

AAIB Bulletin No: 9/95 **Ref:** EW/G95/06/20 **Category:** 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Piper PA-28R-200-2 Cherokee Arrow II, G-BBEB

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-C1C piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1973

Date & Time (UTC): 27 June 1995 at 1830 hrs

Location: Franklyn's Field Airstrip, Near Wells, Somerset

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 2 Passengers - 2

Injuries: Crew - None Passengers - None

Nature of Damage: Damage to rear fuselage and a fence post

Commander's Licence: Private Pilot's Licence with IMC and Night Ratings

Commander's Age: 58 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 955 hours (of which 606 were on type)
Last 90 days - 5 hours
Last 28 days - 5 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The aircraft was returning to Franklyn's Field from Plymouth. The pilot received weather and traffic information from Bristol Approach, and informed them of the intention to land at the airstrip. The pilot reported that the aircraft was established on final approach for Runway 05 over a field of wheat. He failed to notice a fence with wooden posts, some four feet high, which formed part of the airstrip boundary fence. As the aircraft flared for landing, the rear fuselage struck one of the fence posts. A normal landing was carried out, and the damage was discovered on subsequent examination.

The pilot considered that he had approached too low over the wheat field and the aircraft sank sooner than expected. The surface wind was reported as 060°/8 kt.