

Cessna F177RG, G-AZFP

AAIB Bulletin No: 10/98

Ref: EW/G98/08/15

Category: 1.3

Aircraft Type and Registration: Cessna F177RG, G-AZFP

No & Type of Engines: 1 Lycoming IO-360-A1B6 piston engine

Year of Manufacture: 1971

Date & Time (UTC): 8 August 1998 at 1600 hrs

Location: Private Strip, N Yorkshire Moors, Cleveland

Type of Flight: Private

Persons on Board: Crew - 1 - Passengers -None

Injuries: Crew - None - Passengers - N/A

Nature of Damage: Substantial to propeller and tailplane

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

Commander's Age: 49 years

Commander's Flying Experience: 627 hours (of which 507 were on type)

Last 90 days - 35 hours

Last 28 days - 6 hours

Information Source: Aircraft Accident Report Form submitted by the pilot

The pilot was planning to return the aircraft to the farm strip where it was based. However, the weather proved to be unsuitable and he diverted to another strip. While on the ground, the pilot attempted to telephone the owner of his base strip to obtain the local weather and the condition of the strip, but was unable to make contact. He had encountered no rain during the day and the strip to which he had diverted was dry. When the weather had cleared, the pilot departed for the 20 nm flight to his base. The weather was now fine with a light north-easterly surface wind. On arrival, the pilot elected to land on Runway 20 which has an available landing distance of 350 metres with an uphill slope. The aircraft was landed some 90 metres into the strip and, when the pilot applied the brakes, he felt no retardation. As he approached the boundary fence, the pilot slewed the aircraft to the right but was unable to stop before the tailplane contacted the fence and the propeller struck a wooden gate.

The pilot attributed the cause of the accident to the runway surface being saturated although there were no indication of this from the air.