

AAIB Bulletin No: 7/94

Ref: EW/G94/05/19

Category: 1.3

**Aircraft Type and Registration:** Cessna 172, G-BSEP

**No & Type of Engines:** 1 Continental O-300-A piston engine

**Year of Manufacture:** 1959

**Date & Time (UTC):** 11 May 1994 at 1014 hrs

**Location:** Cranfield Airport, Bedfordshire

**Type of Flight:** Private

**Persons on Board:** Crew - 1 Passengers - 2

**Injuries:** Crew - None Passengers - None

**Nature of Damage:** Propeller tips bent and engine shock-loaded

**Commander's Licence:** Private Pilot's Licence

**Commander's Age:** 47 years

**Commander's Flying Experience:** 276 hours (of which 16 were on type)  
Last 90 days - 16 hours  
Last 28 days - 10 hours

**Information Source:** Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot and further enquiries by the AAIB

The aircraft approached Runway 04 in good weather with a crosswind component of 10 kt from the right; the pilot used right bank and left rudder to counteract the crosswind. In the landing flare the aircraft began to drift towards the left-hand edge of the tarmac. The pilot reported that the airspeed was too low in the flare and that the left wing dropped resulting in a heavy landing in a nose-up attitude. An eyewitness reported that the aircraft porpoised on landing and eventually landed firmly on the nosewheel alone. There was no damage to the nosewheel, the oleo or the engine support structure.