

No: 11/92

Ref: EW/G92/09/01

Category: 1c

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper L18C (Modified) Super Cub, G-BPJH

No & Type of Engines: 1 Continental C90-14F piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1952

Date & Time (UTC): 1 September 1992 at 1130 hrs

Location: Private Airstrip, Ballymoney, Northern Ireland

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 Passengers - 1

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to right wing and strut, main landing gear and propeller

Commander's Licence: Commercial Pilot's Licence

Commander's Age: 35 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 1,000 hours (of which 62 were on type)
Last 90 days - 250 hours
Last 28 days - 80 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot planned to land in a field which was 450 metres long and 100 metres wide; the surface was of short, wet grass and the landing direction was north-easterly. The surface wind was reported to have been north-westerly at 10 to 15 kt.

On arrival the pilot flew one left-hand circuit to ascertain the surface wind direction and to confirm that the field was clear of obstacles. Some turbulence was experienced and so the subsequent approach was flown on a steeper path and at an airspeed 5 kt above that which was normal. This resulted in the touchdown being further into the field than ideal; the pilot elected to go-around and applied full power. The aircraft failed to get airborne and struck the north-east boundary fence. Both occupants were wearing full upper torso restraint and escaped without injury.

The pilot attributed the accident to a late application of power to initiate the go-around.