AAIB Bulletin No: 3/95 Ref: EW/G94/12/13 Category: 2.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Robinson R22 Beta, G-DELB

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-B2C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1988

Date & Time (UTC): 27 December 1994 at 1115 hrs

Location: Sherburn-in-Elmet Airfield, Leeds

Type of Flight: Private (Training)

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - None

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Damaged beyond economic repair

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with Flying Instructor Rating

Commander's Age: 40 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 1,791 hours (of which 1,651 were on type)

Last 90 days - 99 hours Last 28 days - 16 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The Instructor had completed a series of practice autorotations with his student and was recovering to the airfield. Apart from a slight haze, the weather was good with a surface wind of 270°/05 kt. The Instructor established autorotation and was making a westerly approach to the upwind end of Runway 29. At 300 feet QFE he closed the throttle to demonstrate an engine-off landing; he noted the rotor RPM at 104% and the airspeed as 65 kt. A normal run-on landing was made and the aircraft maintained a straight track across the grass. After a ground roll of approximately 110 feet, the aircraft went off the end of the grass strip and onto a flat field. The surface of the field was wet soil and G-DELB came to an abrupt stop, tipped onto its nose and rolled to the right.

The Instructor commented that he had estimated that his run-on would have been no more than 50 feet but this had increased due to the wet surface of the runway; he had also thought that the field surface beyond the runway would have been suitable for a short run-on.