

No. 9/83

Ref: EW/G83/06/10

Aircraft type and registration:	Piper Pawnee, PA-25, G-BEAE (Light single engine fixed wing aircraft)	
Year of Manufacture:	1969	
Date and time (GMT):	8 June 1983 at 1130 hrs	
Location:	Halland, East Sussex	
Type of flight:	Aerial application	
Persons on board:	Crew — 1	Passengers — Nil
Injuries:	Crew - Nil	Passengers — Nil
Nature of damage:	The aircraft was substantially damaged.	
Commander's Licence:	Commercial Pilot's Licence	
Commander's Age:	35 years	
Commander's total flying experience:	3960 hours, (of which 2000 were on type)	

The accident occurred during take-off from a narrow strip between standing wheat fields. An earlier take-off from the same strip but at a lower all-up weight had been uneventful. The aircraft was nearly airborne when it bounced on the uneven ground and then ground looped. The fuselage was bent at right angles behind the pilot's seat, and damage to the port wing outer section indicates that either the wing or undercarriage came into contact with the wheat crop.

The pilot states that the take-off strip was 4 metres wide. The wheel base of the aircraft is 2.13 metres, the wing span is 11.02 metres.