Rating

Commander's Age: 45 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 782 hours (all on type)
Last 90 days - 43 hours
Last 28 days - 3 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot reports that he intended to carry out a flight from the airstrip at Southwick Farm, near Tewkesbury to Wellesbourne Mountford. The airstrip at Southwick Farm, which is aligned north/south, is 500 yards long and the surface is a mixture of turf and stubble. During the previous 48 hours there had been rain showers in the area and the surface was moist.

Engine start and pre-take off checks were normal and, with a surface wind reported as 200°/05 knots, the pilot elected to take off on the southerly runway. The take-off run appeared longer than usual and, as the aircraft became airborne, the pilot considered that he would be unable to clear telegraph wires that crossed the field immediately ahead. The take off was abandoned but the aircraft could not be stopped on the runway and it continued through two hedges before coming to rest about 5 yards into the next field. The pilot and passengers, who had been secured by lap straps only, vacated the aircraft without injury.