



National Transportation Safety Board Aviation Accident Data Summary

Location:	ELKIN, NC	Accident Number:	MIA98LA023
Date & Time:	11/01/1997, 1521 EST	Registration:	N65140
Aircraft:	Let L-13	Injuries:	2 None
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Analysis

The instructor pilot stated that while on final approach to runway 20, the student encountered both an increase in headwinds and a sink condition. Noticing a loss of altitude, the student voiced doubt they would make the runway, and the instructor pilot took control of the glider. The instructor quickly considered and then rejected a cow pasture, and then continued his approach to runway 20. The glider collided with an airport perimeter fence, short of the runway.

Probable Cause

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident to be: The instructor's pilot's misjudgment of altitude and distance, and his inadequate compensation for the wind conditions. Unfavorable winds and a fence were contributing factors.

Findings

Occurrence #1: UNDERSHOOT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

1. (F) WEATHER CONDITION - UNFAVORABLE WIND
2. (F) DISTANCE/ALTITUDE - MISJUDGED - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)
3. (C) COMPENSATION FOR WIND CONDITIONS - INADEQUATE - PILOT IN COMMAND(CFI)

Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH OBJECT
Phase of Operation: APPROACH

Findings

4. OBJECT - FENCE

Pilot Information

Certificate:	Flight Instructor; Commercial	Age:	48
Airplane Rating(s):	None	Instrument Rating(s):	None
Other Aircraft Rating(s):	Glider	Instructor Rating(s):	Glider
Flight Time:	226 hours (Total, all aircraft), 22 hours (Total, this make and model), 188 hours (Pilot In Command, all aircraft), 10 hours (Last 90 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 30 days, all aircraft), 1 hours (Last 24 hours, all aircraft)		

Aircraft and Owner/Operator Information

Aircraft Make:	Let	Registration:	N65140
Model/Series:	L-13 L-13	Engines:	Unknown
Operator:	WILSON BROWN	Engine Manufacturer:	
Operating Certificate(s) Held:	None	Engine Model/Series:	
Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation - Instructional		

Meteorological Information and Flight Plan

Conditions at Accident Site:	Visual Conditions	Condition of Light:	Day
Observation Facility, Elevation:	INT, 970 ft msl	Weather Information Source:	Weather Observation Facility
Lowest Ceiling:	None / 0 ft agl	Wind Speed/Gusts, Direction:	10 knots / , 240°
Temperature:	21° C	Visibility	20 Miles
Precipitation and Obscuration:			
Departure Point:	(78A)	Destination:	

Airport Information

Airport:	SWAN CREEK AIRPORT (78A)	Runway Surface Type:	Grass/turf
Runway Used:	20	Runway Surface Condition:	Dry
Runway Length/Width:	1700 ft / 200 ft		

Wreckage and Impact Information

Crew Injuries:	2 None	Aircraft Damage:	Substantial
Passenger Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Fire:	None
Ground Injuries:	N/A	Aircraft Explosion:	None
Latitude, Longitude:			

Administrative Information

Investigator In Charge (IIC): ALAN C STONE

Adopted Date: 09/28/1999

Investigation Docket: NTSB accident and incident dockets serve as permanent archival information for the NTSB's investigations. Dockets released prior to June 1, 2009 are publicly available from the NTSB's Record Management Division at pubinq@ntsb.gov, or at 800-877-6799. Dockets released after this date are available at <http://dms.nts.gov/pubdms/>.

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