

Grumman AA-5, G-BBDL

AAIB Bulletin No: 6/2001 **Ref:** EW/G2001/04/02 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Grumman AA-5, G-BBDL
No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming O-320-E2G piston engine
Year of Manufacture: 1973
Date & Time (UTC): 8 April 2001 at 1100 hrs
Location: Wickenby Airfield, Lincolnshire
Type of Flight: Private
Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers - 2
Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - 1 (Minor)
Nature of Damage: Damaged beyond economic repair
Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence
Commander's Age: 43 years
Commander's Flying Experience: 133 hours (of which 33 were on type)
Last 90 days - 3 hours
Last 28 days - 1 hour
Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was landing on paved Runway 34 at Wickenby. The surface wind was from 300°(M) and the speed varied between 5 and 10 kt. The pilot reported that the approach was flown at 80 mph with full flap selected. At about 20 feet agl, a higher than ideal sink rate developed and the aircraft landed heavily and bounced. The pilot applied full power to go around but the aircraft rolled first to the left and then, as he applied aileron and rudder to control this, to the right. It then rolled again to the left but this time the left wingtip struck the runway and the aircraft left the paved surface, turned through about 180° and came to rest in a nose down attitude. The three occupants were wearing lap and diagonal upper torso restraint and escaped through the normal exits; both passengers suffered minor injury.

The pilot was sure that his approach speed had been correct; he thought that the accident may have been a consequence of a "slightly flat" approach combined with a sudden reduction in the wind speed. He recalled hearing the stall warning buzzer as the aircraft sank onto the runway.